

Safer City Partnership Strategy Group

Date: FRIDAY, 4 DECEMBER 2020

Time: 1.00 pm

Venue: VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING (ACCESSIBLE REMOTELY)

Members: Douglas Barrow (Chairman)

Peter Lisley, Assistant Town Clerk

(Deputy Chairman)

Marvin Bruno, British Transport

Police

Claire Dumontier-Marriage, Cheapside Business Alliance Renu Gupta, City of London Police Independent Advisory &

Scrutiny Group

David Bulbrook, London Fire

Brigade

Bob Benton, City Business

Representative

Don Randall, City of London Crime

Prevention Association

Tijs Broeke, Homelessness and Rough

Sleeping Sub-committee

Tim Wiseman, City & Hackney CCG

Alex Wrigley, Guinness Trust

Sophie Anne Fernandes, Licensing

Committee

Clare Ansdell, National Probation

Service

David Evans, City of London Police Patrick Brooks, London Ambulance

Service

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Accessing the virtual public meeting

Members of the public can observe this virtual public meeting at the below link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BUg7XBIs09w&feature=youtu.be

This meeting will be a virtual meeting and therefore will not take place in a physical location. A recording of the public meeting will be available via the above link following the end of the public meeting for up to one municipal year. Please note: Online meeting recordings do not constitute the formal minutes of the meeting; minutes are written and are available on the City of London Corporation's website. Recordings may be edited, at the discretion of the proper officer, to remove any inappropriate material.

John Barradell

Town Clerk and Chief Executive

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

3. MINUTES

To agree the public minutes of the meeting held on 18th September 2020.

For Decision (Pages 1 - 8)

4. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

Report of the Town Clerk.

For Information (Pages 9 - 12)

5. PARTNERSHIP DATA REVIEW

Head of Corporate Strategy and Performance to be heard.

For Discussion

6. TERMS OF REFERENCE REVIEW AND ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE SAFER CITY PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY GROUP

Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

For Decision (Pages 13 - 20)

7. CITY OF LONDON POLICE UPDATE

Report of the City of London Police

For Information (Pages 21 - 36)

8. **COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM UPDATE**

Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

For Information (Pages 37 - 40)

9. DOMESTIC ABUSE VULNERABILITY AND RISK POLICY UPDATE

Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

For Information

(Pages 41 - 46)

10. PROCEEDS OF CRIME ACT FUNDING BID 2020 - 2021

For Decision

a) Violence Against Women and Girls support worker for Bangladeshi Residents within the City of London (Pages 47 - 52)

11. PREVENT UPDATE

Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

For Information

(Pages 53 - 54)

12. RESPONSES TO ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN THE CITY OF LONDON: UPDATE REPORT

Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

For Information

(Pages 55 - 60)

13. LONDON FIRE BRIGADE UPDATE

Report of the Borough Commander, London Fire Brigade

For Information

(Pages 61 - 64)

14. COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES UPDATE

Report of the Director of Community & Children's Services.

For Information

(Pages 65 - 66)

15. PUBLIC PROTECTION SERVICE (ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, LICENSING AND TRADING STANDARDS) UPDATE

Report of the Director of Markets & Consumer Protection.

For Information

(Pages 67 - 78)

16. QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE GROUP

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS



SAFER CITY PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY GROUP

Friday, 18 September 2020

Minutes of the meeting of the Safer City Partnership Strategy Group held at the Guildhall EC2 at 2.00 pm

Present

Douglas Barrow (Chairman)

Peter Lisley (Deputy Chairman)

Bob Benton

Don Randall

Claire Dumontier-Marriage Deputy James Thomson

Renu Gupta David Evans
David Bulbrook Patrick Brooks

Andrew Carter - Director of Community and Children's Services

Alex Orme - Police Authority Board
Helen Isaac - City of London Police
Ali Burlington - Community Safety Officer
Valeria Cadena - Community Safety Officer

Adi Cooper - City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board Raynor Griffiths - City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board

Jillian Reid - Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator

Christopher Rumbles, Clerk - Town Clerk's Department

Ellen Wentworth - Chamberlain's Department

Mark Haddon - City of London Police

Karry Nicholls - Town Clerk's Department

Chris Lovitt - Deputy Director of Public Health

Jo Northmore - City of London Police
Chris Rumbles - Town Clerk's Department

Gavin Stedman - Port Health and Public Protection Director

Ian Tweedie - Adult Social Care Service Manager

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Trish Adams, Alex Wrigley, Tijs Broeke and Marvin Bruno.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

Resolved, that the minutes of the Safer City Partnership Group meeting on 7th July 2020 are approved as an accurate record.

4. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

The Group received a report of the Town Clerk providing Partners with a summary of outstanding actions from previous meetings. Updates were noted as follows:-

SOS Bus – Progress stalled slightly owing to the ongoing pandemic and uncertainty around how licensed premises would be operating over the next few months. St John's Ambulance and St Boltoph's Church would be happy to work with COLP and there was a meeting planned to work through the detail. Further update to follow at the next Safer City Partnership Group meeting.

Partnership Data Review – Not progressed as quickly as had been intended. Discussions have been held with the Head of Corporate Strategy and Performance looking to agree and embed SLA's to receive regular data. Further update to follow at the next meeting.

ParkGuard – Very difficult to attribute specific areas directly to ParkGuard Patrol, but as part of a team effort it was reasonable to assume they contributed to freeing up City of London Police time through dealing with a range of incidents including street interventions, addressing incidents of low level antisocial behaviour, moving people on and giving directions to leave, conducting welfare checks and dealing with issues relating to drugs paraphernalia. Acquisitive crime and anti-social behaviour had both seen a reduction and the evidence suggested ParkGuard played their part in this. The Chairman questioned whether there were any statistics over a longer period that would allow for any trends to be picked up and the Commissioner agreed to consider options for presenting this additional information.

5. CITY AND HACKNEY SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD STRATEGY 2020/25 AND ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20

The Group received a report of the Independent Chair of the City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board outlining the Board's new strategy for 2020/25 and presenting the annual report for 2019/20.

The Director of Community and Children's Services explained that it was a statutory duty for the Board to provide an annual report to demonstrate what had been achieved throughout the period. The Director commented on how the Covid-19 pandemic had impacted on the work of the Board, with specific measures and mechanisms having been put in place to allow Partners on the Board to continue addressing safeguarding issues throughout this period.

The Chairman highlighted that statistics presented within the report referenced only one area on occasion e.g. estimated number of people living in the City and age estimates for Hackney and suggested going forward statistics needed to reflect both areas.

The Chairman noted reference within the report to "what we were unable to achieve", but there being no indication of a timeframe set out to achieve these or ownership of them. It would be helpful to understand a timeframe to give people an expectation and avoid potential for items to drift.

The Chairman expressed his disappointment at City of London Police's 25% attendance rate at quarterly Board meetings and the Commissioner agreed to

establish the reason for this and ensure there was better engagement moving forward.

Resolved, that the City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board Strategy 2020/25 and Annual Report 2019/20 be noted.

6. CITY OF LONDON POLICE UPDATE

The Group received a report of the Commissioner providing partners with an update on activity of City of London Police since the last meeting, which covered various areas of policing.

The Commissioner referred an increase in the number offences being seen in the City as it goes through a gradual lifting of lockdown. Crime against a person, rape and sexual offences had all seen an increase, with Friday evenings being the time when these offences were most likely to occur and appearing to link to the increase in use of licensed premises.

The Commissioner referred to a hardening of approach against cycle theft, with a POCA Fund Bid submitted for consideration later on the agenda at this meeting. The Group noted that an unintended consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic had seen more people cycling to work with this leading to an increase in volume and number to bikes to target. The Commissioner confirmed that part the POCA Fund bid included increased work on education.

The Cheapside Business Alliance representative referred to an increase in the number of bike racks and storage facilities in and around City businesses that had the potential to be targeted. It was suggested pop up bike events could be organised along with increased messaging being circulated as people continued returning to the City.

The Commissioner concluded and confirmed overall crime in the City had seen a reduction during the period, with a 52% reduction having been seen compared to last year.

Resolved, that the update be noted.

7. RESPONSES TO ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN THE CITY OF LONDON: THIRD UPDATE REPORT

The Group received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services providing an update on the activities of the two-year funded post of the Anti-Social Behaviour Coordinator and Strategy Officer.

The Group noted that discussions continued focussing on increased partnership working, updating and renewing an Information Sharing Agreement, developing a disclosure pathway for requesting information from City of London Police when dealing with anti-social behaviour and the wider Safer City Partnership crime reduction strategy. Work also remained ongoing highlighting the work of the Community MARAC, with plans in place for the City Corporation to be displaying information on a public facing website offering a link to a referral form by the end of the month.

Partners noted that a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) relating the London Marathon had not been deployed this year owing to a reduced route for the marathon owing to the Covid-19 pandemic and it not going through the City this year. The PSPO had been granted for three years so this would still allow for two years qualitative data to be obtained.

The Chairman stressed a need to ensure reports coming through to the Group receive cross Partnership input before they are presented. This would allow for any impacts across Partners to be identified early and before items come forward.

Resolved, that the report be received and its contents noted.

8. DOMESTIC ABUSE VULNERABILITY RISK POLICY UPDATE

The Group received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services updating Partners on the City of London Corporation's domestic abuse post Covid-19 recovery plan and actions already taken.

Resolved, that the report be received and its contents be noted.

9. PROCEEDS OF CRIME ACT FUNDING BIDS 2020 - 2021

a) Cycle Crime Prevention Initiative

The Group considered a Proceeds of Crime Act Funding (POCA) bid relating to City of London Police Cycle Crime Prevention initiative.

The Chairman explained that all POCA Funding bids go through a process of review by relevant City Corporation and City of London Police officers before being presented for consideration. The Chairman suggested the Cycle Crime Prevention Initiative appeared to be a very good initiative.

Resolved, that a funding bid of £9814.80 be approved.

b) Vulnerable Victim Advocate

The Group considered a Proceeds of Crime Act Funding (POCA) bid relating to the funding a City of London Police Vulnerable Victim Advocate (VVA) for 3 extra days work and £7k of those will be used to have an independent review of services for vulnerable victims across the City.

The Chairman offered his support to the bid, whilst stressing the independent review would need to come in at less than the maximum figure of £7k quoted.

The Group noted the bid would be for one year, after which an alternative funding source would be sought.

Resolved, that a funding bid of £35,225.53 be approved.

Professionalisation of Security Professionals

The Borough Commander took the opportunity to highlight a proposed future bid of £55k to the POCA Fund. Funding was being sought to design, develop and deliver an online platform to educate, determine competency and certify security staff. The training would enhance the role of Security Staff by giving them the knowledge to provide blue light services with the information they require when arriving at an incident. The training would hopefully lead to an uplift in skills within the security sector and offer improved employability opportunities going forward.

The Chairman added that the training would prepare security staff for responding to an incident by allowing them to understand the information needed by blue light services. The Chairman proposed that the Borough Commander prepared a bid in the normal way. After being scrutinised in the normal way it can then be circulated to Partners seeking their feedback and comments and, subject to these, a final decision on the bid being was delegated to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

Resolved, that Delegated Authority be granted to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to approve a POCA fund bid relating to an online security training module.

10. COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM UPDATE

The Group received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services updating Partners on Community Safety Team activity not otherwise addressed on the agenda.

The Community Safety Officer referred to Hate Crime Awareness week during the 10th to 17th October. There were plans in place to hold a virtual event as part of this to include a range of speakers in an effort to raise awareness of this important issue. An update would be circulated to Partners once the event and date had been finalised.

The Group noted that there had been no Prevent channel cases since the Safer City Partnership Group meeting in February. The Prevent Coordinator was currently attending bi-weekly virtual forums with the London Prevent Network and an increase in referrals was starting to be seen. The Community Safety Officer stressed a need for partners to know the mechanisms for referring cases into the Prevent Team. There were various online training options and awareness sessions that can be delivered by the Prevent Coordinator and City of London Police Prevent Officer to businesses, community groups, partner agencies and education sector.

Resolved, that the update be noted.

11. COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES UPDATE

The Group received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services providing an update of relevant data and activity from Community and Children's Services.

Resolved, that the update be noted.

12. PUBLIC PROTECTION SERVICE (ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, LICENSING AND TRADING STANDARDS) UPDATE

The Group received a report of the Director of Markets and Consumer Protection updating on the work of Public Protection Services, which comprises Environmental Health, Licensing and Trading Standards.

The Port Health and Public Protection Director provided the Group with a brief summary of the wider work taking place within Port Health and Public Protection. The Director also updated on the ongoing work in responding to the Covid-19 pandemic through continuing to support businesses that are working through the latest Government regulations and Environmental Health Team working with businesses to achieve accreditation through the Covid-19 Safety Scheme in an effort to promote public confidence in the City's pubs, restaurants, cafes and shops.

Resolved, that the report be received and its content noted.

13. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE GROUP** There were no questions.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Plan for future of the Group – The Chairman provided the Group with an update on the direction of travel for the Group. Safer City Partnership was a body focussed on the safety and security of the City. Previously, the Chairman of Police Authority Board had always been Chairman of this Group, but with the recent move of the Community Safety Team to the Department of Community and Children's Services offering a business and residential viewpoint, the Group may no longer be Chaired by the Police Authority Board Chairman and this would offer an opportunity to demonstrate the wider contribution of the Group.

15. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Resolved, that under regulation 3 of the Crime and Disorder Action 1988, the public be excluded from the meeting.

16. PROCEEDS OF CRIME ACT FUNDING BIDS 2020 - 2021

a) Operation Broadway

The Community Safety Officer provided the Group with an overview of Operation Broadway and a funding bid of £25,000 to cover a one-year fixed term contract for a suitably experienced officer to support work in this area.

The Community Safety Officer confirmed that a review would be undertaken after one year of operation to consider value for money and success of the role.

Resolved, that a funding bid of £25,000 be approved.

17. COUNTER TERRORISM LOCAL PROFILE

The Commissioner took the opportunity to present to the Group and make them aware of the Counter Terrorism Local Profile, set out summary and aims for 2020 and how Partners could better engage on this important agenda.

18. NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE GROUP

There were no non-public questions.

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

There were no additional items of business whilst the public were excluded.

Chairman

The meeting closed at 3.20pm

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Agenda Item 4

SAFER CITY PARTNERSHIP GROUP 4 December 2020 OUTSTANDING REFERENCES

No.	Meeting Date & Reference	Action	Owner	Status
1	26/2/18 SOS Bus	Deployment of bus Christmas 2019. Further review to take place at the end of the year when data collected will be expanded upon in an effort to understand additional areas to focus on e.g. drinking cultures at certain organisations. Initial discussions have taken place looking at CoLP/Corporation purchasing their own bus. Alternative provision being looked at in consultation with St Bultoph's Church and St John's Ambulance.	City of London Police / Community Safety Team	ONGOING Verbal update given at SCP on 18.09.20. Progress stalled owing to pandemic and uncertainty around how licensed premises will be operating over next few months. Meeting planned to work through the detail and update to follow at next meeting.
2	7/11/19 Item 6 Partnership Data Review	Multi-agency strategic assessment to be developed. Update to be provided at next meeting. Initial scoping exercise undertaken. Draft strategy to be prepared. Chairman stressed a need for SCP to receive analytical support.	Head of Community Safety / Business Intelligence Lead	ONGOING: Oral update provided at SCP on 18.09.20. Project not progressed as quickly as intended owing to analyst departing COLC. Head of Corporate Strategy and Performance to

No.	Meeting Date & Reference	Action	Owner	Status
				attend SCP on 4.12.20 to discuss data and analytical needs of SCP.
3	7/11/19 Item 13 Park Guard Patrol	Commissioner and Head of Community Safety to agree how to monitor success of the £5k POCA fund bid for a Park Guard Patrol on Middlesex Street.	Commissioner / Head of Community Safety	ONGOING
	(Middlesex Street)			COLP to report back on key performance measurements.
		Patrol seen as positive in offering increased visibility and reassurance to the public, but very hard to measure when look at what has been prevented.		Oral update given at SCP on 18.09.20. Chairman requested statistics over a longer period to help pick up trends and determine success of the patrol.
				Oral update to be given at SCP on 4.12.20.
4	18/09/20 Item 9 Proceeds of Crime	Proposed future Proceeds of Crime Act Funding Bid		ONGOING
	Act Funding Bid	relating to Professionalisation of Security Professional.	Commander / Community Safety Manager	Bid to be considered. Delegated approval granted at SCP on 18.09.20 for final decision.
				Update included within Community Safety Team update report on SCP agenda 4.12.20

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Committee(s)	Dated:
Safer City Partnership Strategy Group	04/12/2020
Subject: Terms of Reference Review and Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Safer City Partnership Strategy Group	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1,2,3,4
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services	For Decision
Report author: Scott Myers, Strategy Officer, Community & Children's Services	

Summary

This report provides Members of the Safer City Partnership Strategic Group with a decision and recommendation on the next Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Safer City Partnership Strategic Group from 2021, as well as propose changes to the current Terms of Reference to enhance more details of responsibilities, purpose, membership, priorities and sub-groups of the Partnership.

Recommendation(s)

- Partners are asked to consider the Chairman or Deputy Chairman of the Community & Children's Services Committee (C&CS) be elected chair of the Safer City Partnership (SCP) with the Police Authority Board Chairman or Deputy Chairman acting as Deputy SCP Chairman from 2021.
- Members are also asked to consider the Terms of Reference (TOR) and agree to make changes in order to improve effectiveness.

Main Report

Background

1. The Safer City Partnership brings together statutory and non-statutory agencies who have a role in keeping the Square Mile safe.

- 2. As listed in the SCP Terms of Reference (see Appendix 1), the Chairman of the Partnership shall be an elected member for the City of London Corporation, and is also normally the Chairman of the Police Authority Board.
- 3. It is proposed that members agree to the proposal that the Chairman or Deputy Chairman of the Community & Children Service's Committee to chair the SCP. With this recommendation, it is believed that it would provide a more joined up approach with other work in related Committees and Sub-Committees of the City of London Corporation, the SCP and the City of London Police (CoLP)
- 4. It is proposed that the Policy Authority Board Chair or Deputy Chair to act as the Deputy SCP Chair.
- 5. Members also have the opportunity to revise the TOR for the Partnership, realigning its focus, as well as clarifying the details on who can be elected as the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Partnership
- 6. The current agreed TOR does not highlight some of the key responsibilities of the Partnership, such as the governance of information sharing. Furthermore, it can be improved to give more emphasis to the work of all the agencies involved, whether they are statutory or non-statutory agencies.
- 7. Suggestions and additions to the TOR will be considered by Members during the Partnership meeting and a final briefing paper will be prepared for the next SCP meeting noting the proposed changes.
- 8. Any changes need to be agreed by the Partnership and it is further proposed that the TOR and associated Chairing arrangements be reviewed once every two three years.

Proposals

- It is proposed on behalf of Partners that the Chairman or Deputy Chairman of the C&CS Committee be elected Chairman of the SCP with the Police Authority Board Chairman or Deputy Chairman acting as Deputy SCP Chairman from 2021
- 10. It is proposed to discuss and highlight potential changes to the current TOR for the SCP, to better reflect the work of all involved agencies and improving the governance of information sharing.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Strategic Implications

11. By accepting this recommendation, it is expected to have a positive effect on the outcomes aligned to contributing to a flourishing society, as laid out in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan. This is because of the increased joined up approach and cross cutting with other areas of the Corporation and partners work that the proposal will bring. 12. By reviewing the Terms of Reference, it is expected that the TOR can be realigned where necessary to better reflect the work of all member agencies.

Conclusion

13. The Safer City Partnership through the work of its partners helps ensure that the Square Mile is a safe place for people to live, learn, work and visit. These proposals will build upon the strategic leadership for community safety partnership activity within the City, better reflect the work of partners through a revised Tor and also ensuring that a joined up approach with elements of the City of London Corporation's duties, as well as all other SCP partners.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Safer City Partnership Terms of Reference

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Strategy Officer, Department of Community & Children's Services

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Safer City Partnership Terms of Reference

September 2019

Purpose

Our vision is that the Square Mile is a safe place for people to live, learn, work and visit.

Who we are

The Safer City Partnership brings together statutory and non-statuary agencies who have a role in keeping the Square Mile safe. Membership is listed below.

The Safer City Partnership (SCP) was established in response to the duties placed on local authorities, the police and other partners by the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act. It also works to meet the expectations outlined within the Police and Justice Act 2006, Policing and Crime Act 2009, and subsequent Home Office regulations.

The SCP has a number of key responsibilities including:

- Providing strategic leadership for community safety partnership activity within the City.
- Bringing together the authorities responsible for crime and disorder strategies within the city to enable them to act in co-operation in undertaking their functions.
- Undertake a strategic assessment of crime and anti-social behaviour within the City.
- Consult with our communities to identify their concerns relating to crime and ASB.
- Agree the focus and priorities for the SCP strategy and ensure that the three-year Partnership Strategy and annual delivery plan is agreed and implemented, and that agreed targets are met
- Monitor and evaluate these strategies.
- To oversee the function of the established sub-groups carrying out work towards the delivery plan;
- To ensure an evidence-led and problem-solving approach is used within the SCP, including with relevant commissioning processes.
- To oversee Domestic Homicide Reviews within the City of London.
- Monitor the local delivery of the Prevent strategy.

Membership

The SCP shall comprise representatives of the following organisations being the responsible authorities and the bodies with which the authorities should co-operate under the Act:

- The City of London Corporation*
- The City of London Police*

- London Fire Brigade*
- London Probation Trust*
- Clinical Commissioning Group*
- Director of Public Health
- The City of London Corporation Environmental Health & Public Protection
- British Transport Police
- Transport for London
- The Guinness Partnership
- City of London Crime Prevention Association
- Business representatives
- London Ambulance Service

The partners marked with an asterisk are the statutory partners of the Safer City Partnership under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Chairman, with the support of the Partnership, may appoint additional representatives as appropriate. Collectively the membership is responsible for delivering the ambitions set out in the partnerships strategic plan.

Safer City Partnership Priorities 2019-22

- Vulnerable people and communities are protected and safeguarded
- People are safe from violent crime and violence against the person
- People and businesses are protected from theft and fraud/acquisitive crime
- Anti-Social Behaviour is tackled and responded to effectively
- People are safe and feel safe in the Night-Time Economy

Chairman

The Chairman shall be an elected member for the City of London Corporation. Normally, the Chairman of the SCP will be the Chairman of the Police Authority Board

Key Committee linkages

The SCP is represented on relevant key committees including the Police Authority Board (by the Chairman and officers), Licensing (by Member and officers), Health and Wellbeing Board (by officer), Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Sub-Committee (by officer), City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board (officer), City and Hackney Safeguarding Children Board (officer).

Sub- groups

Subgroups which report into the SCP include: The Serious and Organised Crime Board; Domestic Abuse Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC), City Community MARAC (CCM), Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Forum, and the Local Licencing Partnership (LLP) Licensing and Children & Community Services. In addition, there are task and finish groups such as the Drugs Working Group.

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Agenda Item 7

CITY OF LONDON POLICE: OFFICIAL - RECIPIENT ONLY

Safer City Partnership Strategy Group Review Period August – October 2020

City of London Police Update Supt Helen Isaac City of London Police (Sector Policing) November 2020

Introduction

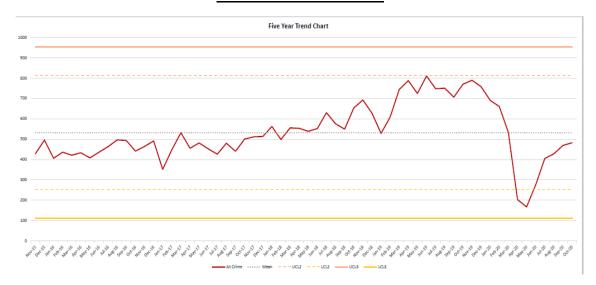
The City of London experiences relatively low levels of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour. This reflects the efforts of the City of London Police, the City of London Corporation and many other partners.

Working together we contribute to maintaining the City as the world's leading financial and business centre as well as being an attractive place to live, socialise and visit. Since its establishment the Safer City Partnership has played a key role in reducing crime and other harm.

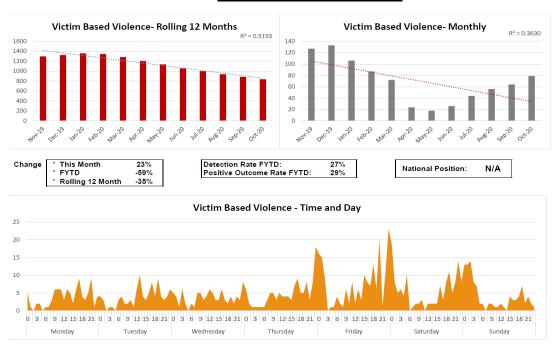
This report identifies five main priorities, linked to the Safer City Partnership Strategic Plan:

- Violence Against the Person People are safe from violent crime and violence against the person
- Night Time Economy Crime and Nuisance People are safe and feel safe in the night-time economy
- Acquisitive Crime People and businesses are protected from theft and fraud/acquisitive crime
- Anti-Social Behaviour Anti-Social Behaviour is tackled and responded to effectively
- Supporting the Counter Terrorism Strategy through Delivery of the Prevent Strategy Vulnerable people and communities are safeguarded from radicalisation and the threat of terrorism.

Five Year Crime Trend



Violence Against the Person

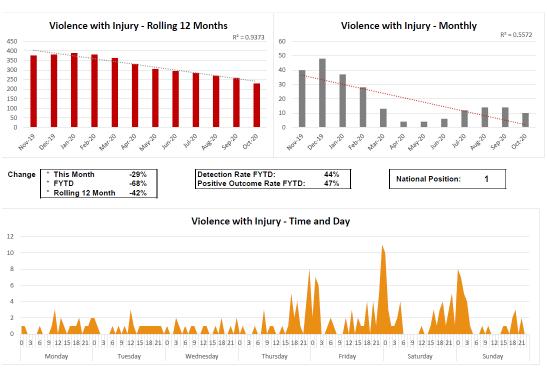


DFFICIAL - INTERNAL USE ONLY

Report current to: 03/11/2020

Victim based violence has fallen by 59% in the FYTD, a very noticeable impact of COVID-19, licensed premises being shut and a big reduction in footfall. With the lifting of lockdown, offences have started to rise again. Common assault remains the largest offence type.

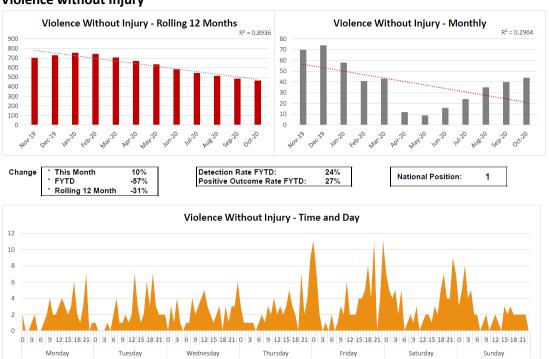
Violence with Injury



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Report current to: 03/11/2020

Violence without Injury



OFFICIAL - INTERNAL USE ONLY

Report current to: 03/11/2020

Sexual Offences



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Report current to: 03/11/2020

Rape & Sexual Offences

The FYTD has seen a 56% decrease in sexual offences, with an increase seen in August and again in October, most likely due to the lifting of more lockdown measures and more people being in the City.

Acquisitive Crime

Burglary

The FYTD shows a 44% reduction and although there's been an increase since July before falling back again in October, the increasing number of people returning to office buildings over coming months is predicted to stem any larger increase in offending.



OFFICIAL - INTERNAL USE ONLY Report current to: 03/11/2020

Shoplifting

City is on a 32% reduction (Rolling 12 months). Seasonality shows higher levels of offending over the summer, though due to lockdown, fewer shops have been open. Alcohol, food and clothes remain the items commonly taken. After the first lockdown more shops reopened and offending continued to increase with the lifting of lockdown. Assessment of the impact of the second lockdown in November will be included in the next set of SCP data.



OFFICIAL - INTERNAL USE ONLY

Report current to: 03/11/2020

Theft from the Person

Offences have reduced for the FYTD by 61%.

Increase in offences since July with the reopening of shops & restaurants. Victims may be reduced due to lower number of people coming into London.



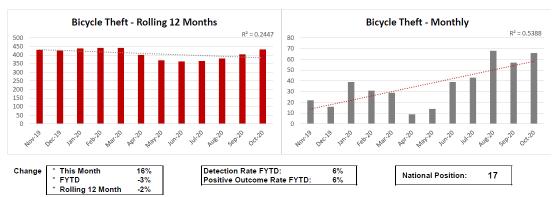
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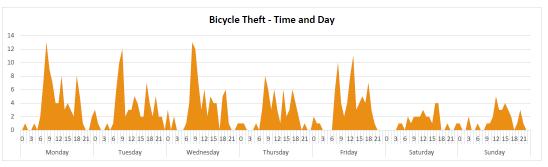
Report current to: 03/11/2020

Bicycle Theft

Bicycle theft shows a 2% reduction (Rolling 12 months).

However post lockdown, levels of offending are now higher than those seen prior to lockdown, with a seasonal rise in August continuing into September and October. An operation is in place to tackle this offence type led by Sector Policing with funding granted from the SCP POCA allocation.





OFFICIAL - INTERNAL USE ONLY

Report current to: 03/11/2020

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

a. Key Findings

- ➤ Levels of reporting decreased significantly during in lockdown and continue to remain lower than those experienced this time last year.
- Noise nuisance was an emerging area of increased reporting in the last report, but rates have decreased since a peak in August.
- Activities such as free running, parkour, skateboarding and urban exploration continue to be reported.

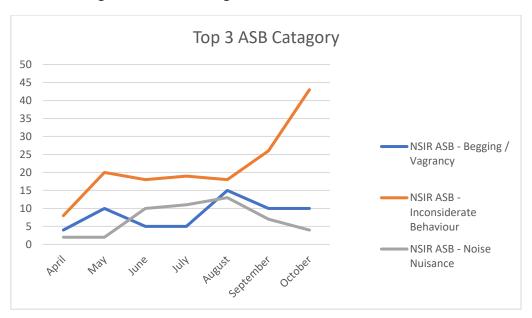
b. ASB Incident Data by Month

	2019	2020
Jan	81	85
Feb	98	84
March	131	57
April	117	28
May	91	52
June	105	47
July	100	46
Aug	110	57
Sept	112	62
Oct	120	74
Nov	109	
Dec	85	

The number of ASB incidents reached a two year low in April 2020 when we were in lockdown in response to the Coronavirus pandemic. As restrictions eased we saw levels begin to increase again averaging 50 incidents a month between June and August 2020. A slight increase has been seen since August but these numbers remain much lower than the number of incidents reported across the same period last year (44% overall reduction Jan to Oct against last year). We could see an increase in December as lockdown restrictions ease slightly and licensed premises reopen, albeit this opening will still be limited.

c. Data Breakdown August to October 2020

i. Highest Recorded Categories of ASB



The above graph demonstrates that **Inconsiderate Behaviour** continues to be the category with the highest number of ASB incidents recorded in the current period.

Breakdown of top 3 ASB categories by month 2020

Month	NSIR ASB - Begging / Vagrancy	NSIR ASB - Inconsiderate Behaviour	NSIR ASB - Noise Nuisance
April	4	8	2
May	10	20	2
June	5	18	10
July	5	19	11
August	15	18	13
September	10	26	7
October	10	43	4

There were 43 incidents of inconsiderate behaviour in October, a considerable rise, but reports of noise nuisance have fallen, possibly due to seasonal variations and less people being outside late at night. The second most recorded are ASB reports of begging/vagrancy which have also fallen, with 10 reports in both September and October. These three categories have changed slightly from pre COVID reporting, inconsiderate behaviour and begging/vagrancy are usually the most common incident types followed by drunken behaviour, which has been replaced by noise nuisance.

Classification as 'Inconsiderate Behaviour' is based on the recording officer's interpretation and where some incidents refer to multiple categories such as noise nuisance and drunkenness, they may have been recorded against inconsiderate behaviour as a catch-all. This could explain why it is always the most prevalent category in data returns.

Work to align the working practises of the new Partnership and Prevention (P&P) Hub in Sector Policing with the Community Safety Team (CST) in the Corporation is in progress. The ASB Coordinator now spends some time embedded with the P&P team at Bishopsgate Police Station which is assisting with information sharing and planning a joined up approach to ASB issues. A meeting is due to take place in December with the Department of Community and Children's Services and CST to discuss CSAS powers and enforcement options, which if progressed is expected to make a considerable difference to our joined up approach to prevention and enforcement options for ASB.

Operation Luscombe re-commenced on 21st October and 11 notices have been handed out since this date – data from this operation will be included in the next report for SCP.

Mental Health Street Triage

Mental Health Street Triage is a scheme whereby mental health professionals provide on the spot advice to police officers who are dealing with people with possible mental health problems. This advice can include an opinion on a person's condition, or appropriate information sharing about a person's health history. The aim is, where possible, to help police officers make appropriate decisions, based on a clear understanding of the background to these situations. This should lead to people receiving appropriate care more quickly, leading to better outcomes and a reduction in the use of section 136.

If an individual is detained utilising Section 136 of the Mental Health Act, the individual is removed to Health based Place of Safety - Officers/Triage Nurse await ambulance or they are taken by a police vehicle. The District Senior Nurse at the Homerton determines Health based Place of safety, patient transferred to HBPOS where assessed by 1 or 2 Senior Authorised Mental Health Practitioners and a doctor; this is after any A+E visit to assess any wounds or injuries. Admittance will need a team to remove onto ward and ongoing assessment depending on level of care required. A patient can stay up to 28 days providing constant care if required with ongoing treatment plans.

All referrals and voluntary actions are followed up by the triage nurse; these actions save hundreds of hours in resource time for both NHS and Police staff. None of these actions are viable unless a MHST practitioner is present at the time of the encounter.

If an individual is taken to hospital under S/136 without a MHST nurse present, this can take two police officers and a vehicle out of action for on average four hours – effectively half of the shift. When the Response groups are mustering approximately 10 officers, this is effectively 20% of the workforce unable to respond to calls for service whilst they are dealing with the patient at the hospital.

As can be seen from the statistics below, when a MHST Nurse was present, 35 Section 136s were avoided during the last quarter.

MH Street Triage Statistics

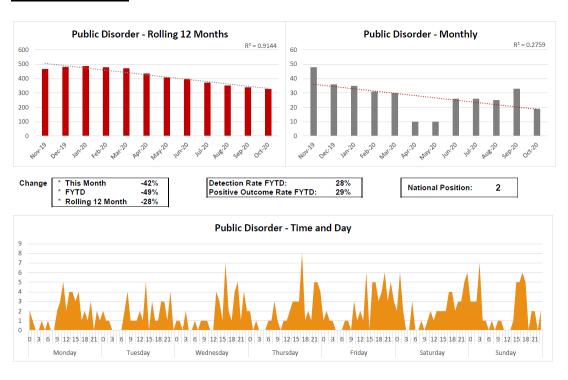
Reporting period 01/08/20-31/10/20

Total number of 136's avoided by MHST team	35
Total number of 136's issued whilst MHST on duty	22
Number of 136's issued outside of MHST duty times	24
Total of 136's for this period	46
Total of 136's there would have for this period if there was <u>no</u> MHST	81

CITY OF LONDON POLICE: OFFICIAL - RECIPIENT ONLY

Total number of MH interventions made by MHST in	107
this period	

Public Disorder



OFFICIAL - INTERNAL USE ONLY

Report current to: 03/11/2020

Public Disorder

Currently public disorder, which in the City is either linked to protest activity or the night-time economy, remains low. The FYTD shows a 49% reduction in offences, likely to be due to the lower footfall and the implications of lockdown. This could rise if protests over restrictions and Brexit increase over coming weeks.

Prevent

August to October 2020

Referrals

CITY OF LONDON POLICE: OFFICIAL - RECIPIENT ONLY

The Prevent team have received six referrals over this period. Four of the referrals have been transferred to the Metropolitan Police, one to Surrey Police and the final referral closed off by City Police after no CT concerns were found.

Engagement/Meetings/Training/Media

Prevent induction sessions delivered monthly via zoom to transferees and new starters to the force.

The Prevent team are in contact with the Counter Terrorism Policing HQ National Prevent team via conference calls and emails.

The Prevent team are in contact with the MPS and Home Office team who are developing Prevent for businesses.

Prevent Coordinator attending virtual London Prevent Network meeting bi-weekly, which features updates from the MPS, Department for Education, Office for Security and Counter Terrorism and the NHS England.

The issue of remaining vigilant surrounding individuals who may be potential Prevent referrals during Covid 19 has been highlighted again during this period via internal media to all staff and to individual response groups. Advice includes a short video 'THINK SAFEGUARDING THINK PREVENT' and signposting officers and people they may come across to the "LETS TALK ABOUT IT WEBSITE" and to 'THE COUNTER TERRORISM POLICING WEBSITE' (police officers only) to obtain support and guidance and individual advice. Two Home Office videos have been shared on City Police social media sites. The videos have also been shared via the City of London and statutory partners and highlight Prevent and feature short case studies.

Prevent officer is taking part in virtual meetings with Equality and Diversity focus groups.

The Prevent team attending Education Safeguarding Forum (subject to change) and Adults Safeguarding Group.

The Prevent team have developed strong communications links with the DfE ensuring all education sectors are supported within the City.

Prevent coordinator will be working more closely with the Corporations Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) to ensure there are no missed referral/support opportunities within this mechanism.

The Prevent team attended 'risks in education' webinar.

Prevent officer has compiled a 'peer to peer' briefing on Prevent for distribution to all officers in the force to highlight the need to be vigilant when dealing with individuals and organisations currently and in the future.

The Prevent team have met with the Regional Prevent Lead for Higher and Further education to discuss joint working in the near future with City Higher and Further Education sites. A virtual Prevent Forum is planned for November 2020 with all City based Higher and Further Education sites attending.

The Prevent team met to discuss and plan a webinar to be offered to businesses and schools in the near future. Work on this continues for rollout in December.

Regional Mee	tings/Training
The Prevent To at best practic	eam are continuing to work with the Prevent teams from around the country lookir e.

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Committee(s):	Date(s):
Safer City Partnership	4 December 2020
Subject: Community Safety Team Update	Public
Report of Andrew Carter – Chief Officer Department of Community and Children's Services. Author: Community Safety Team	For Information

Summary

To update SCP members on Community Safety Team activity not otherwise addressed.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note the report.

Domestic Abuse (DA) Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

- **1.** Since lockdown measures were imposed on 23 March 2020, the City of London MARAC has been successfully operating virtually via Microsoft Teams.
- 2. Since the last SCP meeting, six cases have been heard at MARAC. Two referred by rough sleeper services, two by City of London Police and two MARAC transfers from other London Boroughs. One case was graded as high risk due to concerns in incidents escalating as a result of working arrangements and pressures of current lockdown restrictions. Robust action plans are agreed for each, closely monitored and cases are not closed until the MARAC is satisfied the risk has decreased.
- **3.** The Community Safety Officer (MARAC coordinator) received five MARAC to MARAC referrals from City of London Police which have been transferred to the appropriate areas. The next DA MARAC is scheduled for 22 December 2020.
- **4.** The Community Safety Officer is currently updating the DA MARAC Standard Operating Protocol and working with the legal team to produce an updated MARAC Information Sharing Protocol.

City Community Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (CCM)

- **5.** Between September to November 2020, the CCM panel received two high risk and complex cases from our City estates and the Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Team.
- **6.** The latter of these cases entailed bringing together a number of statutory, voluntary and commissioned services to formulate a robust and sustainable action plan to safeguard the vulnerable victim, who has several enduring complex needs.

Serious and Organised Crime Board

- **7.** The board met for the first time in 2020 on 24th November. The Community Safety Officer will be coordinating this group and will review and compile new terms of reference which will cite the direction of the group, membership and the priorities. Proposed priorities include.
 - Drugs
 - Cyber crime
 - Modern Day Slavery/Human Trafficking
 - Intellectual crime
 - Money Laundering

Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA)- SCP Fund

- **8.** The City of London Police successfully applied in our last meeting for POCA funding for one for 3 extra days work of a Vulnerable Victim Advocate (VVA) services, and £7k of those will be used to have an independent review of services for vulnerable victims across the City. The total amount of £35,225.53 was given to this project.
- **9.** The Cycle Crime Prevention Initiative successfully applied for £9814.80 to run a series of operations to tackle and prevent cycle crime. Finally, Operation Broadway also successfully applied for £25,000. Final details for the bid are still underway, but the funding has been approved in principle
- **10.** We are still awaiting confirmation from the Chamberlains department on the final amount left in the pot, however a verbal update will be given at the strategic meeting.
- **11.** The London Fire Brigade has submitted a bid, as verbally explained in the last SCP meeting, however, as it's a bid the first of its kind to in terms of creating profit from the bid, there is still a lot of work under way. The bid will come back to the SCP meeting when is ready to be delivered.

Hate Crime

- **12.** National Hate Crime Awareness Week is held every year between the second and third Saturdays in October, this year it took place between the 10-17 October 2020. The aim of the week is to encourage local authorities, police, key partners and communities to work together to tackle local hate crime.
- 13. COVID-19 has presented unprecedented challenges for all of us in the community safety area, specially trying to raise awareness of relevant issues when we can't go out to the communities or have face to face contact, however to adapt to the current challenges the CST together with the Multi-faith Network run a virtual seminar, inviting member representatives of our communities, business representatives, and other partner agencies.
- 14. The event was hosted by Doug Barrow, Chairman of the Safer City Partnership and it featured a wide range of guest speakers, including Mark Healey, Trustee, National Hate Crime Awareness Week; Detective Chief Superintendent Maria Woodall, Head of Crime, City of London Police; Holly Powell-Jones, Online Media Law UK; Amil Khan, Director, Remembering Srebrenica and Paul Double, The City Remembrancer.
- **15.** It is perhaps unsurprising that during the height of lockdown, with everyone confined to their homes, offending dipped well below average levels. However, it is disheartening to have seen reports of changes in offending driven by the pandemic itself. Even in a time as frightening and frustrating as this, hate crime of any kind is completely unacceptable.
- 16. The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) stated that nationally East Asian communities have been disproportionately targeted during this period. They have been accused of 'bringing the virus here' and have been targeted with other conspiracy-focused allegations. There has also been wider hostility against other minority communities and those perceived as 'foreign', with offenders accusing them of causing or spreading the virus. Racist stereotyping has also been prevalent in COVID-related crimes, with the Muslim community being subject to abuse for allegedly breaking lockdown measures in order to convene for prayer.
- 17. Because of what is happening nationally the community safety team has updated hate crime information in our Corporation pages and has been raising awareness on what is a hate crime and how to report it. We want to let people know that we don't tolerate hate in the City and it's important to report it.
- **18.**One of the main topics discussed in the Hate Crime webinar is how online hate crime is affecting our communities. People feel free to say things that if they said to someone in the street they would be arrested. This behaviour affects people's lives and mental health. It can affect the confidence of people socialising virtually and as we have seen even trigger suicide.
- **19.** With that in mind the CPS is currently running a consultation into the main offences that are prosecuted in cases of abusive and offensive online communications:

specifically, the offences under section 127 of the Communications Act 2003 and section 1 of the Malicious Communications Act 1988. These offences are sometimes subject to enhanced sentencing as "hate crimes" if the offence was motivated by or the defendant demonstrated hostility towards a protected characteristic. This consultation is considering ways to make these offences clearer, and more targeted against the harm this conduct can cause. The consultation deadline for the Abusive and Offensive Online Communications review is 18 December 2020.

20. We would like to encourage all our members to participate in the consultation as we need more robust legislation to tackle online hate crime. The consultation can be found at https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/abusive-and-offensive-online-communications/

CST Staff Updates

21. Valeria Cadena was appointed Community Safety Manager in October 2020 after a lengthy recruitment process. A temporary Community Safety Officer will join the team in December 2020.

Forthcoming Activity

- **22.** 16 Days of Action Against Domestic Violence; 25 November 10 December 2020. Further details are contained within the Domestic Abuse Vulnerability and Risk Policy Officer update.
- **23.** As this year Christmas will have COVID 19 restrictions therefore we are not running our annual pan London GLA Christmas campaign. However, we are working in partnership with the police and other agencies to be ready and prepared for any eventualities that could happen during the festive season.

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Committee(s):	Date(s):
Safer City Partnership	4 December 2020
Subject: Domestic Abuse Vulnerability and Risk Policy Update	Public
Report of: Andrew Carter – Chief Officer Department of Community and Children's Services Author: Ayesha Fordham	For information

Summary

This report updates Members on the City of London Corporation's (City Corporation) domestic abuse COVID-19 response plan for the second national lockdown and how this aligns with the City Corporation's actions around the 16 Days of Action Against Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). The report also provides an evaluation of the Domestic Abuse Refresher Training that was delivered as part of the COVID-19 recovery plan.

The Community Safety Team has been working with partners across the City of London throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to promote domestic abuse/Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) services. The COVID-19 response plan was updated in preparation for the second national lockdown. The City Corporation's planned actions around the 16 Days of Action Against VAWG, due to start on the 25th November, were brought forward to promote services that are available to people affected by domestic abuse.

This report includes data from the City of London Police (City Police) and Victim Support's Vulnerable Victims Advocate (VVA) indicating the impact COVID-19 has had on domestic abuse reports and victims/survivors accessing support services. This has also highlighted an ongoing issue with the Bangladeshi residents within the City of London and the lack of specialist support services available to them.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note the report.

Key Points:

- Domestic Abuse COVID-19 Response Plan: Second National Lockdown
- City of London Police: Domestic Abuse Data
- Bangladeshi Domestic Abuse/VAWG Service
- 16 Days of Action Against VAWG
- Evaluation of Domestic Abuse Refresher Training
- Conclusion

Domestic Abuse COVID-19 Response Plan

- The City Corporation's webpage on domestic abuse was updated to ensure the page includes current and up to date information on local support services and initiatives available to victims. This includes updated safety planning information from Women's Aid and clearer guidance on the Rail to Refuge scheme.
- 2. An article on domestic abuse has been included within both the Barbican and City of London estates newsletters. Articles have been written within these newsletters throughout the pandemic and have provided different information for victims of abuse. The most recent article included information for victims about what happens after they have accessed support, such as being referred to partnership services through the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC).
- 3. An article will be included within the next Business Healthy newsletter to promote support services available to people who work within the City of London. City workers who are currently working from home are still able to access services within the City of London, even if they are not currently based within the City. The article also includes an offer for free domestic abuse training to businesses, for example to HR and line managers.
- 4. The Domestic Abuse, Vulnerability and Risk Policy Officer has provided information and guidance at a conference to HR staff across City of London businesses, to ensure employers are able to support employees affected by domestic abuse, especially at the present time when most staff are working from home. The businesses were offered free domestic abuse training for HR and managers delivered by the Community Safety team.
- 5. A domestic abuse campaign has been updated and re-published on the City Corporation intranet page. This is important to ensure employees are aware of support services available to them, even when working from home.
- 6. Information has been updated on the City Police intranet page for officers and staff members to be able to access support. Similarly, to City Corporation employees, it is important to raise awareness of the support available to officers and staff even when working from home.
- 7. Surviving Economic Abuse will provide a Level 3 training on Economic Abuse to City Corporation employees and partner agencies. This is part of City and Hackney's safeguarding week training programme.
- 8. Posters have been distributed across the Barbican and City of London estates signposting victims of domestic abuse to relevant support services.
- 9. The London Fire Brigade have distributed posters to shops and pharmacies within the City of London to reach victims of abuse who do not have internet access or are not able to access the internet.

- 10. Domestic abuse refresher training will continue to be delivered as and when partner agencies request them. These sessions are promoted through the VAWG Forum.
- 11. The City Police, Community Safety team and external partners are working together to develop ongoing work with hotels around vulnerability. The Hotel Engagement Group are planning to run a virtual conference covering a range of vulnerability issues, such as domestic abuse, sexual violence, child sexual exploitation, modern-day slavery and human trafficking. This has been progressed following on from the engagement event with hotels in February, and the increase in reports from hotels post the first national lockdown.

City of London Police: Domestic Abuse Data

- 12. The City Police data on domestic abuse indicates a decrease in reports of domestic abuse during the first national lockdown period. Between April- June 2020 there were 9 reports of domestic abuse, which is a significant decrease to April- June 2019 when there were 27 reports of domestic abuse. The number of reports started to increase again post lockdown, with 21 reports from July-September 2020. This data aligns with the anticipated surge in reports as the lockdown restrictions eased. City Police data for October 2020 indicate domestic abuse is still increasing, with 16 reports recorded.
- 13. The decrease in reports during the COVID-19 pandemic is also reflected within the VVA domestic abuse referrals. Between April- September 2020 the VVA received 19 domestic abuse referrals, from a range of sources such as the City Police, partner agencies and self-referrals. This is a significant decrease to April- September 2019 when the VVA received 32 domestic abuse referrals.
- 14. The City of London has not seen the same levels of increase in domestic abuse as other London Boroughs and national services, with a 49% increase in calls to the National Domestic Abuse Helpline during the first national lockdown, and a 22% increase in referrals to domestic abuse services across London. This is due to a significant decrease in the number of people working within and visiting the City of London, therefore it was expected that the levels of crime would decrease during COVID-19. However, it should be noted the number of domestic abuse reports does not reflect the level of abuse taking place, due to victims not being able to leave their homes to access support. The domestic abuse COVID-19 response plan highlights ways the City Corporation have tried to promote support services.

Bangladeshi Domestic Abuse/VAWG Service

15. The COVID-19 restrictions have reinforced a need for a specialist VAWG service to support the City's Bangladeshi community. There is a lack of engagement by the Bangladeshi community in VAWG services offered within the City of London, which could be due to language barriers and fear for a lack of understanding of cultural differences. This has proven even more challenging throughout the COVID-19 pandemic as all support has been provided over the phone. For the Bangladeshi community facing barriers such as language barriers, the only support available to them is through a telephone translator service, which is not an effective way of supporting a

- victim of domestic abuse/VAWG. In turn this has resulted in low engagement levels and the community not getting the support they need.
- 16. This gap in service provision within the City of London has been highlighted during this period, however there has been a need for support for this hard to reach community pre-COVID-19. Due to living within the City of London, Bangladeshi residents are unable to access the specialist Bangladeshi services within Tower Hamlets. This specialist VAWG service aligns with the wider national conversation around what local authorities are doing to support Black, Asian and Ethnic Minorities (BAME).
- 17. A bid has been submitted to POCA, requesting funding for a specialist VAWG post to engage with the Bangladeshi community through community engagement, partnership working, training/education and offering frontline support to the Bangladeshi residents within the City of London.

Sixteen Days of Action Against VAWG

- 18. The actions planned by the City Corporation in anticipation of the 16 Days of Action Against VAWG starting on the 25 November 2020 have been brought forward following the second national lockdown announcement. The planned actions were aiming to promote domestic abuse services across the City of London. These actions have been included within the Domestic Abuse COVID-19 Response Plan above. Throughout the 16 Days of Action Against VAWG there will be messages promoted through City Corporation social media platforms.
- 19. The City of London Police had planned to run joint surgeries with partners, promoting support services for victims. However, these have been postponed due to current lockdown restrictions and will be delivered when safe following Government guidance. Services will be promoted via posters, fliers and social media campaigns.

Evaluation of Domestic Abuse Refresher Training

- 20. In anticipation of the increase in reports and disclosures of domestic abuse post the first national lockdown, domestic abuse refresher training was offered virtually to City Corporation colleagues within DCCS and external partners. The purpose of the training was to prepare professionals to deal with disclosures or concerns they have for service users. This may have been the first time the individual had had an opportunity to disclose the abuse and seek help.
- 21. The training was delivered to 60 participants in total, including 31 participants from across the City Corporation. This included attendees from housing, No First Night Out, Children's Social Care, Early Help, Adult's Social Care, Education, including participants from Sir John Cass Primary School. 29 of these participants were from external partners, including 4 participants from Age UK and 25 participants from PohWer, including Community Managers, NHS Complaints Advocate, Independent Mental Health Advocates, Independent Advocates and Community Advocates.
- 22. The training received positive feedback from participants, stating that "all sections were informative and it provided a good update/refresher for current knowledge". Following the training delivered to DCCS, a City Corporation staff

- member contacted the Domestic Abuse, Vulnerability and Risk Policy Officer to discuss concerns for emotional abuse and coercive controlling behaviour within a case they were managing. As a result, following this conversation the service user was offered specialist domestic abuse support.
- 23. This free training offer is still available for both City Corporation staff and external partnership organisations. It is being promoted through the VAWG Forum and the Advice, Information and Advocacy (AIA) Forum.

Conclusion

24. The Community Safety Team and partners have adapted to continue to protect people from domestic abuse/VAWG whilst working remotely. The domestic abuse COVID-19 response plan is constantly being updated and reviewed to ensure it is meeting the needs of the City of London's community and aligns with current Government guidance.

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SAFER CITY PARTNERSHIP - POCA FUNDING BID 2020-2021

Sponsoring SCP	
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Sponsoring SCP	City of London Police
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Name and	purpose of
activity	

This paper outlines a proposal for a specialist domestic abuse, sexual abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) support worker for the Bangladeshi residents within the City of London. The proposed post would be part time, 3 days per week. The post would provide emotional and practical support to all Bangladeshi residents within the City of London who are victim/survivors of domestic abuse, sexual abuse and wider VAWG. They would work closely with partner agencies and neighbouring boroughs to encourage this community to engage in services. The proposed post would be able to provide specialist support to Bangladeshi workers within the City of London. In addition to providing support and community engagement, the proposed post would also provide specialist advice around this community group and cultural practices/beliefs to partner agencies such as children's and adult's social care, early help, mental health, education and police. The key aim of this proposal is to provide support to the Bangladeshi residents within the City of London, increase safety to victims and reduce the level of abuse through partnership working, training and education.

This proposal aligns with national conversations around racism and ensuring local authorities are doing enough to support Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority (BAME) communities. Historically, the Bangladeshi

residents within the City of London have not had access to specialist services and have only been able to access support in English.

In the London Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) Case Analysis and Review 2020, Standing Together have highlighted key issues around BAME groups. They have indicated that agencies need to liaise more with BAME specialists when supporting victims of domestic abuse, immigration was a barrier for some people accessing support; access to services may be limited by the agencies' misunderstanding of immigration law, and that DHR panels did not always take an intersectional approach to DHRs or include a diverse range of members on the panel. The proposed post would work with the City of London Corporation to address these key issues that have been highlighted by Standing Together around DHRs.

This bid supports the following agreed SCP priorities:

- 1. Vulnerable people and communities are protected and safeguarded.
- 2. People are safe from violent crime and violence against the person.

The Bangladeshi residents in the City of London are unable to access specialist services within Tower Hamlets, which has the largest Bangladeshi population of London Boroughs. Due to funding restrictions on services within neighbouring boroughs, they are unable to offer support to City of London residents. As a result, the City of London Bangladeshi residents are not offered the same level of support as residents in other boroughs.

Bangladeshi is the largest ethnic minority group within the City of London for both adults, children and young people. In 2018/19, 11.9% of Children and Family Assessments completed by the City of London Children's Social Care were for Bangladeshi children and young people. This has decreased to 4.5% in 2019/2020, which could indicate a lack of engagement in services and a risk of hidden harm. For Adult Social Care, 2.68% of people accessing long term support are for Bangladeshi vulnerable adults. This increased to 2.94% in 2019/20.

The City of London Police (City Police) data also reflects a low number of reports of domestic abuse/VAWG from this community where there are so many barriers which can prevent effective support. There were 4 recorded cases in 2018/2019 on the police database from this cohort. This could indicate a gap with the way crimes are being recorded on the system, as the City Police referred 7 cases to the Vulnerable Victims Advocate (VVA) during this time period. The data could also indicate barriers the Bangladeshi community face when reporting, such as language barriers, cultural differences and distrust of services. The

Bangladeshi residents could also have a lack of knowledge of services, such as the police and social services and how they are able to help. The proposed post could work with the Bangladeshi residents and partnership organisations to overcome these barriers.

The VVA supported 10 Bangladeshi residents in 2018/2019, this decreased to 2 residents in 2019/20. This could be a result of the VVA reducing to a part time post and less work being done around community engagement, therefore the Bangladeshi residents not knowing where to go for support. Language barriers are also a significant issue, for City of London residents the only option available to them is to be supported by the VVA via an interpreter. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the support offered to Bangladeshi residents is very limited, with support being provided via a telephone interpreter service. This is problematic as the victim does not know who the interpreter is and if they could potentially report information back to their wider community, putting the victim at significant risk of harm. This is also not an effective way to support a victim of domestic abuse, manage the risk and implement a safety plan.

The City of London Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (City MARAC) has received 6 referrals for high risk BAME residents within the past 2 years. This is 30% of cases that SafeLives estimate the City MARAC should receive each year. The City MARAC has recently heard a case for a Bangladeshi resident who has been known to City services for several years, however the support provided has been limited due to language barriers and lack of appropriate support available. The proposed post would provide appropriate support and develop referral pathways with organisations in neighbouring boroughs for a holistic approach, which in turn would reduce the risk of domestic abuse.

The proposed post has the potential to support, signpost and identify other areas of crimes and issues which may affect this community such as prevent, exploitation, crime prevention and anti-social behaviour. The post holder will have direct communication to the City Corporation's Anti-Social Behaviour Officer, Prevent Coordinator, police and all other agencies.

The proposed post will be delivered by the specialist domestic abuse and sexual abuse organisation Solace, who already provide advice and support to City of London residents and workers. The service will be available to all Bangladeshi residents within the City of London. There is an option for Solace to sub-commission the service to be delivered by a specific Bangladeshi organisation. Solace have recently been awarded the contract to deliver the Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) service in Tower Hamlets. The proposed post will therefore be well connected to the Bangladeshi community and services within Tower

Hamlets, with the opportunity for the post holder to be line managed by the Tower Hamlets IDVA service.

Amount of funding sought. (please attach detailed breakdown where appropriate).

The total money required from SCP POCA for this bid is:

£71,818

The total amount is for the proposed post, 3 days per week, 2 years fixed term. This bid is requesting funding for a 2-year fixed term post due to the need for the service to be embedded through awareness raising and community engagement within year 1, to increase referrals in year 2.

Year 1

Salary (3 days a week)	£25,540
Venue Hire/Community Engagement	£6,347
Solace Central Costs	£3,826
Total	£35,713

Year 2

Salary (3 days a week)	£25,890
Venue Hire/Community Engagement	£6,347
Solace Central Costs	£3,868
Total	£36,105

Outline the objectives of this activity; success criteria; and how this work contributes to the SCP outcomes for 2019-22.

The objectives of the proposed post are:

- Increase the number of Bangladeshi residents accessing support for domestic abuse, sexual abuse and VAWG.
- Increase awareness and education of domestic abuse, sexual abuse and harmful practices within the Bangladeshi community, for example through religious centres, schools, social care, universities, healthcare centres, police, housing estates.
- Develop partnerships with services in neighbouring boroughs and pan-London.
- Work closely with the City of London Police to build confidence with Bangladeshi residents and increase reporting.
- Offer support to Bangladeshi City of London workers.
- Provide advice to partner agencies around the Bangladeshi community and cultural practices/beliefs.

The success criteria for the proposed post will be:

- An increase in the number of Bangladeshi residents accessing domestic, sexual abuse and VAWG support within the City of London.
- An increase in the number of police reports from the Bangladeshi



Page 50

	 community within the City of London. An increase in referrals from partner agencies, both statutory and non-statutory into the proposed post. An increase in Bangladeshi City of London residents engaging with both statutory and non-statutory services. 3 awareness/training sessions delivered within the Bangladeshi community each quarter. An increase in awareness of the Bangladeshi community's cultural practices/beliefs across partnership agencies. The proposed campaign contributes to the Corporate Plan 2019-2022 through the following outcomes: Outcome 1: People are safe and feel safe. Outcome 2: People enjoy good health and wellbeing Outcome 3: People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential. Outcome 4: Communities are cohesive and have the facilities they need.
Detail resources that will be provided from partners supporting this bid. E.g. Matched funding or other input. (further details can be attached). Timescale funding required for?	The City of London Police will support this bid by promoting the service internally to officers and staff and refer/signpost Bangladeshi victims to the service. The City Corporation Department of Communities and Children's Services will support this bid by referring/signposting Bangladeshi victims to the service and promoting the service within the organisation and to external partner agencies. 1-year fixed term OR 2 years fixed term
What are the proposals criteria for success; measurable outcomes/outputs? Officer(s) responsible for monitoring the spend	The success of the proposed post will be measured through an increased number of police reports from the Bangladeshi community and an increased number of referrals/self-referrals for Bangladeshi residents into the service. The success will also be measured through the number of training sessions delivered across the Bangladeshi community. The post holder will share quarterly updates on the progress/success of the service with the City of London VAWG Forum. Ayesha Fordham, the Domestic Abuse, Vulnerability and Risk Policy Officer will be responsible for monitoring the spend.
Budget code/Account details for funds to be transferred.	AP005-64301-1L-ZZZZ



Please note recipients will be required to provide quarterly reports on the progress of their funded activity to the SCP. They will also provide a full report, detailing lessons learnt, upon its conclusion.

SAFER CITY PARTNERSHIP TEAM USE ONLY		
Date received:	Checked by:	
Approved: Yes No		
Approval arrangement:		
Approved by (CoL) 1:		
Approved by (CoLP) 2:		

Committee(s):	Date(s):	
Safer City Partnership	4 December 2020	
Subject:	Public	
Prevent Update		
Report of: Andrew Carter – Chief Officer Department of Community and Children's Services	For Information	
Author: Ali Burlington - Community Safety Officer		

Summary

This report is to update members with on-going City of London Prevent activity.

Prevent activity

- There have been no Channel cases since September 2020 SCP meeting. The Community Safety Team has the capacity to operate meetings virtually via Microsoft Teams and will liaise with partners accordingly should a referral come to our attention.
- 2. The Community Safety Officer (CSO) leading on Prevent is currently attending bi-weekly virtual forums with the London Prevent Network, which includes all London Prevent coordinators and updates with partners such as, SO15 Counter-Terrorism Policing, Department of Education, NHSE Prevent, OHST and National Probation Service. Best practice, support for coordinators in delivering Prevent activity and national updates are the focus of this forum.
- 3. The CSO joint with City Police's Prevent Officer actively work to promote Prevent training packages and awareness sessions to businesses, community groups, partner agencies and the education sector. Due to COVID 19, all face-to-face training sessions have been replaced by virtual sessions. Additionally, the Home Office online package has been suggested as a temporary alternative. Training has been provided to CoLP new starters, transferees and scheduled to deliver session to CoL apprentices in the new year.
- 4. On the 18 November 2020 Counter Terrorism Policing launched a national safeguarding website www.actearly.uk to encourage family and friends to share concerns that a friend or loved one might be vulnerable to radicalisation. This has been prompted via the City Corporations internal and external communication channels, such as social media, CoL forums, website and intranet.

- 5. The CSO and Prevent Officer have worked closely with DfE to deliver a Prevent Forum for Higher and Further Education establishments within the City. Content included, local and national threat picture, right wing and Islamist extremism, CoL channel case study and process for referrals, interventions, Act Early Campaign and local partnership work. This took place 26 November 2020 with 25 attendees. The team will work to replicate this forum for primary and secondary education establishments in the new year.
- 6. The CSO constructed an article for City residents in the @Home newsletter 'Safeguarding our communities through Prevent'. The content focused on online safety, spotting the signs of radicalisation, contact details of the Police and City Corporation and further support materials. A further article will be published highlighting the Act Early campaign.

Ali Burlington

Community Safety Officer (Prevent Coordinator)

E: ali.burlington@cityoflondon.gov.uk



Committee(s):	Date(s):
Safer City Partnership	4 December 2020
Subject: Responses to Anti-Social Behaviour in the City of London: Update Report	Public
Report of: Andrew Carter – Director, Department of Community and Children's Services	For information
Report author: Jillian Reid – Community Safety Team, Department of Community and Children's Services	

Summary

This report updates Members on the activities of the two-year funded post of the Anti-Social Behaviour Coordinator and Strategy Officer, based within the City of London Corporation's (henceforth referred to as "the Corporation") Community Safety Team.

Recommendation

Members are asked to consider and discuss this report.

Main Report

- 1. Members will recall that the Post Holder undertook a review of current Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) service delivery across the City of London. The findings were presented at the Safer City Partnership (SCP) Committee in November 2019 in a report entitled *Responses to Anti-Social Behaviour in the City of London*. Subsequent reports updating Members on the developments in this area were presented at the February, July and September 2020 SCP meetings.
- 2. The papers highlighted several steps the Corporation, City of London Police ("City Police") and other relevant bodies should take to address the issue of ASB within the Square Mile.

ASB Action Plan

3. The Post Holder has continued to hold discussions with senior City Police Officers, to incorporate many of the recommendations suggested with a new



strategic ASB Action Plan. Several of the actions are already being implemented under the Partnership and Prevent Hub and the ward-based Sector Policing model, both of which went 'live' on the 16 October 2020. The content and actions raised from these discussions with the City Police will be addressed elsewhere during this SCP meeting.

ASB and Enforcement

- 4. In September 2020, the Post Holder compiled and submitted and application on behalf of the Corporation, for an emergency civil Injunction Order¹ against a male committing gross criminal and anti-social behaviour across the City. The offences committed included criminal damage, public order and assault on Police.
- 5. The Defendant was also the perpetrator of serious domestic abuse against their extremely vulnerable partner. The partner is a City resident and known to services within the Square Mile.
- 6. The Post Holder ensured that all stakeholders and services connected to the Defendant and his partner, were consulted and updated regularly on the applications progress. The Injunction Order was supported by the City Police Public Protection Unit (PPU) and witness testimonies from the management of the Assessment Centre.
- 7. A full civil Injunction Order was granted to the Corporation on the 28th September 2020 and it prohibits the Defendant from entering the City for one year. Any contravention of the Injunction Order by the Defendant leaves him open to arrest by the City Police, with a potential suspended or custodial sentence handed down by the Courts for recurrent breaches.
- 8. The ASB Coordinator is continuing to assist the City Police Communities and Integrated Offender Management teams with information and assistance to construct Community Protection Warnings/Notices and Community Behaviour Orders against prolific perpetrators of ASB in the City.
- 9. In October 2020, the Post Holder assisted the City Police in their successful application for a three-year Criminal Behavioural Order (CBO)² against a prolific beggar involved in drug related ASB in the south-east section of the City. Under the terms of the CBO, the Defendant is prohibited from entering the wards where he previously engaged in ASB. He is also forbidden from blocking the footpath anywhere within the City and from approaching anyone for alms within the Greater London area.

City Community MARAC further development

10. The ASB Coordinator, coordinates the City Community MARAC³ (CCM). The CCM is the City of London's monthly MARAC, whereby information is shared on

¹ Appendix 1

² Appendix 2

³ Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference



vulnerable victims and perpetrators of ASB to forward manage risk and safeguard individuals.

- 11. In ongoing efforts to support recommendations arising from the January 2020 Community Trigger, the Post Holder has been distributing information and hosting a series of presentations to new and existing partners, to promote the benefits of the CCM as valuable multi-agency tool.
- 12. In November 2020, the ASB Coordinator gave a presentation on the CCM to the British Transport Police (BTP) team based at London Liverpool Street Station.
- 13. The Post Holder has completed the creation of a public-facing web page dedicated to the CCM under the 'Community & Safety' section of the Corporation's new 'Beta' website⁴. The web page provides information and advice to professionals on:
 - the CCM referral process (with a downloadable referral form)
 - dates of future CCM panel meetings
 - the partners and services which attend the CCM
 - the contact details for the CCM Coordinator

Process and Next Steps

14. A further report will come to the February 2021 SCP meeting.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 Civil Injunction Order
- Appendix 2 Criminal Behaviour Order

References

Safer City Partnership Committee (2019), 'Responses to Anti-Social Behaviour in the City of London', City of London Corporation

Safer City Partnership Committee (2020), 'Responses to Anti-Social Behaviour in the City of London: Update Report', City of London Corporation

Safer City Partnership Committee (2020), 'Responses to Anti-Social Behaviour in the City of London: Second Update Report', City of London Corporation

Safer City Partnership Committee (2020), 'Responses to Anti-Social Behaviour in the City of London: Third Update Report', City of London Corporation

Home Office (2017), 'Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014: Anti-social behaviour powers - Statutory guidance for frontline professionals', London. Available at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/at

⁴ The webpage is available to view at www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/services/community-and-safety/city-community-marac



tachment_data/file/823316/2019-08-05_ASB_Revised_Statutory_Guidance_V2.2.pdf (Accessed 24 November 2020)

Jillian Reid ASB and City Community MARAC Coordinator

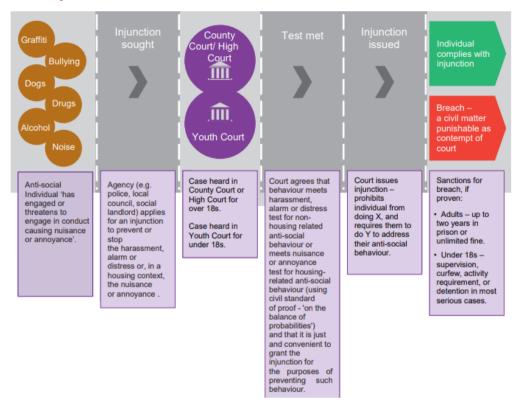
T: 020 7332 3549

E: jillian.reid@cityoflondon.gov.uk



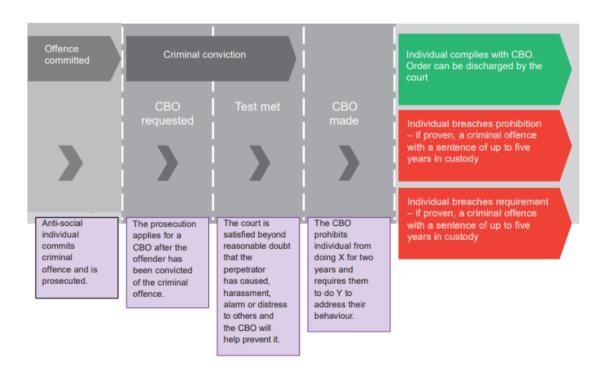
Appendix 1

Civil Injunction



Appendix 2

Criminal Behaviour Order



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Agenda Item 13

Committee(s)	Dated:
Safer City Partnership Strategy Group	4 December 2020
Subject: London Fire Brigade Update	Public
Report of: Borough Commander, London Fire Brigade, City	For Information
Report author: David Bulbrook, Borough Commander	

Summary

Update on activity of London Fire Brigade, City, since the last meeting of Safer City Partnership Group.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

Note the report.

Main Report

<u>London Fire Brigade City of London Safer City Partnership Update as of 26th November 2020</u>

Incidents of Note

The following extract from incidents of note attended by Dowgate's crews on their own station's ground:

SIX PUMP FIRE HIGH RISE PROCEDURE IMPLEMENTED LONDON BRIDGE STREET, SE1

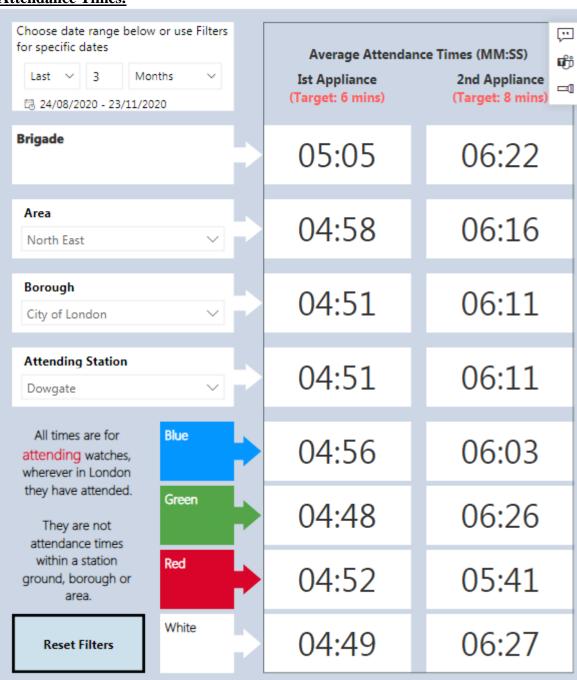
A mixed use building of eighty seven floors, one hundred metres by one hundred metres. A private hospital on the fifth floor with overheating uninterrupted power supply battery unit. Power supply isolated by on site engineers and confirmed cool by Brigade with thermal imaging camera. Eighty persons self evacuated before arrival of Brigade. Two jets, breathing apparatus, thermal imaging camera and mobile data terminal. High rise procedure implemented.

• FIFTEEN PUMP FIRE PERSONS REPORTED
BASEMENT PROCEDURE IMPLEMENTED
FIRE SURVIVAL GUIDANCE
NUMBER OF CALLS: 30 GREAT SUFFOLK STREET, SE1

A range of buildings of six floors and basement and sub basement comprising of residential and educational premises, forty metres by eighty five metres. Two motor vehicles in basement, one hundred percent damaged by fire. One

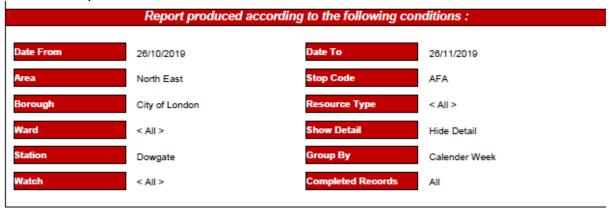
motor vehicle in basement, forty percent damaged by fire. A further three motor vehicles, ten percent damaged by fire. Fifty percent of basement damaged by fire. One adult female from flat in Great Suffolk Street rescued by breathing apparatus crews, treated by London Ambulance Service. A further twenty five person left premises before arrival of Brigade. One adult female and one infant from flat in Southwark Bridge Road and two adult and one infant from a further flat rescued by breathing apparatus crews, treated by London Ambulance Service. A further fifty five persons left premises before arrival of Brigade. Systematic search of building completed. Three jets, one hose reel, aerial appliance as observation tower, breathing apparatus, Drone, smoke hoods, basement procedure, stage two entry control. All persons accounted for, Same as all calls

Attendance Times.

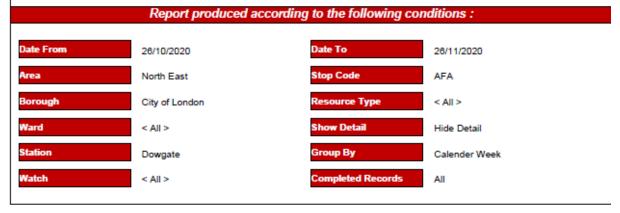


Unwanted Fire Signals (False Alarms).

The following comparison of false alarms for The City during this period compared with 2019 show a considerable reduction of almost 50%. Longer term analysis is required to assess the impacts of Covid.



Group by Calender Week	Number of Incidents		Number of Injuries	Number of Rescues	
2019 Week 43	1	0	0	0	0
2019 Week 44	12	0	0	0	0
2019 Week 45	13	0	0	0	0
2019 Week 46	18	0	0	0	0
2019 Week 47	12	0	0	0	0
2019 Week 48	7	0	0	0	0
	63	0	0	0	0



Group by Calender Week	Number of Incidents		Number of Injuries	Number of Rescues	
2020 Week 44	5	0	0	0	0
2020 Week 45	12	0	0	0	0
2020 Week 46	8	0	0	0	0
2020 Week 47	10	0	0	0	0
2020 Week 48	1	0	0	0	0
	36	0	0	0	0

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Committee:	Dated:
Safer City Partnership Strategy Group	4 December 2020
Subject:	Public
Community and Children's Services Update	
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For information
Report author: Scott Myers, Strategy Officer, Community and Children's Services	

Summary

This report provides an update of relevant data and activity from Community and Children's Services.

Recommendations

Note the report.

Main Report

This report summarises ongoing developments in two areas: an update on Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) residents and preventing and managing a COVID-19 outbreak.

Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV)

- 1. Since the UK entered national restrictions on 5th November 2020, there has been no formal requirement for individuals who are listed as being Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) to shield. However, the government issued guidance on how CEV's can stay safe during the lockdown period. As a result, the City of London contacted 95% individuals listed on the relevant NHS CEV list to check on their welfare and whether they required any assistance from the authority.
- 2. The City of London Corporation are utilising the services of NHS Volunteer Responders to offer assistance with food shopping and medication collection.
- 3. The local lockdown plan has been activated by DCCS to support CEV residents and reinstate the welfare support programme for accessing priority supermarket slots, grocery shopping, medication collection and social contacts during this current lockdown. The plan is being reviewed in preparation for London's entry into Tier 2 or Tier 3 which will include support for the wider vulnerable community as well as CEVs.

Preventing and managing a COVID-19 outbreak

- 4. In October 2020, a COVID-19 testing centre opened in Guildhall Yard, which is open seven days a week, between 8am and 8pm. Anyone with coronavirus symptoms can access the centre by booking an appointment through the NHS website, Covid-19 app or by calling 119.
- 5. As part of their joint COVID-19 Local Outbreak Control Plan (LOCP), the City Corporation and London Borough of Hackney have published a series of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for a range of different settings, including educational settings, workplaces, dine-in restaurants, close-contact services and more.
- 6. The SOPs outline how an outbreak linked to the setting will be identified, reported and managed by local health authorities, and the role and responsibilities of businesses within this process.
- 7. The SOPs also outline the process through which information about an outbreak can flow in a timely manner between the setting, the local authority and other health authorities and local partners. The SOPs can be accessed here.
- 8. A Single Point of Contact (SPoC) has been identified for each setting for both City and Hackney. The SPoC's role is to provide expertise relating to COVID-19 prevention and outbreak management in a particular setting, as well as communicate the SOP and other relevant guidance to their contacts operating in those settings.
- 9. Additional work is being completed to update the SOPs in line with changes to Government guidance and feedback from the settings themselves, as well as with colleagues working in settings such as Environmental Health.
- 10. For any queries relating to the SOP or COVID-19 management, please email testandtrace@hacknev.gov.uk

Scott Myers

Strategy Officer

E: Scott.Myers@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Committee(s)	Dated:
Safer City Partnership Strategy Group	4 December 2020
Subject: Public Protection Service (Environmental	Public
Health, Licensing and Trading Standards) update	
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate	1, 4
Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or	N
capital spending?	
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the	N/A
Chamberlain's Department?	
Report of: Director of Markets & Consumer Protection	For Information
Report author: Gavin Stedman, Port Health & Public	
Protection Director	

Summary

The Department of Markets & Consumer Protection contributes to the work of the Safer City Partnership (SCP) through its Public Protection Service which comprises Environmental Health, Licensing and Trading Standards. Work relating to the SCP is on-going in relation to the following priorities:

- Acquisitive Crime
 - Investment Fraud Trading Standards continues to collaborate with the City of London Police over Operation Broadway, now extended across London via Operation Offspring.
- Anti-Social Behaviour
 - Illegal street trading Additional resources have been put into a campaign to eliminate ice cream vans and nut sellers from the Square Mile.
 - Noise complaints service a 24/7 service is provided.
- Night Time Economy Crime and Nuisance
 - The COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown resulted in all licensed premises being closed and only approximately 10% re-opening once the lockdown has been eased.
 - Late Night Levy this has generated approximately £460K for the third full year of the operation of the levy.
 - Safety Thirst The scheme for 2020 has been deferred due to the COVID19 pandemic.
 - Licensing controls and enforcement enforcement activities and use of the Late-Night Levy have kept the number of licence reviews and suspension notices at a relatively low level.

This report details enforcement activity and progress in the above areas.

The Service contributed to the One Safe City programme and will be involved in the Secure City Programme. It is also represented on other relevant Boards and Groups.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

• Note the report.

Main Report

Background

- 1. The Consumer Protection part of the Department of Markets and Consumer Protection comprises three services:
 - Animal Health
 - Port Health
 - Public Protection
- 2. The latter includes Environmental Health, Licensing and Trading Standards, all of which contribute to the work of the SCP, specifically the 2019- 22 SCP Strategic Plan outcomes of:
 - Acquisitive Crime We will work to protect our businesses, workers, residents and visitors from theft and fraud with an emphasis on cybercrime
 - Anti-Social Behaviour Respond effectively to behaviour that makes the City a less pleasant place.
 - Night Time Economy Crime and Nuisance To ensure the City remains a safe place to socialise.
- 3. Whilst there are routine proactive and reactive responses to community needs, there is also a range of projects underway, details of which are provided below.

Current Position

Economic Crime

The City of London Trading Standards Service (COLTSS) primarily works in partnership with others in support of the SCP's outcome to *protect our* residents, workers, businesses and visitors from theft and fraud.

4. COLTSS continues to support and actively participate in Operation Broadway, a joint project with the City of London Police, National Fraud Intelligence Bureau, National Trading Standards 'Regional Investigation Team', the Financial Conduct Authority, the Insolvency Service and HM Revenue and Customs. Operation Broadway aims to disrupt the activity of criminals engaged in investment fraud.

5. Key actions include:

- a) Operation Broadway meetings continue to take place every two weeks, with partners sharing intelligence about possible fraudulent activity taking place within the City of London and surrounding Boroughs. Deployments then normally take place the following week to inspect premises and find out exactly what is going on. This leads to the gathering of intelligence and the opportunity is taken to investigate and disrupt the activities of businesses that may be involved in fraud. These visits are led by a Trading Standards Officer due to the powers of entry afforded to officers under the legislation that the service enforces. During the COVID-19 lockdown, meetings have continued to take place virtually and although it has not been possible to carry out physical visits, enquiries continue to be made by telephone and email.
- b) Trading Standards Officers continue to speak to victims of investment fraud and many of the stories that we hear are heart breaking with life changing sums of money being lost. The voluntary Code of Practice that was introduced by the Payment Systems Regulator at the end of May 2019 continues to require banks to compensate customers that have fallen victim to what is called 'authorised push payment' fraud. Officers are now actively advising investment fraud victims who have lost money about this potential route to compensation with growing success.
- c) An emerging problem revolves around what are called 'lead generators.' Consumers who are looking to invest money into financial investment products like bonds very often carry out internet searches and are drawn to lead generator sites that offer attractive returns and "full protection". The lead generators pass on the consumer details to criminals who then carry out the hard sell. The lead generators pay money to internet search engines to appear at the top of any searches, but it is proving impossible to trace who they are. The lead generator websites are being taken down by the FCA and Op Broadway, but they very quickly set up again. Trading Standards are developing a project plan around this problem and have recently been given £25,000 through the Community Safety Partnership to look more deeply into this problem.
- d) Trading Standards continue to maintain and build further good working relationships with mail forwarding businesses and serviced office providers in the City. It was recently discovered that some mail forwarding businesses who also act as company formation agents were being selective about the types of mail that they would forward to their clients. The consequence of this is that consumers who are trying to resolve legitimate problems by writing to the relevant business were simply having their mail returned. If a business has a registered office address, it is the view of Trading Standards that it must be possible for this mail to be successfully delivered. Funding of £6,000 was secured from National Trading Standards to seek Counsel's opinion about this practice which was received in May and every effort will be made by the City of London

- Trading Standards to drive changes in this sector. It is likely to be a long process, but it is an important national issue that needs to be addressed.
- e) Trading Standards has recently been involved in work being coordinated by the National Economic Crime Centre (part of the National Crime Agency). Information is being shared about Operation Broadway and the model has been used to help tackle fraud associated with COVD-19.
- f) Trading Standards have been investigating complaints from vulnerable job seekers who have responded to adverts offering employment. The reality is that the jobs do not exist, and job seekers have ended up paying hundreds of pounds for training courses that are a complete waste of time. This investigation is now complete and legal proceedings have been instituted. A three-week trial was scheduled to take place at the Central Criminal Court in August 2020 but this has now been delayed until July 2021 due to pressures on the Court service caused by COVID-19. Trading Standards are also trying to tackle a US based company who offer training courses in a wide range of subjects. The company appear to be operating a subscription trap and there have been hundreds of complaints. We are hoping to deal with this company and work with them to reduce complaint levels and get them to change their practices. This is a real challenge with a business based outside of our jurisdiction.
- g) In the City, there are very few retailers that sell knives. However, test purchasing using a 17-year-old was carried out during October 2019 and one of the retailers sold without asking any questions. This matter has now been investigated and legal proceedings have been instituted. The case was due to be heard at City Magistrates Court, but that case too has been delayed due to COVID-19.

	2020/2021	2019/20 Total	Q1 Apr-	Q2 Jul-	Q3 Oct-	Q4 Jan-	Total
a.	Op Broadway deployments/ disruptions/ interventions	58	Jun 5	Sep 11	Dec	Mar	16
b.	Adopted for further action by other agencies	23	2	5			7
C.	Contacts with 'enablers'	7	0	0			0
d.	RP07 forms submitted to Companies House by serviced office providers	7	0	2			2
e.	Website suspension requests	10	6	15			21
f.	Promotional / prevention activity - e.g. publicity campaigns, days of action, attendance at external events, press coverage	4	0	1			1

h) With the onset of COVID-19 that led to lockdown in March 2020 and again in November 2020, new legislation was introduced by Government to close businesses. This legislation placed a responsibility on Local Authorities to enforce and the necessary authorisations were provided to Trading Standards Officers and Environmental Health Officers. The impact of lockdown means that commuters no longer come into the City and most business premises closed down due to there being no customers. Trading Standards continue to keep in close contact with CoL Police to deal with any intelligence that businesses may be opening illegally. A relatively small number of businesses were advised about the closure regulations and there were no breaches requiring prohibition notices to be issued or prosecutions to be commenced. The situation in the City was very different from the rest of London. Colleagues in many other Boroughs had a very different experience with businesses seeking to remain open illegally.

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

- 6. The Public Protection Teams support the SCP outcome of tackling and responding to anti-social behaviour
- 7. Two issues that relate to the work of this committee that are being tackled by the Public Protection Service are:
 - Illegal Street Trading
 - Noise complaints service
- 8. The COVID-19 pandemic resulting in the lockdown of hospitality and workplaces in the City changed the nature of the antisocial behaviour issues the City was facing. Licensed premises ceased to be a source of complaint but construction noise complaints increased as did complaints about social distancing. The teams have worked hard to implement and educate as new guidance and Acts such as the Business and Planning Act 2020 have been released to support the easing of lockdown such as the granting of pavement licences and the extension of construction working hours.

Illegal Street Trading

- 8. The Section 101 agreements with the London Borough of Southwark and the London Borough of Tower Hamlets are now in place; these allow the City to enforce against illegal trading just over the border into Southwark and Tower Hamlets, for example on the south side of Millennium Bridge and all of Tower Bridge.
- All known hotspots continue to be visited during lockdown and intelligence shared with partner agencies. Although illegal street trading began to return again during August 2020 when the COVID-19 restrictions were eased, albeit at a much reduced

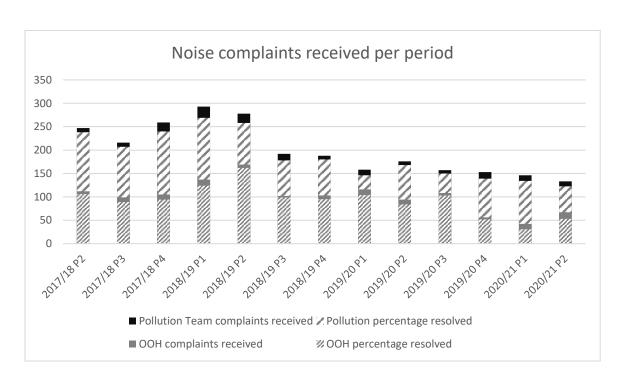
- level of activity, there has been little evidence of illegal activity since the start of the tiered restrictions and during the second lockdown.
- 10. A number of cases are in the process of being taken to court which will be heard when courts resume a post Covid-19 level of hearings. This is now likely to be in 2021.
- 11. The operation has run throughout the year. Because of the foregoing and the continued on-street presence of Licensing Officers, illegal street trading has either been eliminated within the City of London and the bridges or stopped immediately the traders set up.

Noise Complaints Service

- 12. The Pollution Team dealt with 133 noise complaints between 1st July 2020 and 30th September 2020 of which 92.5% were resolved. In addition, they also assessed and commented on 137 Planning and Licensing applications and 217 applications for variations of work outside the normal working hours. Comparatively in the same period for 19/20 the Pollution Team dealt with 176 noise complaints of which 96% were resolved.
- 13. The Out of Hours Service dealt with 67 complaints between 1st July 2020 and 30th September 2020 and response (visit) times were within the target performance indicator of 60 minutes in 80.7% of cases. Comparatively, in the same period for 19/20 the Out of Hours Service dealt with 94 complaints and response (visit) times were within the target performance indicator of 60 minutes in 90.3% of cases, and often only 30 minutes.
- 14. The Pollution Team served two S.60 notices between 1st July and 30th September 2020. In the same period for 2019/20 the Pollution Team issued two S.80 Environmental Protection Act 1990 notices, one S.61 (Prior consent) Control of Pollution Act Notice and one Section 61 consent.
- 15. The trends for total noise related complaints are set out in the tables below for information.

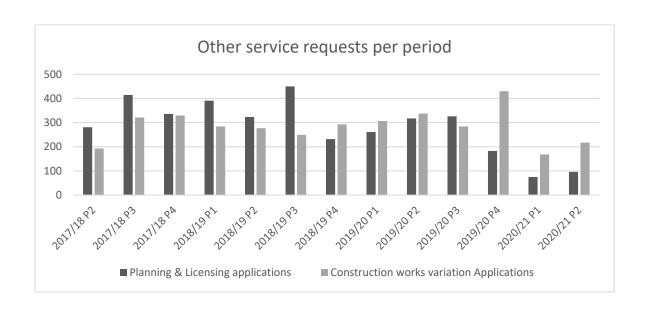
Noise Complaints

Year	Period	Pollution Team Noise complaints received	Percentage resolved	OOH Team Noise complaints received	Percentage resolved within KPI (60min)
2017/18	2	247	96.4%	112	95.3%
2017/18	3	216	96.3%	99	90.9%
2017/18	4	259	93.8%	105	90.1%
2018/19	1	293	92.8%	137	91.5%
2018/19	2	278	93.9%	169	96.3%
2018/19	3	192	93.8%	102	98.2%
2018/19	4	188	96.3%	103	93.5%
2019/20	1	158	93%	116	90.9%
2019/20	2	176	96%	94	90.3%
2019/20	3	157	96.2%	108	96.5%
2019/20	4	153	91.5%	56	94.6%
2020/21	1	146	92.5%	42	76.1%
2020/21	2	133	92.5%	67	80.7%



Noise Service Requests

Year	Period	Planning & Licensing applications	Constructio n works variation Applications	S.60 Notices Issued	S.80 EPA Notices	S.61 Notices Issued	Consent
2017/18	2	281	193	4	1	5	3
2017/18	3	415	321	0	1	12	1
2017/18	4	336	329	0	1	7	1
2018/19	1	391	284	0	0	5	8
2018/19	2	323	277	0	0	4	6
2018/19	3	450	249	1	1	6	7
2018/19	4	232	293	0	0	3	4
2019/20	1	261	307	0	1	2	3
2019/20	2	317	337	0	2	1	1
2019/20	3	326	284	0	2	3	3
2019/20	4	183	430	4	1	0	0
2020/21	1	75	168	0	0	2	2
2020/21	2	96	217	2	0	0	0



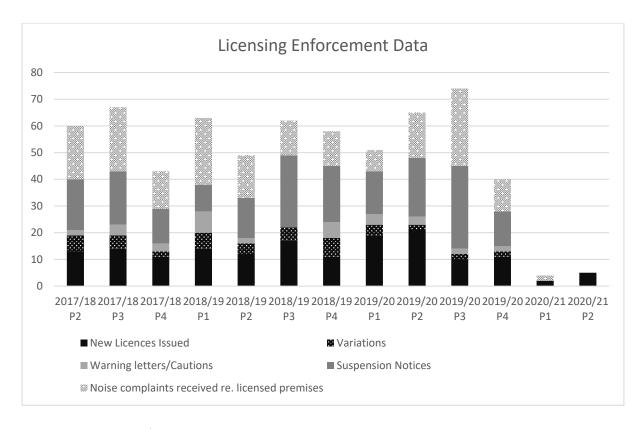
- 16. The Team continue to supply advice to construction sites in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. Social distancing measures on site have reduced the amount of work that can be achieved and have changed working methods. Local authorities have been advised by Government to be sympathetic to applications by developers for increasing working hours and a formal process through the planning system has now been implemented through the Business and Planning Act 2020.
- 17. The Planning and Licensing figures now also include Tables and Chairs and Pavement licence applications. The team comment on the noise and COVID-19 aspects of the applications where appropriate.

18. The Pollution Team continue to predominately work from home. Although a presence in the City is maintained through the Street Environment Officers and pollution team officers. Officers are also available to attend at short notice from home if required. Visits within premises are not generally undertaken but can be if essential, subject to the necessary risk assessments.

Enforcement

19. The Licensing Team undertakes inspections and enforcement in relation to the Licensing Act 2003 and the table below shows the action taken regarding licensed premises over the last three years.

Year	Period	New Licences Issued	Variations	Warning letters/Cautions	Suspension Notices	Noise complaints received re. licensed premises
2017/18	3	14	5	4	20	24
<u>2017/18</u>	4	11	2	3	13	14
2018/19	1	14	6	8	10	25
<u>2018/19</u>	2	12	4	2	15	16
<u>2018/19</u>	3	17	5	0	27	13
2018/19	4	11	7	6	21	13
2019/20	1	19	4	4	16	8
<u>2019/20</u>	2	21	2	3	22	17
<u>2019/20</u>	3	10	2	2	31	29
<u>2019/20</u>	4	11	2	2	13	12
<u>2020/21</u>	1	2	0	0	0	2
2020/21	2	5	4	0	31	2



- 20. The number of hearings and reviews remains at a low-level year on year. During the period 1st July and 30th September 2020, there has been one hearing, regarding a variation to Daisy Green's licence, which was heard on 12 August. This was held remotely in accordance with the revised Coronavirus regulations for public meetings. There have been no requests to review a premises licence.
- 21. The 'RAG' risk assessment scheme operated by the Licensing Team with information from City Police, Licensing, Fire Brigade and Pollution Team has been frozen as of 31 March 2020 due to COVID-19 with no licensable activity permitted since 23 March 2020. On 30th June, one premises was flagged as red, three as amber and the rest all green in a total of 931 premises. Once premises reopened a Licensing committee decision was taken, that was supported by the Licensing Liaison Partnership, to continue the scheme from the point it was frozen based on the usual rolling 6-month period. There is insufficient data from the Premises that have been open between 1 July and 30 September 2020 to alter the above figures significantly. A more meaningful update is more likely at the end of 2020.
- 22. Noise matters related to licensed premises remain low and are reported to the Licensing Committee. The number of noise complaints specifically associated with licensed premises is set out above with the Licensing Event Data to illustrate the trend over the last three years. The number is consistent with last quarter since the COVID-19 restrictions have been in place.

Safety Thirst

23. The Safety Thirst scheme is highly regarded by licensees in the City of London and many are keen to participate and to improve on their level of accreditation. All premises accredited in 2019 have been offered additional training and short

seminars on relevant issues. The 2020 scheme has been deferred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Given the financial challenges already experienced by the sector, the timeline for reopening and the likely burden to be placed on the industry in complying with new safety regulations, the scheme will not be run in the same way this year. As the scheme is the City's best practice scheme linked to the latenight levy discount, accreditation period will be extended from 12 months to 24 months for those premises accredited in 2019.

24. In 2019 there were 72 premises awarded in the categories of pass, commended and Highly commended.

The three overall winners were:

- The Gable Bar & Restaurant, winning it for the second year running.
- The Steelyard Nightclub
- Mrs Foggs Bar

Late Night Levy

- 25. The amount of levy collected in 2018/19 was £463,000 and has provided a similar level of income to previous years suggesting there is still no disincentive against trading because of the levy. 70% of the levy, approximately £325,000 goes to the City of London Police for activities involving improving the impact of licensed activities on the night-time economy. The remaining 30% of the levy goes to the City Corporation.
- 26. However, during 2019/20 collection of the levy has been different due to the COVID-19 restrictions. All licensed premises have been closed for long periods during the 2019/20 levy year which runs from 1st October 2019 until the 30th September 2020. In order to assist businesses during this difficult period the Licensing Team agreed not to immediately suspend a premises licence solely on the basis that the late night levy was not paid, notwithstanding their premises licence fee was up to date. Current legislative requirements dictate that the levy will have to be paid at some time and that suspension would be mandatory for non-payment of the levy.
- 27. Representations have been made to the Home Office seeking a change in legislation to allow the levy to be removed during the period(s) when premises are not permitted to open. The outcome of these representations is not yet known.
- 28. A report on the income and expenditure is provided annually to the Licensing Committee with the latest report considered at their 21st May 2020 meeting

Corporate & Strategic Implications

29. The Public Protection Service contributed to the Safer City Partnership Strategic Plan 2019 - 22, and its priorities and objectives.

- 30. The Markets and Consumer Protection Department contributed to the One Safe City Programme, was represented on the Safer Communities Board and will be part of the arrangements for the Secure City Programme.
- 31. The Department is also represented on other relevant Boards and Groups, including the Serious and Organised Crime Board.

Conclusion

32. The Public Protection Service continues to support the priorities and objectives of the Safer City Partnership through routine work, but also via specific projects and contributions to plans and strategies.

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