

<b>Committee(s):</b>	<b>Date(s):</b>
Safer City Partnership	21 February 2018
<b>Subject:</b> <b>Serious and Organised Crime Board - update</b>	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> John Simpson Borough Commander, LFB	<b>For Information</b>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Summary</b></p> <p>This report provides an update on the work of the Serious and Organised Crime Board. It provides a brief account of its review of the eight priority areas and its considerations for the next stage i.e. what are the main priorities for the City; the importance of collaboration between partners to deal with those main priorities and information sharing particularly in respect of the new data protection regulations that will soon be coming into force.</p>	

## **Main report**

### **Background**

1. Tackling the threat of serious and organised crime largely depends on collaboration with partner agencies. By working together, the City of London can build a full intelligence picture of organised crime impacting on the square mile. The purpose of this intelligence picture is to help us to understand the threat of organised crime and decide how best to respond to it.
2. The Serious and Organised Crime Board, chaired by John Simpson, was set up in 2016 to provide an advisory function; setting a strategic and business direction for the City of London Corporation and the CoLP. The aim of the Board was to bring together a full range of powers to bear against serious organised crime and reduce its impact on the City.
3. The Board recognises that the impact of serious and organised crime is often felt by local communities in the City. Not only does it harm residents and individuals who visit and work in the City, but it also has a big impact on the business community. Therefore, it is important to understand the role that the City must play in tackling serious and organised crime so that communities are safe, and the most vulnerable members of our communities are protected.
4. The activities of organised criminals have become increasingly global and sophisticated. They operate in many different countries and their inter-relationship between crimes has increased as many of these criminal

networks now deal in many commodities, whether it is drugs, contraband or people. It is therefore no longer possible to think of these criminals as drug dealers or tobacco smugglers. Organised crime groups adapt quickly and relatively easily with whatever commodity is the most lucrative at any given time. For example, human trafficking has become a valuable commodity with the potential of people being sold for different purposes multiple times.

5. With that in mind we need to understand the City's vulnerabilities to serious and organised crime and address them through integrated multi-agency action plans. Over the past year, the Board has been understanding the current prevalence and nature of serious crime in the City. This has been achieved with the help of the City of London Police with their assessment of local serious and organised crime profiles and multi-agency plans. The Board has been looking at how to establish collaborative local partnerships to share intelligence and disrupt organised criminal groups. The Board has also discussed sharing best practice, data sharing and engaging with other partnership organisations that prevent communities from being drawn into organised crime.
6. Regarding data sharing, this is one area that has raised concerns with some of our partners who claim to have had requests for information refused due to data protection issues. This could become even more of an issue when new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPRs) are implemented across all EU Member States on 25 May 2018. There are expected to be a swathe of changes to the new data regulations. Therefore, it is important that the GDPRs are understood by and involve all partners especially when Information sharing protocols are developed.
7. To reduce the level of serious and organised crime the Board has been looking at what steps are being taken to strengthen the four Ps approach: Pursue, Prevent, Protect and Prepare. Those steps include developing a common understanding among local partners about the threats, vulnerabilities and risks related to serious and organised crime. The key crime areas that the Board has been discussing include:
  - Modern slavery
  - Child sexual exploitation
  - Black mail and kidnap
  - Intellectual property
  - Organised acquisitive crime
  - Financial crime and money laundering
  - Fraud and cyber enabled crime
  - Cyber-attack

## **Current position**

Having completed a review of all the City's eight priority areas it was decided to look at:

- the scale of the problem,

- how the partnerships are working
  - whether there was sufficient information about the problem
  - and how confident partner agencies were in dealing with the problem.
8. Initially, the Board wanted some ideas around how partners may score, other than the scoring of the current SOC priority area from a police perspective. One idea was to use the National Thematic Risk Model – a partner version of a risk model that the police analysts use to score against. An example of this scoring was taken from Devon and Cornwall who have progressed the use of risk scoring across their large number of community safety teams. However, it soon became apparent that the City's experience of serious and organised crime did not reflect the experience of many local authorities. After a meeting with the Chairman and Vice Chairman with City Police analysts it was decided to email four questions to all partner agencies who sit on the Board requesting the information in time for the next Board meeting on 14 February.

The questions included:

- On what priority do you have an impact on and why?
  - How confident are you that each risk area you manage is clearly understood and managed?
  - How would you know if any of those areas were becoming more of a problem?
  - Are there other issues/priorities in your area which we may be able to tackle in partnership (with partners engaged now, or could be in the future) – do they relate to Serious and Organised crime, if not we can still feed them into our quarterly safer city partnership meetings.
9. From this information we aim to reduce the number of priorities to three or four so that we can ensure that intelligence is shared effectively among partners to maximise a collective response.
10. It is also our intention to revisit all eight priorities in 6 to 12 months to see if anything had changed. The Board would also look for and share examples of partnership working around the country to see if anything similar could be used to model on.

#### **Responses so far (6/2/18)**

1. Modern slavery – health and police comments
2. Child sexual exploitation – health and police comments
3. Black mail and kidnap – no comments so far
4. Intellectual property – trading standards comment
5. Organised acquisitive crime- police comments
6. Financial crime and money laundering – trading standards comments
7. Fraud and cyber enabled crime – no comments so far
8. Cyber-attack – trading standards comments

The questions were posed to the following partnership agencies:

- Health
- Fire
- Trading standards
- Community and Children's Services

Police:

- Public Protection Unit
- Acquisitive crime
- Intellectual property and fraud
- Modern Slavery
- Blackmail and Kidnapping

## Findings

Trading Standards has identified an issue which could be tackled in partnership. City businesses engaged in the unregulated cryptocurrencies sector.

Partners are confident that they clearly understand and manage their priority area(s)

Partners had a system in place to identify any problems in their priority area(s).

## Recommendations

1. Add any outstanding responses from partner agencies.
2. Are there any partnership agencies that the SCP would like to see engaged in priority areas other than those listed above?

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