



Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee

Date: TUESDAY, 11 JUNE 2024
Time: 3.00 pm
Venue: COMMITTEE ROOMS, 2ND FLOOR, WEST WING, GUILDHALL

Members:

Tijs Broeke, (Chair)	Deborah Oliver
Deputy Keith Bottomley	Graham Packham
Mary Durcan	Ruby Sayed
Helen Fentimen OBE	Mandeep Thandi
Deputy John Fletcher	James Tumbridge
Deputy Christopher Hayward	Deborah Oliver
Deputy Shravan Joshi MBE	

Enquiries: **Kezia Barrass**
kezia.barrass@cityoflondon.gov.uk

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<https://www.youtube.com/@CityofLondonCorporation/streams>

A recording of the public meeting will be available via the above link following the end of the public meeting for up to one civic 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.

Whilst we endeavour to livestream all of our public meetings, this is not always possible due to technical difficulties. In these instances, if possible, a recording will be uploaded following the end of the meeting.

Ian Thomas CBE
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES**

2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

3. **MINUTES**

To approve the minutes of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee on 21 September 2023.

For Decision
(Pages 5 - 8)

4. **ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR**

To elect a Deputy Chair in line with Standing Order 30.

For Decision

5. **CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - JUNE COVER REPORT**

Report of the Town Clerk.

For Information
(Pages 9 - 14)

- a) Crime trends and analysis overview (Pages 15 - 22)
Report of the Commissioner.
- b) Safer City Partnership refreshed Strategy 2022 - 2025 (Pages 23 - 78)
Report of the Executive Director of Community and Children's Services.
- c) City of London Anti-Social Behaviour Policy 2024 (Pages 79 - 96)
Report of the Executive Director of Community and Children's Services.
- d) Safer City Partnership funding update (Pages 97 - 100)
Report of the Executive Director of Community and Children's Services.

6. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD**

7. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT**

8. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

MOTION - That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

For Decision

9. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD**

10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE BOARD AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

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CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE Thursday, 21 September 2023

Minutes of the meeting held at Guildhall at 9.00 am

Present

Members:

Tijs Broeke (Chair)
Mary Durcan
Helen Fentimen
Deputy John Fletcher
Deputy Shravan Joshi
Graham Packham
Deputy James Thomson
James Tumbridge

Officers:

Richard Riley	-	Director of Police Authority Board
Simon Cribbens	-	Assistant Director, Commissioning and Partnerships, Community and Children's Services
Commander Umer Khan	-	City of London Police
Julie Mayer	-	Town Clerks
Gavin Stedman	-	Port Health and Public Protection Director, Department of the Environment

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Ruby Sayed (Deputy Chair), Deputy Peter Dunphy and Deputy Chris Haywood.

Ruby Sayed and Peter Dunphy joined the meeting remotely.

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED, that – the minutes of the meeting held on 13th June 2023 be approved.

Matters arising

Members noted that a hybrid training session had been scheduled for 1.30pm on Thursday 5 October.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE CITY OF LONDON SAFER CITY PARTNERSHIP

The Chair welcomed Members to the second meeting of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee. Members were also reminded that, under Local Government

Act Legislation, Committee meetings must start promptly, within 5 minutes of the time published on the City of London Corporation's web page.

At the Committee's first meeting on 13th June 2023, Members expressed a wish to scrutinise discussions and decisions from the Safer City Partnership (SCP) Strategy Board. The most recent meeting of the Board had taken place on 4 September 2023 and Members received a report of the SCP Board Chair, Commander Umer Khan, reflecting the discussions.

The Chair reminded Members of the essential purpose of the Committee; i.e. to scrutinise the delivery and outcomes of the City of London SCP Strategy Board and identify cross cutting themes, whilst avoiding duplication of effort. The Chair stressed that the Committee should not be scrutinising the Police in isolation; this is the role of the Police Authority Board (PAB).

Members noted the following three areas which the SCP Strategy Board agreed should be priorities for 2023/24:

- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Serious Violence
- Reducing Re-Offending

During the discussion and questions on the report and appendices, the following points were noted :

- a) The SCP Strategy Board has a very wide remit but following it's reset last year, it is now more task and action orientated, which makes it better placed to receive effective scrutiny.
- b) The City of London Police enjoy a good working relationship with the Metropolitan Police but will always give an appropriate first response to incidents on the borders with Hackney and Tower Hamlets. The British Transport Police have given the same assurance.
- c) Ongoing work in respect of black cabs, Ubers etc, needs to be an integral part of draft planning policy. The Chair of the SCP advised that he had been working with 'Destination City' in respect of the nighttime economy and would be bringing a report to the next meeting of the PAB. It was suggested that an extreme police presence might be detrimental to the aspirations of Destination City.
- d) Mental health concerns are a backdrop to a number of issues and might warrant a deep dive in terms of reach and responsiveness, noting that the Police are not providers of specialist care. Members asked to see the report on Mental Health presented to the PAB on 20th September.
- e) Despite its low resident population, Children and Young People warrant significant focus due to the City Corporation's support of academies and its population of looked-after children/unaccompanied asylum seeking children.

- f) Cross cutting themes, such as anti-social behaviour and inconsiderate cycling/use of scooters are emerging as they are frequently raised in City Corporation committees. Members welcomed the implementation of cycle squads and asked to see the report on Cycling presented to the PAB on 20th September.
- g) Representation on this partnership might look different to other areas, given the uniqueness of the City in terms of its low and transient population. The Membership list for the SCP in the agenda pack was out of date, as the SCP should not include City Corporation Members.
- h) Data from 2021/22 showed that, of 17,000 calls to the Police, only 7000 were crime related. This was being analysed to enable further scrutiny in terms of partnership working around the contributors, and in seeking to eliminate and design out crime and disorder.
- i) The Reducing Violence Group, which has representation from the Crime Prevention Association and the Prevention of Violence Against Women and Girls Groups are good examples of a holistic approach.
- j) The Committee needs a chance to bed in, to enable future agendas to evolve, noting that the report of the SCP Chair is a good start. SCP Boards are not public meetings but Members of this Committee can observe them.
- k) Partners are legally obliged to engage and can be called to this Committee if that is not the case.
- l) POCA funding guidance needs a more strategic and flexible approach. The SCP Strategy Board will be looking at this again and the Chair suggested that this Committee should scrutinise it annually.
- m) The training session on 5th October would consider the areas discussed above in more depth and inform a future agenda plan. A Member had a number of suggestions in terms of a way forward for the Committee, which would avoid duplication and keep it on track. The Chair asked if they could be shared with the Director of the Police Authority Team, ahead of the session, and welcomed contributions from other Members of this Committee and the SCP Strategy Board. The Chair also suggested that the Committee should hold an informal meeting, after the training session, and before the next scheduled meeting of the Committee on 17TH November 2023.

Chair thanked officers for their work on the SCP's priority areas and commended the improvement to the SCP Strategy Board since its reset 10 months ago.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

5 **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD**

There were no questions.

6. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT**

There were no items.

7. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED, that - under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item no

Para No

8,9

-

8. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD**

There were no questions.

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE BOARD AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There were no items.

The meeting ended at 10.15 am

Chairman

Contact Officer: julie.mayer@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Committee(s): Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee – For Information	Dated: 03/06/2024
Subject: Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee - June cover report	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1. People are safe and feel safe
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: Town Clerk’s department	For Information
Report author: Charles Smart, Police Authority team	

Summary

The Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee exists, as required by law, to scrutinise (but not to direct) the work of the Safer City Partnership (SCP) on crime and disorder in the City of London. In 2023 the SCP agreed three priority areas of focus – serious violence, anti-social behaviour, and reoffending.

This paper summarises the SCP’s work on these three areas to date in 2024, and gives a brief overview of other matters discussed at the latest SCP Board. Of these, we would draw the Committee’s attention to the paper on finances – item 4 in the pack. Four SCP papers are included in an annex.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note the report.

Main Report

A note on papers

1. The SCP is an internal officials-only board which does not publish its papers as standard. It has one annual public meeting a year for which papers are published, the last of which was in January with materials available [here](#). Where not included in annexes for this committee, other SCP papers are available to C&D Members on request – see the *SCP May Agenda* below for indication of these

Current Position – Serious violence sub-group

2. The SCP is delivering the City’s Serious Violence Strategy, which – as required by recent national legislation – it published in January 2024 ([here](#)). It has three

strategic priorities – to reduce serious violence in the night-time economy, to reduce sexual and domestic violence, and to improve the proactive identification and mitigation of future violence risks and threats.

3. Note that the SCP has a separate, pre-existing Violence against Women and Girls action plan, available [here](#). This largely focusses on education and training and access to support services for City residents, while the SV strategy focusses more on policing measures to prevent victimisation and pursue perpetrators – both resident and non-resident.
4. The SV strategy has 21 measures, of which at present 43% are complete (largely because they were already in train when the strategy was being developed), 33% are in progress, 10% have not started, and 14% are ‘unknown’ (although these are mainly wider areas of work referenced in the strategy rather than measures announced in it). The aim – which we believe we are on track to meet – is to complete most measures by December 2024 with some running to early 2025.
5. The strategy document includes a new performance monitoring framework with metrics on offence and arrest volumes, outcomes, victim satisfaction, and surveyed public attitudes on violence. It is not included here because only offence and arrest data are available at present – the City Police are transitioning to a new victim survey system and we don’t yet have a 2024 wider public attitudes survey.
6. However, we will be able to report fully on performance to this committee in future, and will be monitoring this closely within the delivery sub-group. Data on overall violent crime and violence against women and girls is available [here](#) and shows, broadly, that violence is slightly above pre-Covid levels while violence against women and girls reported to police continues to rise (primarily we believe, as in other force areas, due to increased reporting rather than higher incidence).
7. The committee should note that, following publication of the strategy, we have successfully bid for £1 million Home Office funding in 2024/25 for initiatives to tackle serious violence and anti-social behaviour with hotspot police patrols and enabling measures like better CCTV monitoring – see table below. The funding has detailed reporting requirements on activity (e.g. patrol hours) and outcomes (e.g. arrests), on which we will be able to report to this Committee in future – at present, data is limited as funding only commenced in April and initiatives are still being mobilised.

Initiative	Funding
Operation Vigilant – more patrols of specially-trained officers in the night-time economy	£246,000
CCTV monitoring staff – more staff monitoring CCYTV feeds to detect and prevent crime	£152,000
Acquisitive crime teams – more patrols to prevent robberies and thefts	£138,000
Cycle team – more patrols by the new cycle team to tackle robbery, theft, ASB	£112,000
Dedicated Ward Officers – more DWO patrols on residential estates	£36,000
Taxi compliance checks – periodic deployments to tackle taxi touts and check private hire vehicles	£31,000

Analytical staff – more analysts to gather more and better data on serious violence and ASB	£104,000
'Bridge crime' transfer – transfer to other initiative that had funding cut	£180,000

Current position – anti-social behaviour

8. On anti-social behaviour, the SCP is implementing the measures set out in its overarching 2022-25 strategy – see item 2, pages 9 to 13, in the papers annex. A verbal update on delivery progress will be given.
9. At its most recent meeting the SCP approved a revised City of London policy for anti-social behaviour – see item 2. This brings together and updates the various tools, powers, and approaches across the Corporation and its partners to tackling ASB, and clarifies what does and does not constitute ASB in the City. As such, this document does not announce significant changes in the City's approach to ASB or initiatives to tackle it, but rather clarifies the existing approaches and what issues they apply to.
10. On performance and data analysis, the SCP faces two interrelated issues. The first is a longstanding one – responsibility for tackling ASB falls across seven separate Corporation teams and the City Police, all of whom record ASB in different ways on different systems. This makes it very difficult to produce an aggregated overview of ASB volumes and trends at any one time. The second is that the analyst recruited to the Police Authority / community safety team in 2023 has been on long term sickness absence. This means the SCP has lacked the analytical capacity to work around the 'disparate data' issue. The relevant Corporation teams are discussing options to address these issues, but at this stage the SCP cannot present this committee with robust ASB performance data.

Current position – reoffending

11. A verbal update on delivery progress will be given.

Other relevant matters discussed at the last SCP Board

- **2023/24 Strategic Assessment** – The SCP is required to produce an annual refresh of its strategic assessment. A verbal update was given to the board explaining that, largely due to the long-term absence of the dedicated analyst (see ASB update above), this has been delayed.
- **Overarching SCP strategy update – item 2 in annex** – The SCP's overall 2022-25 strategy has been updated as of this May to reflect changes since 2022, predominantly changes in organisational responsibility for certain areas and the publication of new strategies such as the Serious Violence Strategy. These are summarised in the cover report to Item 2.

- **Policy area / partner updates** – The SCP Board received updates on partners’ work on vulnerability, combatting drugs, the multi-borough ‘bridge crime’ initiative launched in 2023 with Home Office Safer Streets funding, and the work of the London Fire Brigade in the City.
- **Operation Luscombe Review** – The SCP requested a review of Operation Luscombe, a multi-agency ‘hub’ approach to reduce begging launched in 2018. The review concludes that, while Luscombe has improved joint working and our understanding of the issue, it has not been effective in reducing begging and is not currently a justifiable use of resources.
- **BIDs and Crime Prevention Association update** – The City of London’s Business Improvement Districts are now represented on the SCP Board as part of efforts to improve join-up and collaboration with the City’s business sector. The SCP also received an update on the projects being delivered with its funding by the City of London Crime Prevention Association.
- **Funding update – *item 4 in annex*** – The SCP has a reserve of Proceeds of Crime Act funding that it uses for grant-making initiatives that support its priorities – in 2023/24 it funded the Taxi Marshalling service at Liverpool St station, various initiatives on women’s safety delivered by the Safer Business Network, support for the City Police’s Operation Lewis acquisitive crime initiative (cycle purchases), and cost of stewarding at New Years Eve events. This paper also summarises the wider crime and safety grant spending by SCP organisations – initiatives funded by the Police Authority, and three Home Office grants.

Appendices

1. Crime trends and analysis overview
2. Revised SCP 2022-25 Strategy
3. New Anti-Social Behaviour policy
4. SCP funding update

Charles Smart

Policy Officer, Police Authority team

E: Charles.smart@cityoflondon.gov.uk

SCP Board May Agenda

- January Board minutes / action tracker – *available on request*
- 2023/24 strategic assessment – *verbal update*
- Crime trends and analysis – *item 1 in annex*
- Update on overarching SCP strategy – *item 2 in annex*
- ASB sub-group update – *verbal update*
- ASB policy paper – *item 3 in annex*
- Reoffending sub-group update – *verbal update*
- Serious violence sub-group update – *available on request*
- Violence against women and girls update – *available on request*
- Vulnerability deep-dive – *verbal update*
- Home Office funding update – *verbal update*
- Combatting drugs partnership update – *available on request*
- SCP partner updates – *verbal / available on request*
- Operation Luscombe review – *available on request*
- Business Improvement Districts update – *verbal update*
- City of London Crime Prevention Association projects evaluation – *available on request*
- SCP funding update – *item 4 in annex*

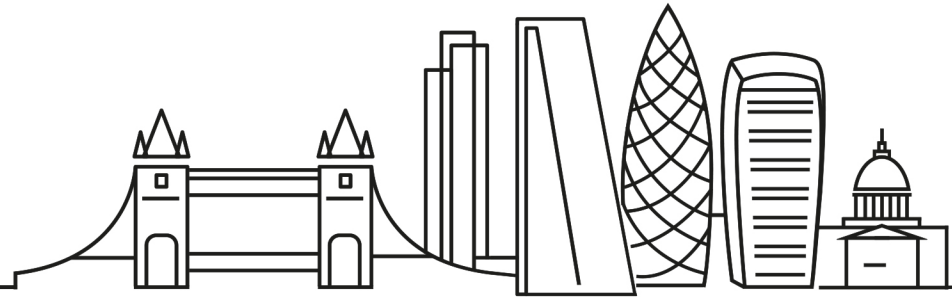
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Performance Overview

To 31st March 2024

Performance Information Unit

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Agenda Item 5a

A local service with a national role, trusted by our communities to deliver policing with professionalism, integrity and compassion

Home Office Recorded Crime & Outcomes

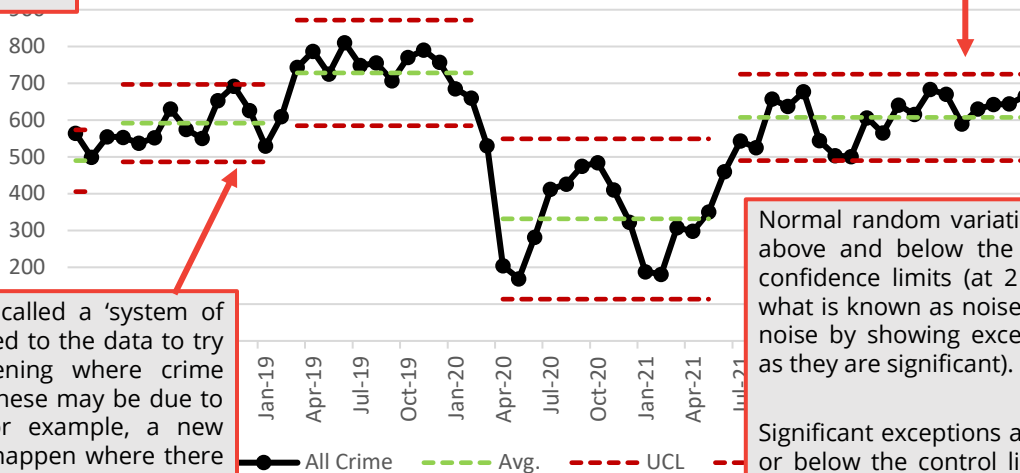
All Crime, Outcomes and National Trends

SPC METHODOLOGY

Why do we use SPC and what does it mean for forecasting?

This is the current system of performance; you can see the control limits are closer together showing more control over volumes expected (compared to the previous). One you have 18 data points in a system, you can start to make predictions on what volumes can be expected moving forwards.

All Crime - Five Year Trend



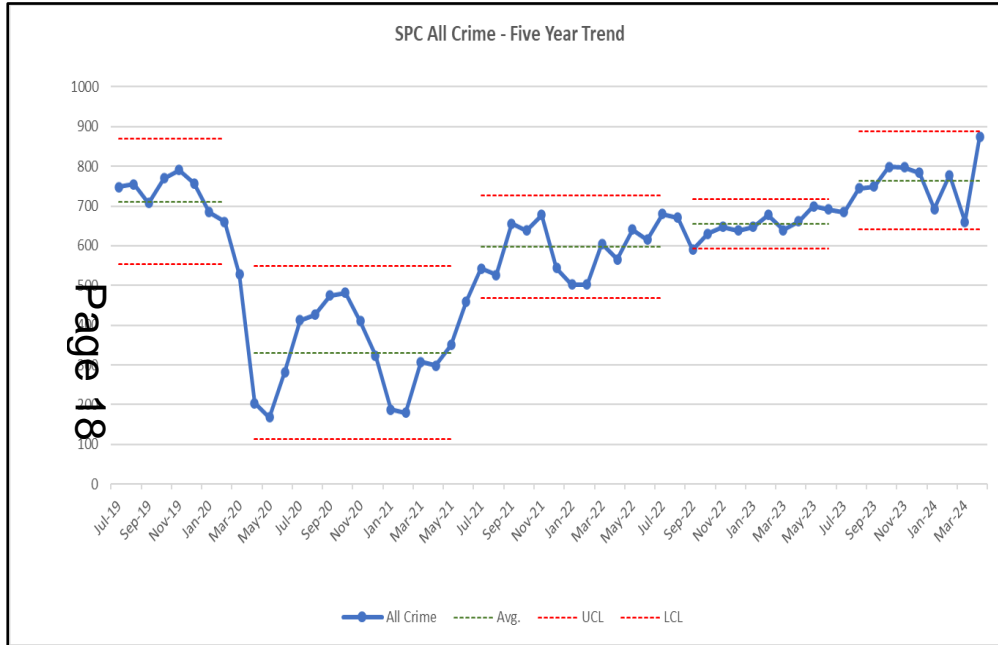
Normal random variation is expected, where volumes fall above and below the average and within the expected confidence limits (at 2 standard deviations, 95%). This is what is known as noise. SPC charts help to 'drown' out the noise by showing exceptions (which require investigation as they are significant).

Significant exceptions are where the data points fall above or below the control limits, or where there is a run of 7 data points above the average or below the average. Another exception is where there is a month on month increase for 7 months. These are the big exceptions, but with more work you can also build in additional early warning indications to help highlight emerging issues.

Ideally, it's a good idea to record your corporate memory to interpret and explain system changes. For example, we know that Covid-19 had a significant impact on volumes in 2020/21

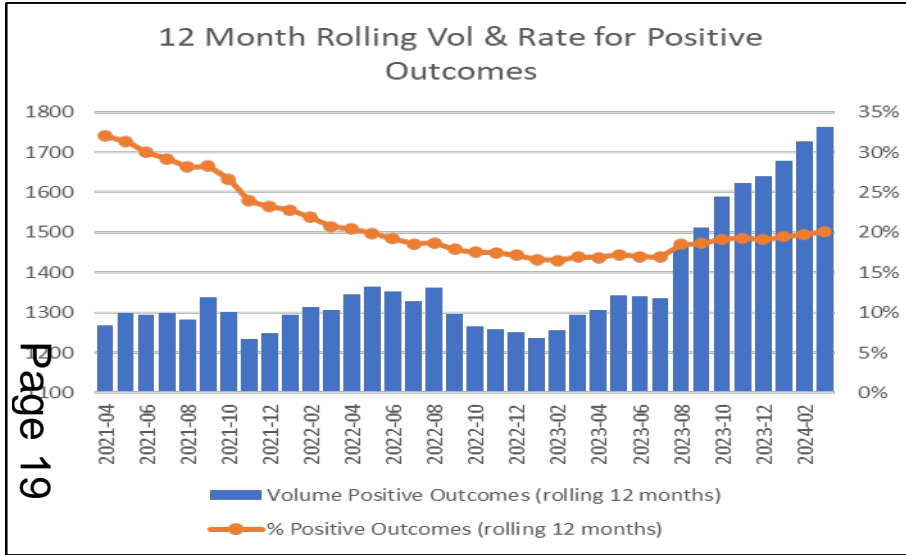
Each one of the partitions is called a 'system of performance'. These are applied to the data to try and interpret what is happening where crime volumes change significantly. These may be due to certain 'known' influences. For example, a new system of performance might happen where there are changes to the home office counting rules, so levels may be expected to be higher and therefore not comparable. Or, as seen with coronavirus, levels significantly dropped. Once a system is understood, this then helps to highlight exceptions within the 'current' system and also with enough data points - can help to project expected levels of demand.

Home Office Recordable Crime – All Crime



- **13% increase in all crime for the rolling 12 months n=1195**
- There has been an **25% increase** in crime this month +215 crimes (n=875) compared to March (n=660).
- April has reported a significant increase in crime. Inflation and the spike in cost of living could have caused the increased crime rates with people turning to illegal activities out of desperation or necessity.
- There is the possibility of increased reporting also impacting the crime levels. Reporting in person (Front Desk or Police Officer) has increased by 44% when compared to the previous year. This would suggest that having Bishopsgate Police Station open for longer is making it easier for the public to report. Calls to 999/101 have decreased by 27% for the same period.
- The chart below shows April has reported above the current average and has the highest crime count for the last five years.
- Forecasts indicate an 11% (+1057) INCREASE over the next 12 months.

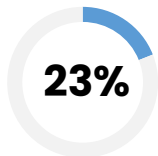
Positive Outcomes



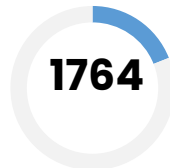
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- City of London Police consistently exceeds the national average, which is positive. The national positive outcome rate for published data to April 2024 demonstrates an 11.3% outcome rate. City of London Police are consistently performing higher than this.
- The current positive outcome rate for Q4 is 23% (503). This area is driven by positive performance in drugs possession (35%), and rates for shoplifting (27%) are also positive when compared nationally.
- Despite the increasing crime rate, we are seeing an increase in the positive outcome rate. There have been 471 more positive outcomes compared to 12 months ago. As work continues, we would expect that performance for this measure is maintained despite increasing crime volumes.
- The positive outcome rate is calculated based on the amount of crime recorded per month, divided by the number of positive outcomes recorded in that month. Therefore, the rate can be impacted by the rise and fall in crime volumes.
- Positive outcomes include outcomes 1-4 and 6-8 (Charged, Summonsed, TIC, Out of Court). This compares the number of outcomes recorded in the period to the number of recorded crimes, to provide an indicative measure of police activity.

Rolling 12 Months Positive Outcome Rate

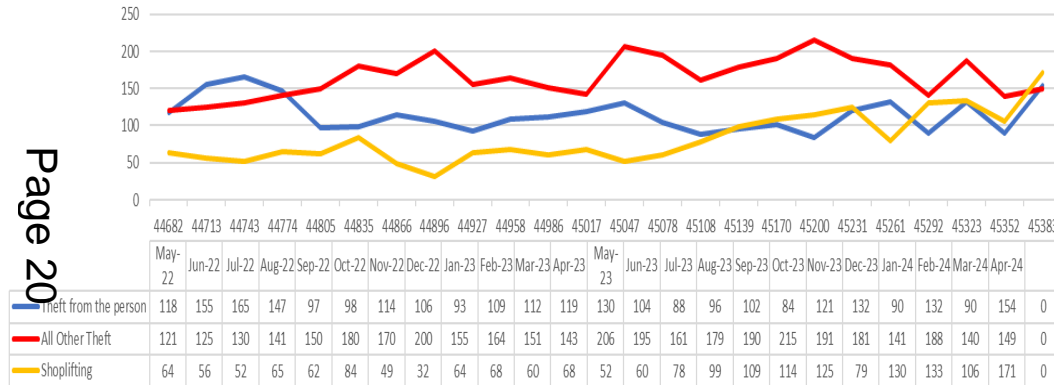


Rolling 12 Months Number of Positive Outcomes



All Other Theft / Shoplifting / Theft from the Person

Main Drivers of Theft Offences



All Other Theft Offences (15% increase, n=2136 crimes compared to the previous 12 months n=1830) All other theft continues to be the highest crime type, and has remained consistent,. Bag theft, dipping and distraction theft remain the highest crime types with small increases of gym theft and parcel theft.

Shoplifting (42% increase, n=1256 crimes for the previous 12 months, an additional n=532 crimes in comparison to the previous 12 months n=724)

Shoplifting has had an increase in crimes discovered by police which is a good reflection of pro-active policing.

Theft From The Person (8% decrease in comparison to the previous 12 months n=1323) Theft from person has reported a small decrease of -110 offences when compared to the previous year.

Seasonality Forecast 2024

	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
All Other Theft	-6%	-12%	-13%	-10%	-9%	-1%	14%	9%	10%	-10%	8%	8%
Bicycle Theft	5%	-6%	11%	22%	41%	31%	31%	0%	-39%	-29%	-38%	-28%
Burglary - Business	14%	20%	-8%	-18%	10%	-6%	-8%	2%	12%	-5%	-4%	-9%
Burglary - Residential	19%	4%	-11%	-4%	26%	4%	4%	-4%	-19%	4%	-19%	-4%
Criminal Damage	-8%	-20%	-10%	2%	6%	5%	25%	-8%	9%	-3%	2%	1%
Drug Possession	-2%	-16%	-7%	4%	7%	16%	-1%	3%	2%	8%	-13%	1%
Public Disorder	-11%	-18%	-5%	19%	2%	1%	-1%	15%	-10%	-6%	5%	8%
Robbery - Personal	-32%	-24%	-17%	18%	-2%	32%	-12%	32%	17%	-9%	3%	-5%
Shoplifting	-9%	-13%	-8%	-3%	10%	1%	14%	7%	-14%	3%	4%	6%
Theft from Motor Vehicle	-26%	8%	-11%	-1%	-22%	1%	0%	3%	-11%	6%	-5%	15%
Theft from the Person	-23%	-11%	-4%	3%	4%	-4%	0%	20%	17%	-13%	4%	6%
Violence With Injury	-8%	-9%	-14%	-6%	-6%	-10%	20%	13%	50%	-10%	-16%	-4%
Violence Without Injury	-20%	-22%	-8%	1%	-5%	5%	13%	21%	13%	-3%	-7%	12%
All Crime	-9%	-10%	-6%	0%	2%	3%	10%	11%	6%	-7%	-2%	3%
All Acquisitive	-6%	-6%	-5%	6%	7%	7%	16%	14%	5%	-4%	7%	9%
All Violence	-15%	-16%	-7%	-1%	-2%	-1%	17%	15%	23%	-6%	-9%	3%
ASB	-2%	0%	3%	3%	8%	-6%	15%	8%	0%	-16%	-5%	-7%

- This graphic is produced using crime data from April 2014-March 2024 and averaging monthly levels across those ten years, then looking at how each month varies from the overall average for different crime types. The current threshold for variance of the RAG rating is set at 10% as using statistical control limits did not provide any indicators to work from. ASB data is only available from November 2017 so may not be as reliable an indicator as the crime measures.
- Seasonality trends help to provide insight on where to focus and plan proactive activities over the coming months. The three key crime types indicated to rise significantly in October are All Other Theft, Bicycle Theft, Criminal Damage, Shoplifting, Violence With Injury, Violence Without Injury & ASB.
- October and November have historically seen large increases in All Crime, including Acquisitive and Violent crime types. Areas of note include Robbery (+32% in November), Violence with Injury (+50% in December).

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Committee(s): Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee	Dated: 11/06/2024
Subject: Safer City Partnership 2022- 2025 Strategy - 2024 Update	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	N/A
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	£
What is the source of Funding?	
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: Judith Finlay – Executive Director – Community and Children’s Services, City of London Corporation	For Discussion
Report author: Valeria Cadena – Community Safety Manager, Community and Children’s Services, City of London Corporation	

Summary

This report highlights the changes made to the Safer City Partnership Strategy 2022-2025 in order to update it to be in line with new central Government legislation and other changes. It also provides a view into the updated delivery plans for the year 2024.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.
- Approve changes
- Consider recommendations

Main Report

Background

1. The Safer City Partnership (SCP) Strategy 2022 – 2025 is the statutory three-year partnership strategy document. It outlines seven strategic aims, four of which are legally mandated.

2. An annual review of the SCP three-year strategy is necessary to ensure continued alignment with priorities and the needs of the City.
3. The current proposed changes only account for legislative updates and do not reflect any modifications indicated by analytical products. A key challenge for the partnership is obtaining up-to-date data analysis to inform strategy updates.

Current position

4. The current strategy was formulated to address all relevant statutory requirements up to 2021. Since then, changes impacting how certain crime types are addressed and responded to have occurred. Crime and legislation continually evolve, necessitating regular updates and reviews by the SCP Strategy group to address emerging needs in addition to monitoring progress.
5. The changes made to the SCP 2022- 2025 Strategy are as follows:
 - a. Clinical Commissioning Groups have been replaced by Integrated Care boards, making the City and Hackney Place Based Partnership one of the SCP Responsible authorities.
 - b. A new Serious Violence Duty Strategy has been completed and published in the City of London website in line to the new legislation.
 - c. Sexual violence has been moved from the 'Reducing Neighbourhood Crime and ASB strategy' to the Serious Violence Duty Strategy.
 - d. Our reducing reoffending strategic aim will incorporate the partnership's response to the new legislation in 'Out of Court Disposals' and our partnership response towards Integrated Offender Management (IOM) managed in other areas of London.
 - e. Definitions and types of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) have been reviewed to reflect the increasing variety of behaviours and crimes committed primarily by men against women.
 - f. The VAWG strategy now provides misogyny more recognition in playing a detrimental role in leading to VAWG.
 - g. Engagement work with Licensed Premises, including the promotion of the Women's Safety Charter, has been removed due to it now being included within the Serious Violence Duty Strategy. The engagement work detailed within this section of the strategy has been refreshed to only include the sectors and community-based groups providing local effective work.
 - h. Operation Encompass has been highlighted as this project forms a key role in ensuring clear and regular contact in place between the City of London schools and the City of London Police Public Protection Unit.
 - i. The Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) have been noted as they have become instrumental in ensuring any campaigns and initiatives led by the City Corporation are widespread amongst the businesses and organisations in the City. This leads to further awareness of VAWG and increased engagement with the work being delivered.

6. The VAWG, Hate Crime and Vulnerability action plans 2023 were completed and presented at the SCP Strategy Board meeting in January. Reviewed plans in these areas have been produced to deliver and progress the strategic aims for 2024. Please see Appendix 2,3 and 4.
7. Over the past couple of years, significant changes have occurred in the City, particularly those related to the night-time economy/entertainment industry and rough sleeping. However, it is crucial to ensure that data analysis captures these new developments to aid in strategy review and future preparation.
8. Ideally, an annual strategic assessment would facilitate the partnership's alignment of the strategy with fluctuations in crime levels, emerging issues, and shifts in criminal trends.
9. The SCP Strategy Board does not currently have a dedicated data analyst to produce the analytical products required by the partnership and strategic delivery group to comprehend current crime trends and assess the impact of strategic actions. While the Police Authority offered to provide an analyst to address this gap, other challenges arose preventing this from proceeding.
10. The SCP Strategy Board is exploring alternative options for supplying the board with analytical products. Most agencies within the partnership have teams of analysts who could potentially contribute to this work. In the spirit of the legislation, no single agency bears sole responsibility for the partnership, and all partners collaborate to share information and jointly plan effective interventions to reduce crime and disorder.
11. Consideration of the implementation of a Vulnerability Forum was discussed at the SCP Strategy Board in May 2024 as a way to centralise the actions from the Safeguarding and supporting high risk and vulnerable children and adults from harm strategy. This proposal was rejected by the board as they felt the actions were already being reviewed. As a result, actions will be passed to the following boards, who will in turn be responsible for reporting on their own actions quarterly at the SCP Strategy Board.
 - **City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board**
 - **City and Hackney Safeguarding Children Board**
 - **City Police Vulnerability Forum**

Proposals

12. The SCP Strategy Board needs to consider acquiring a dedicated analytical resource to consolidate all relevant data for annual reviews, enabling the capture of all pertinent information in a centralised location.

13. To mitigate single points of failure, the analytical resource would preferably be allocated in a team of analyst with one of the five responsible authorities, the SCP could pay for this resource with available POCA funds.

14. The delivery groups will also benefit from analytical help and products that allow them to identify current issues and verify if targeted solutions are achieving what was planned. The analyst should be able to resource all delivery groups with dedicated products.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

N/A

Financial implications

15. The proposals – if adopted would require financing.

Resource implications

16. As noted in the report.

Legal implications

17. The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 introduced a Duty on a specified list of public sector authorities in all local government areas to work together to prevent and reduce local serious violence.

18. In December 2021 the government's 10-year plan to cut drug crime and save lives, 'From harm to hope' was published.

19. Reforms to the adult out of court resolutions framework in the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill

Risk implications

20. None.

Equalities implications

21. As noted in the report.

Climate implications

22. None.

Security implications

23. None.

Conclusion

24. Updating our strategy and actions plans annually is a statutory responsibility for the partnership and allow the partnership to look at any matters that need to be

incorporated and prioritised for the year. With the help of everyone in the SCP Strategy Board these changes can be very relevant and help us achieve our overall aim of reducing and preventing crime and keeping the City safe.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Safer City Partnership Strategy 2022 – 2025

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**City of London Safer City Partnership
Strategy 2022-2025
Update 2024**

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Safer City Partnership (SCP) is the City of London's statutory Community Safety Partnership (CSP). The partnership appoints the SCP Strategic Board which consists of statutory and non-statutory organisations who work together to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour. The partnership is responsible for the delivery of a wide variety of strategies and plans with the overall aim of improving the safety of the community in the City of London. As part of this process a Community Safety Strategy is published every three years which focuses on an identified set of priorities. The priorities are intelligence led based upon analysis from the partnership's strategic assessment¹ and results from public consultations.
- 1.2 The partnership is made up of core members as outlined in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, namely:
- City of London Corporation (City Corporation)
 - City of London Police
 - London Fire Brigade
 - Probation City and Hackney
 - City and Hackney Place Based Partnership
- 1.3 Whilst other non-statutory members may be invited (for example representatives of the third sector or community groups), the statutory partners are jointly responsible by law for agreeing a strategy to reduce crime and disorder in the City of London. No single agency has lead responsibility for this and all partners come together to share information and jointly plan effective interventions to reduce crime and disorder in the City of London. To achieve this aim partners have established a strategy group to oversee delivery and will hold members to account with the support of a performance dashboard overseeing the action plans of this strategy.
- 1.4 The City of London is the world's leading international financial and business centre. It has the lowest levels of crime and disorder in London, but a burgeoning night-time economy and the return to normality post-pandemic presents emerging challenges for partners. This strategy provides an outline to identify these issues and respond to them in partnership, focusing on reducing both volume of crime and harm.
- 1.5 For the 2022 – 2025 Strategy seven key areas have been identified which the partnership will focus on over the next three years:
- Reducing neighbourhood crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB), including in the night-time economy
 - Tackling substance misuse linked to crime and disorder

¹ Data sources include the strategic assessment of crime and disorder, with a full description of data shared as per the Schedule to the Crime and Disorder (Prescribed Information) Regulations 2007 under Section 17A of the Crime and Disorder Act

- Safeguarding and supporting high risk and vulnerable children and adults from harm
 - Violence against women and Girls, including gendered violence
 - Serious Violence
 - Hate crime
 - Reducing reoffending
- 1.6 Since 1998 the SCP has worked to reduce crime and the fear of crime for residents, visitors, students and workers across the City. After a long period of decline, crime levels have been rising since 2016, although ASB reports have declined over that period.
- 1.7 As a partnership, we are facing a number of challenges including reduced resources and a number of emerging issues and additional responsibilities impacting our communities. The continued support of all partners is necessary to ensure that the SCP is in the best place to deal with these issues and continue to protect residents, students, workers and visitors. This plan offers a change in focus and will look more in-depth at a number of cross cutting themes involving a range of partners and seeks to build on the positive work completed to date, as well as to address emerging issues and challenges. It is proposed that each priority develops an action plan which is updated on a quarterly basis with headline updates reported back to the SCP. An annual review of the actions will be carried out to ensure that they remain fit for purpose.
- 1.8 Locally there remains the need to maintain a strong understanding of issues within the City. We will collectively work to maintain feelings of safety among those who live, study in, work and visit the City. Our focus is working efficiently as a partnership to focus on those deemed most at risk, to work more effectively in changing times, and to reduce demand for agency response across the key partners.
- 1.9 The SCP will continue to monitor trends and national priorities to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.
- 1.10 This strategy covers a three-year period (2022-25) but will be reviewed annually to address any emerging issues. The strategy complements the City of London Policing Plan and seeks to bring together the crime and disorder elements from related strategies.
- 1.11 By delivering the objectives and activities outlined within this strategy, we will maintain the City of London as a safe place to live, study, work and visit.

2 Understanding the City

- 2.1 The City– also known as the “Square Mile” - is the historical and geographic heart of the capital. This unique area is bordered by seven other London

boroughs and the River Thames. The City of London is a rapidly changing and growing place. It is a City where ancient traditions are observed yet sit comfortably alongside modern business practices.

- 2.2 The City of London is unlike most local authority areas, with a resident population much smaller than most (the average borough population in London is 290,000, and the population of the City is approximately 8,600) but as the financial and commercial heart of the UK the Square Mile welcomed 513,000 workers into the City each day prior to the pandemic. The changes in workforce patterns since then need to be studied and the impact considered.
- 2.3 The City has an established and expanding Night-Time Economy, with more people than ever visiting bars, clubs and restaurants after work and at weekends. A major tourist destination and cultural hub, it is an exciting place to live, study, work and visit. The City’s new “Destination City” strategy seeks to improve the visitor experience and leisure offer, focusing on tourism, events, public realm improvements and the opening of the Elizabeth Line, bringing 1.5m people to within a 45-minute commute of the Square mile.
- 2.4 These circumstances mean that the crime and disorder situation in the Square Mile is truly unique in the UK. The reimagining of the City as a tourist and night-time destination will place a new set of challenges in an area which has long had the lowest crime rates in London. The challenge to the SCP is to maintain this situation, keeping people safe while supporting the economic and social development of the Square Mile.

3 Crime and Disorder in the City

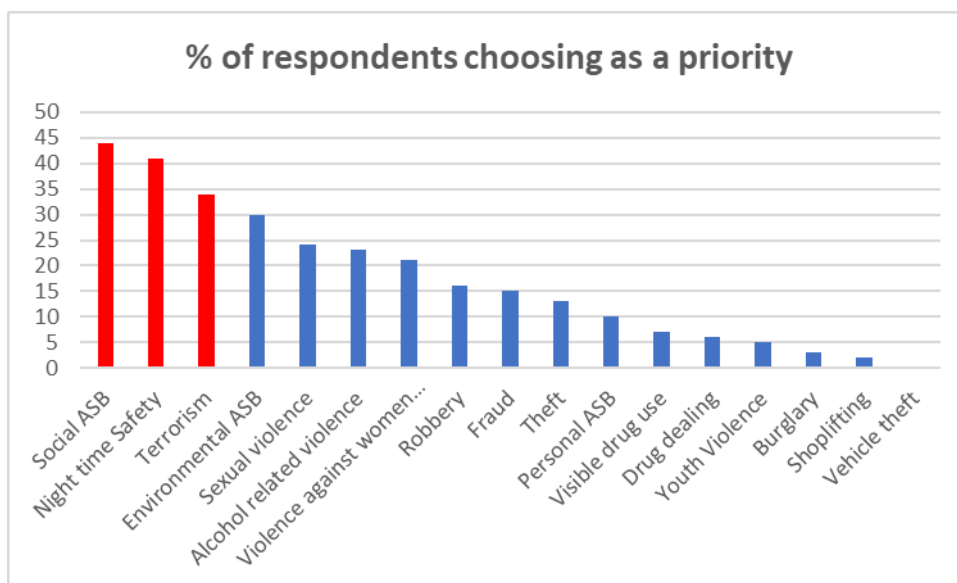
- 3.1 Whilst the City of London is the safest local authority area in London, overall recorded crime trends are upwards since 2016.



- 3.2 The increase in crime is largely driven by Theft offences. 39.5% of crimes reported in the City in 2019 were theft offences, with a further 20% of crime made up of other acquisitive crime offences.
- 3.3 ASB makes up 9.4% of reports to police, but combined with reports to the Environmental Services department of the City Corporation is a significant issue impacting on reputation and community well-being.
- 3.4 Violent Crime makes up 14.2% of reports to the police, and is much more harmful than theft offences. Violent Crime in the City is largely a combination of assaults linked to the night-time economy and domestic or gender-based offences.

4 Summary of Public Consultation

- 4.1 The SCP has an obligation to consult the public on the setting of priorities for this strategy. A consultation in May/June 2022 of 202 people who lived or worked in the City delivered the following results:



- 4.2 Respondents were invited to choose their top three crime and disorder priorities from a provided list. The most popular options were Social Anti-Social Behaviour [ASB] (that is, nuisance behaviour which affects the lives of others but is not deliberately targeted at an individual) 45%; Night-time safety 41%, and Terrorism 34%.
- 4.3 For comparison, the most common crime types in the Square Mile in 2021 were:
 - Theft 25.5%
 - Violence and assault 16.3%
 - ASB 15%

- 4.4 The public consultation was used as an evidence base alongside the strategic assessment to inform the selection of priorities; the partnership ensured that “social ASB” and “Night time safety” were incorporated in the “Reducing neighbourhood crime and ASB, including in the night-time economy” priority and the “Vulnerability” priority focuses on both “night time safety” and “terrorism”.

5 Statutory Priorities

- 5.1 The partnership’s strategic priorities are mostly evidence and public consultation based, but there are certain priorities which must be included by law². These include:
- Reducing Reoffending
 - Tackling substance misuse linked to crime and disorder
- 5.2 In May 2022 Parliament passed the Policing, Crime and Courts Act 2022 which placed an obligation on Community Safety Partnerships to deliver a strategy to *reduce serious violence*. This is expected to be enacted in 2023.
- 5.3 This strategy will incorporate the SCP’s statutory responsibilities alongside its discretionary priorities.

6 Strategic Priorities

- 6.1 In view of the public consultation and data obtained through a partnership strategic assessment, the CSP have agreed the following priorities to address the crime and disorder issues in the City.
- Neighbourhood Crime and anti-social behaviour including those linked to the night-time economy
 - Safeguarding and supporting high risk and vulnerable children and adults from harm
 - Hate Crime
- 6.2 The successful delivery of the CSP priorities will help us deliver our mission statement:

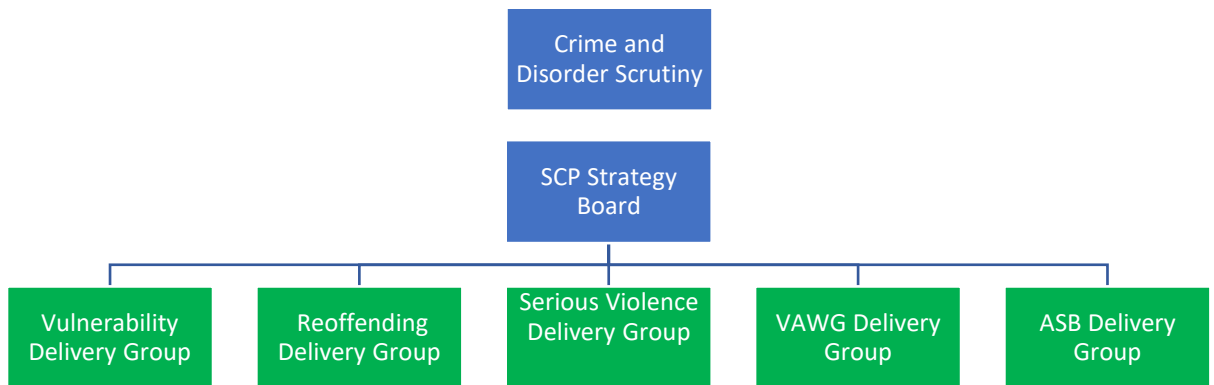
“To make the Square Mile a safe place for people to live, learn, work or visit.”

7 How will we deliver this?

- 7.1 The SCP (SCP) has the responsibility to deliver the priorities that are set out within this plan. They are also responsible for delivering the strategies that flow from this plan, including the Serious Violence Strategy, the ASB Strategy and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy.

² Crime and Disorder Act 1998

- 7.2 This requires partner organisations to work together to share skills, knowledge, and resources in order to effectively deliver a service that achieves our ambitions and makes the Square Mile a safer place to live in, work in, and visit.
- 7.3 The SCP has established a governance structure to drive the operational delivery:



Colour code:

Strategic group

Priority oversight strand

- 7.4 We have adopted a common strategic approach for each priority based around a five-column approach:
1. **Inform** – to ensure that our communities understand the issue and know how to access support where required
 2. **Identify** – to understand who those at risk of offending in our area are; to understand who is or is likely to become a victim; and understand those locations most likely to play host to the issue.
 3. **Prevent** – to prevent those we have identified as being at risk from being at risk of or experiencing the issue, or to committing an offence, or for a location to host an offence.
 4. **Protect & Support** – to safeguard and support all those identified as being at risk
 5. **Pursue & Prosecute** – to take enforcement action against perpetrators as appropriate.

7.5 Through the delivery of the strategy we will seek to develop the partnership and have agreed a number of cross-cutting strategic objectives, including:

- Closing data gaps and improving information sharing across partners to help us better understand hotspots, drivers of crime and disorder and can identify vulnerability / at risk individuals
- Improve analysis of victim and offender profiles in the City across priority areas
- Develop a set of problem profiles to help us be efficient in our tackling of crime and disorder issues
- Strengthen collaboration and accountability across the partnership through joined up community engagement on priority issues
- Ensure the built environment is designed to prevent crime – CCTV, street lighting, safe spaces
- Maximise opportunities to secure grant and external funding

8 2024 update

8.1 Updates in legislation such as the introduction of Combating Drugs Partnerships and the Serious Violence Duty has meant that new and updated strategies and strategic plans have been created in order to comply with the new legislation.

8.2 The new Serious Violence Duty Strategy has been published in the City of London Website. One of the aims for that strategy is to reduce and prevent sexual violence previously part of the Reducing neighbourhood crime and ASB strategy. Adjustments have been made in order to reflect the changes.

8.3 The Combating Drugs Partnership (CDP) was established in September 2022. It is a multi-agency forum for understanding and addressing shared challenges related to drug-related harm, based on the local context and need. The City of London created in 2023 the City and Hackney CDP and agreed to discharge their duty of tackling substance misuse through this forum and the Reducing crime and ASB Strategic aim.

8.4 Our reducing reoffending strategic aim will incorporate our response to the new legislation in out of court disposal and our partnership response towards IOM managed in other areas of London.

9 Reducing neighbourhood crime and ASB, including in the night-time economy

Why is this a priority?

- It is important that residents, students, workers and visitors to the City should feel safe and be free from fear of victimisation.

- To support this, we will focus efforts on reducing anti-social behaviour and neighbourhood crime³, with a focus on maintaining a safe night time economy in the City.
- We will seek to focus on issues identified through data analysis, reported issues, community concerns and issues raised by effective partnership engagement. This will help us develop localised commitments to tackle the problems residents are most concerned about in partnership – for example, antisocial street drinking, aggressive begging, anti-social cycling, bicycle theft and other acquisitive crime offences (in particular around small portable goods such as mobile phones).
- Reducing ASB is pivotal in maintaining a safer, cleaner City of London. The impact of ASB can be devastating to residents, businesses and visitors. For victims and the wider community, it can become a destructive, cumulative issue leading to a poor quality of life. It often overlaps with more serious crime, and this can contribute to communities feeling unsafe where they live and work.

9.1 ASB is a conduct that:

- has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household
- is capable of causing nuisance or annoyance to a person in relation to that person's occupation of residential premises
- is capable of causing housing-related nuisance or annoyance to any person”

9.2 Given the broad definition, we recognise people will have difference thresholds and tolerances for anti-social behaviour. All agencies will take reports of anti-social behaviour seriously. Some of these examples can also be criminal offences, and when that is the case, we maintain a strong partnership approach to deal with those causing the problems.

9.3 We also know that often those responsible for ASB are often vulnerable themselves. We recognise that ASB-related behaviours can be symptomatic of other issues which require support and care. We are committed to working in partnership to safeguard, support and protect vulnerable residents and provide meaningful opportunities for behaviour change.

9.4 We know that ASB is a concern for people visiting or living in the Square Mile. Of those who responded to our survey, 37% of residents reported that anti-social behaviour was a concern; this is the third highest concern noted. Whilst 96% of those surveyed felt safe in the City in the day, this drops to 71% at night.

9.5 There is an overlap between hotspots for violent crime and hotspots for anti-social behaviour in the borough. Whilst the link is not necessarily causal, there are benefits in aligning approaches to tackling both. Addressing anti-social

³ Neighbourhood crime is defined by the Home Office as “domestic burglary, vehicle related crime, theft from the person and robbery”

behaviour in the Square Mile is a complex matter that requires the attention of many different agencies.



ASB hotspots in the Square Mile

9.6 With the development of the Culture Mile and the “Destination City” strategy, the City’s increasing night time economy brings a range of benefits and associated issues such as noise and other ASB, alcohol-related violent crime, theft, sexual offences and issues around the supply of drugs. A firm strategy to reduce these risks will be vital to support the safe growth of the City as a night-time destination.

9.7 Key issues include:

- Drug and Alcohol related antisocial behaviour and crime
- Rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour
- Sexual violence⁴ (This aim has been moved to the [Serious Violence Duty Strategy](#) in 2024)
- Street drinking and begging

9.8 Our aims and strategic intentions

- Continuously deliver a victim-focused response to ASB
- Address the full spectrum of ASB, from littering and graffiti, to alcohol and drug-related ASB
- Deliver our licensing objectives as outlined in the City of London Licensing Policy, namely:
 - the prevention of crime and disorder
 - public safety

⁴ Sexual harassment, violence, and gender-based crimes will be managed through the complementary Violence Against Women and Girls strategy, and details of our planned activity in that space can be found there.

- the prevention of public nuisance
- the protection of children from harm
- Ensure the City's Night-Time Economy is a safe, thriving, and prosperous venue
- Safeguard vulnerable victims and perpetrators of ASB, working in partnership with the Safeguarding Adults Board and Safeguarding Children's Partnership
- Improve our understanding of ASB to deliver a more informed approach to tackling the underlying drivers of demand

How will we achieve this?

9.9 We have agreed five objectives to deliver this priority:

Inform

- 9.10 We will work with partners to undertake communications campaigns with regard to the night-time economy, focusing on issues such as safer drinking and nuisance behaviour.
- 9.11 We will use communications campaigns to promote messaging around steps people can take to reduce the likelihood of being victims of acquisitive crime.
- 9.12 Responsible partner members will deliver a communications campaign which will seek to reassure residents regarding issues around fear of crime. This will be combined with opportunities to advertise ASB services to help residents access support when required. A focus on countering negative messaging around anti-social behaviour will also be undertaken by relevant partners, in order to improve perceptions around safety in our communities.

Identify

- 9.13 Responsible partner members will also work with partners to identify:
- Hotspot locations for night-time economy issues, acquisitive crime, and ASB
 - Profiles of likely victims and offenders
 - Premises of concern
 - An understanding of the time of incidents
 - Community priorities to address
- 9.14 The partnership will use this information to inform operational interventions and activities. We will take a problem-oriented approach using analysis to inform interventions. This will include the development of local multi-agency tasking groups. These groups will listen to issues raised by each community and seek to address them, working with the communities and being transparent and accountable on progress. We will work to continually improve our ASB

reporting systems and share information to identify repeat locations and vulnerability.

Prevention

9.15 Responsible partners will seek to prevent acquisitive crime and ASB by strengthening communities and the environment to make them more resilient:

- Ensuring a strong CCTV service is in place and is visible to residents
- Continue the Work with licensed premises to help them manage crime and ASB more effectively and reduce the opportunities
- We aim to continue with our intelligence led area based approach using analytical products and reports

Protect and Support

9.16 When ASB does occur, partners will act quickly and appropriately to minimise the impact through multi-agency working and utilising a range of powers available to partnership members such as:

- Rapid communication with victims and perpetrators (where known)
- Warning letters
- Acceptable Behaviour Contracts
- Community Protection Warning
- Premise Closure Notices

9.17 Being either a victim or perpetrator of ASB can suggest that someone is vulnerable and in need of support. We will seek to:

- Signpost access to Drug and Alcohol Support services including:
 - Introduction to Change
 - Alcohol Resolution Clinic
 - Managing Alcohol Programme
 - Recovery Skills
 - Acceptance and Commitment Therapy
- Report Rough Sleepers to the Homelessness Service
- Provide effective support to ASB victims in a neighbourhood setting
- Make referrals to the Community Mental Health team as appropriate
- We will provide access to the Community Trigger process for those who are repeat victims of ASB

Pursue and Prosecute

9.18 Enforcement is a last resort but will sometimes be necessary in order to effectively manage a problem. Where problems are ongoing and consistent we will make robust use of crime and ASB enforcement powers.

9.19 We will seek to identify and bring to justice perpetrators of violence.

10 Combatting crime and anti-social behaviour caused by the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the area.

This priority is being completed by the City and Hackney Combating Drugs Partnership and therefore is coming out of this strategy.

Why is this a priority?

Community Priorities

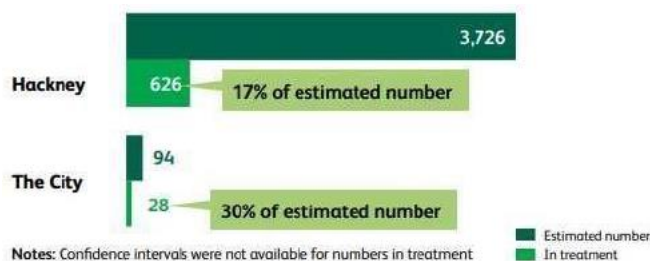
10.1 24% of those surveyed in the City said that people using or dealing drugs was a concern for them. This was the third top-rated concern.

Public Health priorities

10.2 The Director of Public Health for City and Hackney published a report into substance misuse in the City of London and Hackney in 2019–2020 which describes the need, harms and local responses to substance misuse. The data in this section is drawn directly from this report.

10.3 It is challenging to estimate how many people use substances within a local area. This is partly due to the hidden nature of substance misuse, possibly linked to the legal status of many substances, or potential feelings of shame or embarrassment. Many people also underestimate the risks associated with their lifestyle choices; for example, underestimating their alcohol consumption by as much as 40%, and how risky their drinking patterns are.

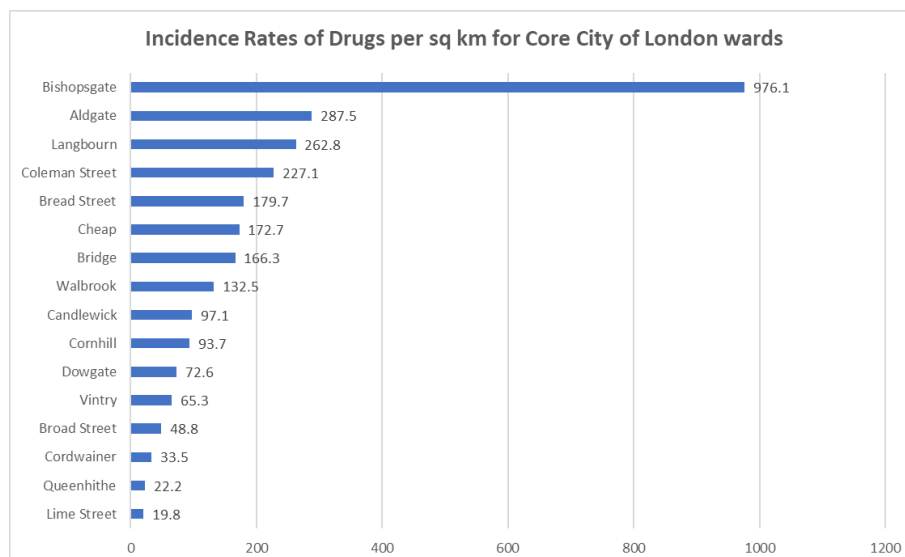
10.4 However, there are some estimation tools available that give an idea of the amount of substance misuse occurring in a local area, and therefore, the support and treatment needed. Public Health England estimates that nearly 4,000 residents across the City and Hackney are dependent on alcohol, with 83% of those adults in Hackney and 69% in the City not receiving treatment for this (see below).



10.5 Additionally, the 2017/18 Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) gives an estimate of the prevalence of people using drugs in London, which can be used to give a prevalence estimate by applying it to local population data. This crudely predicts the number of residents using drugs in Hackney and the City, as seen below:

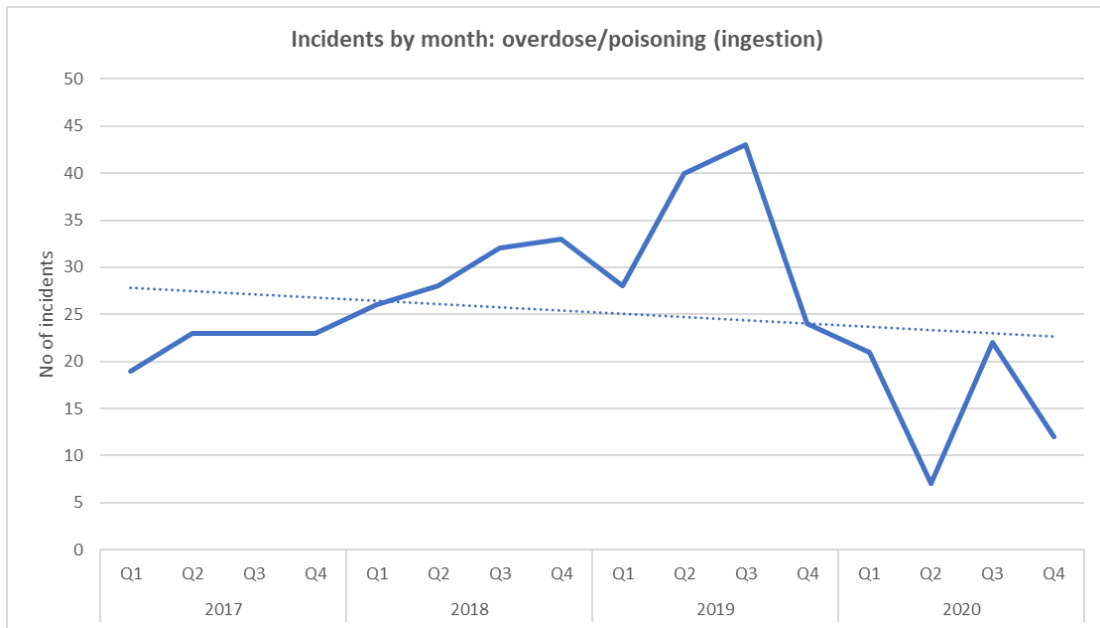
Substance type	National prevalence England	Regional prevalence London	Hackney estimated No.	City of London estimated No.
Any Class A drug ⁴	3.5 %	3.3 %	6,387 (2.2 %) ⁵	165 (1.9 %) ⁶
Any drug ⁷	9.0 %	9.3 %	18,001 (6.4 %)	466 (5.6 %)

- 10.6 The CSEW also estimates that around 2.1% of 16- to 59-year-olds nationally are frequent drug users. Applied locally to 2018 population projections, these estimates suggest that just over 4,000 16- to 59-year-olds in Hackney, and around 100 residents in the City of London are frequent drug users.
- 10.7 Using the same approach, this time applying the CSEW percentage to the weekday 7:00am–7:00pm City of London population of c. 500,000 (comprising commuters, visitors and learners) it can be estimated that there are around 10,000 frequent drug users in the Square Mile at these times.
- 10.8 Public Health England uses a tool developed by Liverpool John Moores University to estimate the prevalence of opiate and/or crack cocaine use in local areas. This tool suggests there are approximately 2,880 residents across Hackney and the City using opiates and/or crack cocaine. As with alcohol, there is a high level of unmet need, with over half of those estimated as dependent on opiates and/or crack cocaine not receiving treatment for this.
- 10.9 Data on drug offences can also give an indication about the prevalence of drugs within the City of London. Within the (mainly business oriented) Core City wards, almost three times as many drug offences were recorded in 2019 for Bishopsgate as for any of the other wards:

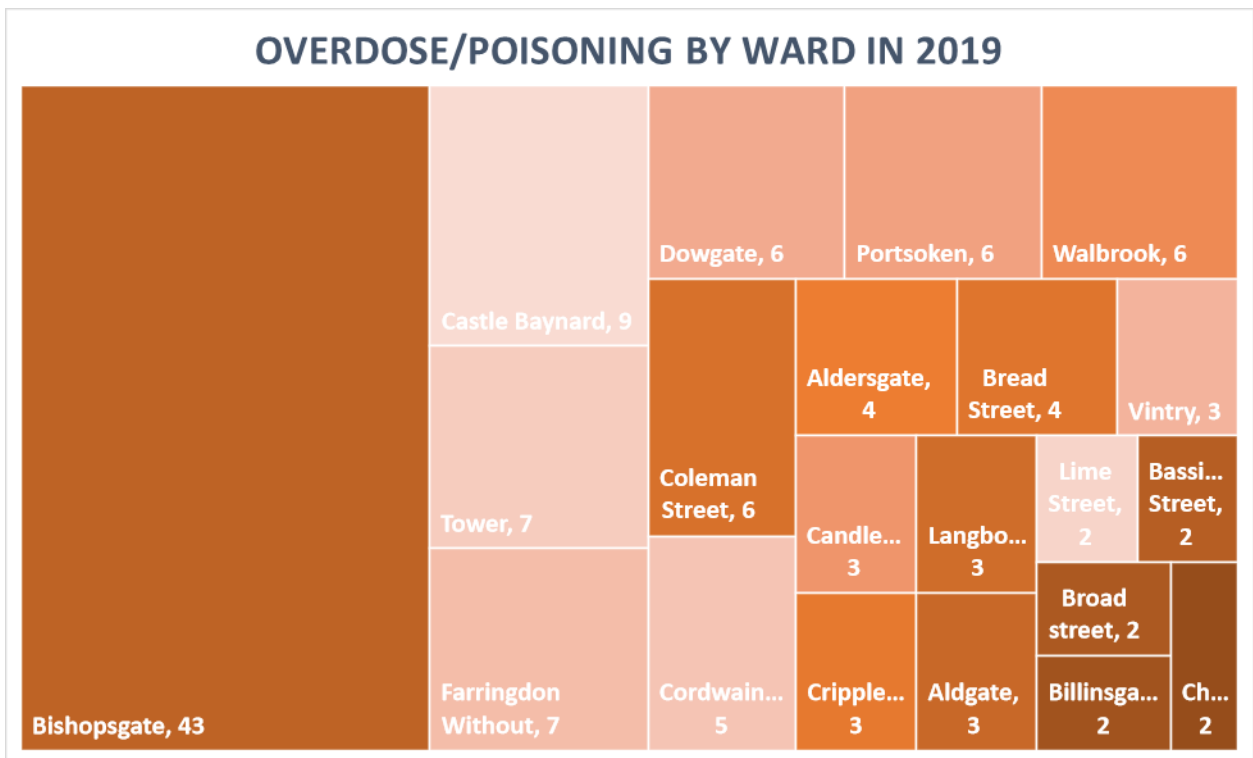


- 10.10 The wider impact of alcohol and drugs can also be seen by looking in detail at ambulance callouts (not all of which result in a hospital admission) in the

Square Mile for overdose/poisoning, as can be seen below, showing a steady increase for these types of incidents until the COVID-19 lockdowns.



10.11 The figure below shows concentrations and locations of these incidents in 2019, with the biggest concentration – by some distance - being in Bishopsgate:



Bishopsgate as a driver of demand

10.12 Bishopsgate – in particular the area around Liverpool Street Station - is the largest NTE area in the City and the impact is significantly higher in numbers of

incidents, but also generally in terms of rates of incidents per licensed premises. Liverpool Street has 256 licensed premises, with approximately 25% accessible by invitation, membership or employment.

10.13 The majority of licensed premises are located in the Bishopsgate ward close to Liverpool Street Station, and this ward has the highest density of licensed premises out of all the wards in the City of London. The area has the highest numbers and rates for recorded violent incidents, sexual offences, BTP recorded incidents, TfL recorded incidents and has the highest rating under the Traffic Light Scheme for the period.

10.14 Liverpool Street also had the highest number and rate of alcohol-related ambulance callouts. Due to the low residential population in the area it is likely that the majority of these are related to the night time economy. Although Liverpool Street had the highest number of incidents under anti-social behaviour and pollution, the rate per licensed premises was relatively low. This may be related to the density of licensed premises in the area.

Dual Diagnosis

10.15 Poor mental health can be both a cause and a consequence of substance misuse. Compared with the general population, people addicted to drugs or alcohol are approximately twice as likely to suffer from mood and anxiety disorders and, similarly, people with mental health problems are more likely to be dependent on drugs and/or alcohol. Evidence indicates that alcohol use causally increases the risk of depression, however, there is also evidence that many people in the UK drink alcohol in order to help them cope with emotions or situations that they would otherwise find difficult to manage.

10.16 Over 40% of new presentations to the local drug and alcohol treatment service in 2017/18 self-reported a concern with mental health and asked for support.

Understanding different user cohorts

10.17 Substance misusers in the Square Mile are not a single entity. There are a number of different cohorts requiring different levels of support:

Opiate users and problematic drug users	Generally speaking, opiate users account for the majority of drug-related deaths. Opiate users tend to have the highest call on services and the greatest likelihood of harm. A significant portion of opiate users are likely to be involved in criminality to support their habit, which leads to increasing victims of crime.
Recreational users	In the Square Mile there are effectively two different cohorts of recreational drug users: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workforce users – that is, those who work in the City but participate in recreational drug abuse.

	<p>- Recreational users – as the City becomes a Night Time Economy destination this will attract visitors who may seek to enhance their recreation with substance misuse</p> <p>Both these forms of use can be harmful. There may be health and productivity issues in the workplace, and OCGs and USGs may seek to profit from burgeoning demand, bringing crime and safeguarding issues into the Square Mile.</p>
Problematic alcohol use in public spaces	<p>Whilst there is a culture of pavement drinking outside licenced premises in the City, the consumption of alcohol in public places can go hand in hand with anti-social behaviour (ASB), which can lead to feelings of insecurity amongst communities.</p> <p>Street drinking is not illegal and we will be working to tackle ASB as it occurs and provide access to alcohol treatment services as required rather than simply displacing street drinkers.</p>
Those who sleep rough	<p>Where those who sleep rough staying overnight in the City are identified as having drug and alcohol problems we will work to bring them into treatment.</p>
Organised Crime Groups and Urban Street Gangs	<p>We will work to disrupt the supply of drugs and the exploitation of vulnerable individuals which goes alongside this through multi-agency work to tackle OCGs. We will seek to support vulnerable people identified as being at risk through access to gang exit programmes and other support services as appropriate.</p>
Community perception	<p>Where communities feel concerned due to visible signs of substance misuse, or behaviours linked to substance misuse, we will work in partnership to problem solve these issues</p>

Our aims and strategic intentions

10.18 Our focus is on harm reduction. Where there is a criminal justice response to those misusing substances, our priority as a partnership will be to provide access to treatment for users.

10.19 Punitive and legislative responses on drug users are ineffective in reducing drug supply and demand. However, we will focus on the harm and exploitation involved in the supply of drugs through Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) and Urban Street Gangs (USGs). This will include seeking to disrupt their activity and support those being exploited in support of them.

10.20 Responsible partner agencies will seek to:

- Ensure appropriate support is in place for offenders, with access to housing, training and employment, financial aid, debt recovery and drugs and alcohol services
- Support those who misuse drugs and/or alcohol to successfully treatment
- Enforce against persistent and prolific offenders who misuse drugs and/or alcohol
- Address drugs, as a driver of crime, and associated criminalities through innovative initiatives
- Reduce the impact of alcohol on violent crime
- Make the City's night time economy a safer place for leisure use
- Instigate successful interventions in the Liverpool Street area to reduce demand on services through substance misuse in the night time economy.

10.21 Outcomes we want to achieve

- Improve public confidence through collaborative problem solving and community based multi-agency campaigns which address drug litter, open use of drugs, and drug and alcohol related anti-social behaviour
- Protecting the public and residents from crime, anti-social behaviour and noise nuisance caused by irresponsible premises.
- Maximise every opportunity to address offending behaviour that is driven by abusing drugs and alcohol.
- Work with criminal justice partners to ensure that responses to young people's drug and alcohol related offending are appropriate to their needs.
- Develop a set of common standards that clearly identify "what works" in reducing drug and alcohol related offending.
- Strengthen partnership responses to address the impact that drugs and alcohol play in the exploitation of vulnerable children, young people and adults including:
 1. domestic abuse
 2. violent crime
 3. sexual offences
 4. child sexual exploitation
 5. modern day slavery

How will we achieve this?

10.22 This includes a multifaceted approach that prioritises 'early intervention and prevention', 'evidence-based treatment and recovery support', and 'reducing drug and alcohol related crime and anti-social behaviour through enforcement and regulation.

10.23 We have agreed five objectives to deliver our strategy to reduce crime and disorder linked to alcohol:

Inform

10.24 Responsible agencies on the partnership will help service users and potential service users understand how to access statutory and non-statutory services to help those with drug and alcohol issues. We will work with Licensing and Trading Standards to manage night-time economy and licensing issues and ensure these are communicated to residents and visitors effectively.

Identify

10.25 Partners will support the development of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment to help understand the extent of drug and alcohol issues in the borough. They will work with health and frontline partners to identify service users who may require support and intervention services. Alongside this, work will also be done to identify problem premises and locations in partnership with licensing colleagues.

10.26 They will work together to identify hotspot areas of alcohol-related disorder and manage these locations through a multi-agency approach, using available tools and powers to close problematic locations and manage repeat offenders.

Prevent

10.27 Early identification and intervention are key to supporting vulnerable young people at risk of offending and drug and alcohol misuse. It is essential that local agencies including youth offending teams, police, custody healthcare, looked after children's services, education and health services take every opportunity to identify young people at an early stage and work together to put in place appropriate support. Similarly approaches to begging will be defined as a preventative approach.

10.28 For those young people who have come into contact with the Criminal Justice System it is important that we identify their needs and put in place adequate provision to support the young person's desistance from further crime. Where substance misuse is a part of wider issues in a young person's life, it is important to take an integrated multi-agency response, including family support.

10.29 Applicants for alcohol licences will be expected to demonstrate practical steps towards the four objectives of the City's Statement of Licensing Policy.

10.30 These are:

- a) the prevention of crime and disorder
- b) public safety
- c) the prevention of public nuisance
- d) the protection of children from harm

- 10.31 Evidence suggests that through local licensing arrangements a reduction in alcohol related violence can be achieved.
- 10.32 As the City grows as a night-time economy destination, we will use campaigns to promote safe and responsible drinking and delivers key safety messages, such as the “Ask Angela” scheme to reduce the risk of sexual violence. This will largely be delivered through the VAWG strategy (see below). We will continue to support the successful “Safety Thirst” scheme which seeks to promote high standards in reducing crime and ASB, whilst also helping to ensure a safe and pleasant environment for the general public to socialise.
- 10.33 As a partnership we will embed prevention approaches and drugs information within existing voluntary and statutory services, working with the Health and Wellbeing Board as appropriate.

Protect and Support

- 10.34 We will focus on reducing the risks for our most vulnerable people. We recognise that the criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults can take many forms including the use of drugs and alcohol in grooming. Gangs typically use children, young people, and vulnerable adults to deliver drugs to customers and this often involves them being subjected to deception, intimidation, violence, and both financial and sexual exploitation.
- 10.35 The Criminal Justice System offers several routes into support and treatment. Our local programmes such as Liaison and Diversion in our police custody suites give us the opportunity to make sure that offenders are offered the right help at the right time.
- 10.36 It is important that those involved in drug and alcohol related crime are given every opportunity to address their offending behaviour as well as being punished for their actions. We will ensure that our criminal justice agencies and drug and alcohol services work better together. We will promote the use of out of court disposals and community sentences, such as drug and alcohol treatment requirements which require offenders to engage with services, and we will work closely with prisons in the resettlement of offenders
- 10.37 City Corporation are committed to enhancing their provision of specialist high support accommodation for street homeless with complex needs including substance misuse.
- 10.38 Responsible partners provide a range of treatment and recovery support based on what is realistic and achievable for this cohort of drug users and their families.

Pursue and Prosecute

- 10.39 There is evidence that drug law enforcement action can have some local impact but when delivered in isolation the benefits can be short-lived. The evidence suggests it is far more effective to identify underlying problems in a

place and for communities and services to work together to resolve them⁵. However, all partners will work with City of London Police to enforce licence breaches as appropriate where the objectives in the councils Statement of Licensing Policy are at risk.

10.40 Trading Standards have a regulatory function in relation to protecting consumers. Trading standards can undertake under 18 test purchases based on intelligence to protect children from harm.

10.41 City of London Police will work in partnership with statutory partners including the City Corporation to identify on-street and in-venue drug dealing locations and seek to identify perpetrators. The SCP will seek to diminish the opportunities of organised crime groups supplying and distributing drugs across the borough.

Links to other strategies

10.42 Whilst the SCP has a statutory responsibility to have in place a strategy to reduce crime and disorder linked to drugs and alcohol, delivery of actions to mitigate this will be through other priorities, namely:

- SCP ASB, Neighbourhoods and Night Time Economy Strategy
- SCP Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy and City of London Police VAWG strategic delivery plan
- SCP Reducing Reoffending Strategy
- SCP Serious Violence Reduction Strategy
- SCP Vulnerability Strategy

10.43 There are complementary strategies across other partnerships in the City which will also contribute towards the achievement of this objective, including:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Safeguarding
- Licensing
- Policing Plan
- Homelessness
- Housing
- Children and Young People's Plan

⁵ <https://www.ukdpc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Policy%20report%20-%20Tackling%20drug%20markets%20and%20distribution%20networks%20in%20the%20UK.pdf>

11 Safeguarding and supporting high risk and vulnerable children and adults from harm

Why is this a priority?

- 11.1 The exploitation of vulnerable people (including children) is a national issue, encompassing county lines, cuckooing, modern day slavery, radicalisation and child sexual exploitation. In addition to this, communities and individuals can be at risk due to their demographic characteristics; this is known as hate crime. The range of issues identified within this priority are often classed as “hidden high harms” – that is, they are not publicly visible, but their impact can be significant.
- 11.2 We will seek to support and protect those most vulnerable in our community. Those at risk of domestic abuse and violence against women and girls will be supported through the City of London VAWG strategy 2019-23, but there is a clear link between those who are vulnerable as victims or witnesses of domestic abuse and a broader range of vulnerabilities.
- 11.3 A small number of highly vulnerable individuals are at risk from a range of potential harms. We will work in partnership with other multi-agency arrangements including safeguarding boards to identify those at risk and seek to intervene early to support these individuals and increase their resilience.

Our aims and strategic intentions

- 11.4 We will seek to protect vulnerable individuals and communities from the following hidden harms:
- Serious and Organised Crime
 - Child Sexual Exploitation
 - County Lines
 - Modern Slavery
 - Radicalisation
 - Cuckooing
 - Sexual Exploitation
- 11.5 We will also seek to support the aims and objectives of the City of London Suicide Prevention plan where appropriate.
- 11.6 The table below provides an agreed definition for each hidden harm.

Harm	Definition
Serious and Organised Crime	Planned and coordinated criminal behaviour and conduct by people working together on a continuing basis.
Child Sexual Exploitation	Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child

	or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.
County Lines	A form of criminal exploitation in which criminals groom and manipulate children into drug dealing. The 'lines' refer to mobile phones that are used to control a young person who is delivering drugs, often to towns outside their home county.
Modern Slavery	The recruitment, movement, harbouring or receiving of children, women or men using force, coercion, abuse of vulnerability, deception or other means for the purpose of exploitation.
Radicalisation	The process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.
Cuckooing	A practice where people take over a person's home and use the property to facilitate exploitation
Sexual Exploitation	Sexual exploitation includes rape, prostitution, sexual photography, subjection to pornography or witnessing sexual acts and sexual assault or sexual acts to which the adult has not consented or was pressured into consenting.

Outcomes we want to achieve

11.7 By their nature, hidden harms are under-reported. For each hidden harm we will seek to achieve the following outcomes:

- An increase in reported incidents to the police, reflecting a community more confident in receiving support from the state
- An increase in the volume of defendants prosecuted
- An increase in the volume of successful prosecutions

11.8 The exception to this will be in radicalisation, where we will be seeking to increase the percentage of successful discharges from the City of London Channel Panel. This panel is a statutory multi-agency body which seeks to

reduce the risk of being drawn into terrorism of those vulnerable to radicalisation.

How will we achieve this?

Harm	Activity
<p>Serious and Organised Crime</p>	<p><u>Inform</u> – we will work to communicate tell-tale signs of Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) to communities and partners, including information on reporting routes.</p>
	<p><u>Identify</u> – we will bring together information in a Serious and Organised Local Crime Profile to help identify victims, offenders, locations and those at risk of being drawn into SOC</p>
	<p><u>Prevent</u> – we will Intervene to stop people being drawn into different types of serious and organised crime</p>
	<p><u>Protect and Support</u> – we will improve protective security and support those who have been victims of organised crime</p>
	<p><u>Pursue and Prosecute</u> – we will develop an authoritative intelligence picture of organised crime and work with the police and others to lead, coordinate and support our response</p>
<p>Child Sexual Exploitation</p>	<p><u>Inform</u> – we will work with the City and Hackney Safeguarding Children Partnership to support communication to professionals around spotting the signs of CSE and understand how to make referrals.</p>
	<p><u>Identify</u> – to ensure that we have current knowledge of locations, individuals and groups who sexually exploit, as well as emerging issues and models of targeting and exploiting children in order that we can act upon early indicators relating to individual children and young people at risk and shape services appropriate to their needs.</p>
	<p><u>Prevent</u> – to prevent children, young people at risk from experiencing or continuing to experience sexual exploitation</p>

	<p><u>Protect and Support</u> - to work together to safeguard current victims of sexual exploitation to minimise harm, reduce opportunities for perpetrators to target victims and to provide appropriate support, intervention, information and recovery services to children, young people, parents, and at risk.</p>
	<p><u>Pursue and Prosecute</u> - to successfully prosecute those who perpetrate or facilitate the exploitation of children and young people at risk, and to disrupt activities and locations so as to prevent further incidents of sexual exploitation.</p>
<p>County Lines</p>	<p><u>Inform</u> – we will work to help practitioners to recognise the signs of County Lines and respond appropriately so that potential victims get the support and help they need.</p>
	<p><u>Identify</u> – we will work with City of London Police and other agencies to identify County Lines operations in City of London and profile those who may be at risk.</p>
	<p><u>Prevent</u> – we will work with partners to prevent young people at risk of exploitation from County Lines from being victimised by perpetrators.</p>
	<p><u>Protect and Support</u> – we will support those who have been identified as being at risk by providing routes out of County Lines activity and providing safe havens for them to do so.</p>
	<p><u>Pursue and Prosecute</u> – we will seek to identify those operating County Lines in the City through multi-agency working and support City of London Police to prosecute them.</p>

<p>Modern Slavery</p>	<p><u>Inform</u> – we will work with partners to increase awareness of Modern Slavery through the City of London Modern Slavery Working Group.</p> <p><u>Identify</u> – we will develop intelligence products with partners which will help us identify potential modern slavery incidents in City of London</p> <p><u>Prevent</u> – we will work with the City of London Modern Slavery Working Group to increase the numbers of local businesses operating in City of London who have adopted a Modern Slavery statement.</p> <p><u>Protect and Support</u> – we will seek to support those at risk of Modern Slavery or who have been victims of this</p> <p><u>Pursue and Prosecute</u> – we will work with City of London Police and other partners to identify individuals and organisations operating Modern Slavery and bring them to justice.</p>
<p>Radicalisation</p>	<p><u>Inform</u> – we will seek to improve training on spotting the signs of safety for radicalisation amongst frontline workers as per our obligations under the Prevent Duty.</p> <p><u>Identify</u> – we will develop a risk assessment for City of London based on the police’s Counter Terrorism Local Profile. This will inform the Prevent action plan we will develop separately to deliver our obligations under the Prevent Duty.</p> <p><u>Prevent</u> – we will close down spaces for extremists to operate in City of London and ensure that there are meaningful referral pathways for those identified as being at risk of being drawn into or supporting terrorism.</p> <p><u>Protect and Support</u> – we will support individuals who have been identified as being vulnerable through the City of London Channel Panel and provide support to</p> <p><u>Pursue and Prosecute</u> – we will support Counter Terrorism Policing through information sharing and operational responses in enforcing action</p>

	<p>against those suspected of planning terrorist attacks, being members of a proscribed organisation, or seeking to radicalise others. We will disrupt radicalising behaviour where appropriate.</p>
Cuckooing	<p><u>Inform</u> – we will work with partners including Housing and Social Care to understand issues around cuckooing.</p> <p>Identify – we will seek to share information with partners to help identify cuckooing in action and understand how to make referrals</p> <p><u>Prevent</u> – We will seek to identify those who may be vulnerable to cuckooing and provide advice, support and access to services to prevent this from happening.</p> <p><u>Protect and Support</u> – We will work with those who are victims of cuckooing to help them access support and exit the situation safely.</p> <p><u>Pursue and Prosecute</u> – we will work with City of London Police and others, using a full range of tools and powers, to bring those who would seek to cuckoo properties to justice.</p>

12 Violence Against Women and Girls

12.1 Our strategic vision is that: **“The Square Mile is free from Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and is a place that is safe for everyone to live, work and learn”**. VAWG refers to a variety of behaviours primarily committed by men against women. Examples of VAWG include:

- Domestic abuse (including coercive control)
- Intimate partner violence
- Sexual violence and rape
- Stalking and sexual harassment
- Femicide
- Online abuse
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
- Child, early and forced marriage
- Honour-based violence
- Faith-based abuse
- Trafficking and sexual exploitation
- Prostitution
- Breast ironing
- Forced terminations

- Gendered gang violence

12.2 The SCP oversees a distinct “Violence Against Women Girls Strategy”. In 2022, the SCP strategy was produced and implemented. To ensure the VAWG strategy reflects the current context of VAWG in the City of London, the VAWG strategy was reviewed and refreshed in 2024.

12.3 We acknowledge that VAWG impacts all services (adult and children’s social care, public health, housing, community safety, civil and criminal justice as well as voluntary and community organisations) and it is the responsibility of all agencies to tackle VAWG and address the needs of survivors and their families. Hence the SCP is committed to working in an inclusive partnership method to develop a whole system approach to VAWG, bringing together the criminal and justice system, the NHS, local authorities, voluntary and community sector, service users and other partners. The SCP does this through a strategic delivery group with representation from all respective statutory and voluntary agencies working to tackle VAWG in the City of London. This group meets quarterly and take a multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling VAWG. Consequently, the SCP response to VAWG is coordinated to prevent further harm, reduce risk and increase safety for people residing, working, studying and travelling in the City.

12.4 VAWG affects people regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, age, religion, culture, ethnicity, background or disability. There are a range of consequences of VAWG, such as homelessness, mental health issues and substance misuse, that need to be addressed. We will aim to understand and meet survivors needs and aspirations with effective risk management, safety planning, safe accommodation, emotional support, healthcare, education, legal aid and access to justice.

12.5 Our VAWG strategy is built around three priorities:

Priority One: People are prevented from becoming victims of VAWG

12.6 Prevention is the first step to fulfil our vision that “The Square Mile is free from VAWG and is a place that is safe for everyone to live, work and learn”.

12.7 Undeniably, if we can ameliorate awareness of and prevent VAWG or identify occurrences early and intervene, it will improve outcomes for individuals, stop violence escalating to critical levels, while reducing the pressures on services long term.

12.8 Improved awareness of VAWG and training in identification will:

- Improve recognition of normalised misogynistic behaviours
- Increase chances of intervening at an earlier stage
- Stop violence escalating to critical levels
- Reduce pressure on services, and
- Improve outcomes for individuals

12.9 Additionally, prevention of VAWG will improve the Square Mile population's resilience, well-being, warding off adverse childhood experiences, mental illness and homelessness in the years to come.

What we will do:

Awareness

- We will raise awareness of VAWG (its occurrences, how to prevent it, how to spot the signs and what services are available to people at risk as well as survivors), through internal and external communication campaigns. We will deliver joint campaigns with partner agencies such as the City of London Police and neighbouring London boroughs.
- Communication plans will be applicable and accessible to our audiences. For example: there will be signposting to specialised campaigns/information for our vulnerable cohorts.
- We will strengthen awareness partnership work within the City Corporation's various services (community safety, social care and community services, housing, employment and licensing) as well as with external agencies and community and voluntary sector specialist providers, to allow clarity on messages, adopting a consistent ethos that all VAWG is unacceptable in the City of London. Every point of interaction with a victim is an opportunity for prevention and intervention and should not be missed.
- We will aim to promote the Women's Safety Charter and encourage licensed venues to sign up. We will deliver a joint campaign with Hackney Council to raise awareness of the Charter and promote the joint responsibility of keeping women safe at night.
- We will support the following agencies to have information publicly available on VAWG support services: GPs, educational establishments, community centres and Corporation offices.
- We will challenge those attitudes and behaviour towards women and men which can lead to violence and abuse and act early to prevent harm. We will do this through effective, sustainable and robust commissioning and training to deliver resources and campaigns to challenge and change attitudes.
- Promote nationally acclaimed campaigns such as This is Abuse to build awareness.
- We will raise awareness and promote the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence.
- We will engage with religious leaders to raise awareness in cohorts where VAWG tends to be under-reported.
- We will aim to deliver a campaign working with construction companies to promote support for modern day slavery amongst laborers.

Training and learning

- We will make sure practitioners have the training (comprehensive), tools (Safelives DASH risk assessment) and support they need to identify and respond early before situations of violence occur and/or escalate to crisis point. We will also ensure those practitioners receive feedback on which of their actions are effective and safe or not. We are currently looking at better

ways of promoting this training to ensure it reaches as many people as possible.

- We will deliver training around changes to practices including statutory recording of domestic abuse in safeguarding cases.
- We will disseminate learning from the Domestic Homicide Reviews, Serious Case Reviews and Safeguarding Adult Review.

12.10 We will aim to work in partnership with the schools, colleges and Guildhall School of Music & Drama, to ensure they are equipped to respond to incidents and deliver training and awareness to school pupils and students on VAWG. We have ensured that there are clear referral pathways and regular contact in place between the City of London schools and the City of London Police Public Protection Unit.

- All domestic abuse incidents reported to City of London Police will be shared with the relevant school, where there is a child related to either adult involved in a domestic incident, whether that be a crime or non-crime incident and irrespective of the risk assessment level. This forms the main purpose of Operation Encompass which recommenced after being refreshed in April 2024.
- The staff at the schools are regularly offered training around how to spot the signs of domestic abuse and Female Genital Mutilation, pupils have sessions on healthy relationships (as proposed in the Relationship, Education, relationships and sex education, and health education: Government response 2019).
- We will offer a guide for schools around risk assessment, as there have been differences in professional judgement around 'risk' between schools and the police.
- We will aim to achieve the accreditation for the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) and ensure that all staff working on our housing estates are trained to know how to spot the signs and respond to domestic abuse and VAWG. By achieving DAHA the City Corporation would be a local authority that is recognised as being committed to protecting and supporting residents from domestic abuse.
- We will offer training to licensed venues signed up to the Safety Thirst Scheme, working with external agencies such as Galop to ensure they are able to recognise and respond to incidents of VAWG especially around our most vulnerable cohorts such as children and young people and LGBTQI+.
- We will support the safeguarding partnerships by implementing statutory guidance released under the 2014 care act: delivering training around changes to practice including statutory recording of domestic abuse in safeguarding cases; conducting review of the links between domestic abuse, elder abuse and carers (either as victims or perpetrators), high risk domestic abuse and domestic homicide in order to improve local practice.
- We will deliver training and promotion on the Safelives DASH risk assessment and the MARAC to ensure agencies understand how to refer, when to refer and the purpose of the MARAC. SafeLives estimate that the CoL should have around ten cases per year heard at the MARAC.

- We will ensure frontline staff are trained on the needs of older survivors, including pensions and benefits available to them.

Early intervention

- Our Early Help team will work with the families to raise awareness of VAWG, support the entire family and prevent harm.
- We will aim to increase early interventions to people experiencing VAWG through mainstream and specialist support services by encouraging the creation of early identification and response system within its various departments and partner agencies.

Community development

- We will support residents, workers and employers, to be educated about, take responsibility and proactively respond if they encounter abuse. They will know how to help family, friends, colleagues and neighbours through ongoing communication campaigns, community engagement, prevention and awareness raising. The aim is that victims, residents, students, visitors and workers should be confident that they live/work in a community that has zero tolerance for VAWG and they know how to get help should they experience any problem.
- Through external communications and community engagement events, we will ensure residents know that their local authority take a lead in challenging the community to tackle VAWG, that their local authority is committed to ensuring healthy, safe, equal and violence-free relationships.
- We will engage with businesses and various agencies, through the Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to provide support to them with recognising vulnerability within their service users/employees and offer them tailored training and information. We will ensure these organisations are kept informed of new campaigns and are aware of the support available to them.
- We will encourage support agencies in the City of London to adopt protocols regarding joined-up responses and inter-agency information sharing.

Priority Two: People affected by VAWG have access to support services

12.11 Once an occurrence of VAWG has taken place our services must be easily accessed by the victim, considering any inequity to access that may be prevalent in some population groups.

12.12 The victim should feel believed, listened to, respected and not blamed; they must be informed on how to engage with services, what will happen next; get expert independent advice and feel supported short and long term.

12.13 Awareness of available services and easy access to support services matter because needs can remain unreported and unaddressed. When people are unable to access care and support, it has serious negative impact on people's

lives (e.g. substance misuse, loss of employment, debt, housing problems and homelessness), families and communities (e.g. adverse childhood experiences, family breakdown, crime or anti-social behaviour) and other services. It also matters because some groups in our diverse communities are under-represented in our services, including children and young people, LGBTQ+ people and older adults.

12.14 The response to an instance of VAWG must be coordinated, holistic, consistent, confidential, safe and personalised.

12.15 Relevant support services have clear referral pathways in place for professionals and they have a detailed step-by-step process to show how people will be supported if a disclosure of domestic abuse is made.

12.16 Being clear on the demographics of our communities and working in partnership with service providers with whom the City Corporation has trusted relationships, will enable a consistent delivery of services.

What we will do

Services

- We will aim to provide high quality services which are easily accessible, flexible, and available in a timely way to a wide range of survivors.
- We will monitor performance of both mainstream and specialist services regularly to ensure the provisions available remain efficient and useful by collecting various data (number of referrals and their origins, outcomes, costs, etc.).
- We will maintain an up-to-date database of VAWG related services operating in London and available to those residing in the City of London, ensuring an awareness of the relevant range of services.
- We will aim to regularly review the City Corporation website to ensure that the resources available on the website are kept up to date and relevant.
- We will ensure the City Corporation's Domestic Abuse Policy is regularly reviewed and updated.
- We will aim to increase access to services and provisions through outreach workers and community navigators.
- We will ensure that victims and survivors can influence service development (service user satisfaction surveys) through regular feedback on services and consultation.
- We will utilise a cross-sector recognised specialist quality standards and outcomes framework to ensure quality provision with commissioning, for example the DAHA.
- We will ensure access to counselling services through partner agencies such as Iranian Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation (IKWRO).
- We have made a commitment to tackling child sexual exploitation and modern-day slavery and will continue to provide and commission services to fight these issues.
- We will support women and girls at risk from gangs.
- We will continue to provide a robust police response and access to criminal justice remedies.

- We will continue to provide access to refuge provision and the City of London Women's Project as identified by survivors as essential in making the decision to leave an abusive relationship and find safe accommodation
- We will aim to ensure the safety of those who stay in their own homes by providing security measures through the City of London Sanctuary Scheme.
- We will promote the 24-hours Victim Support helpline and other 24-hour services, such as the National Domestic Violence Helpline.

Partnership

- We will aim to support survivors of VAWG in the short and long term in their health, social and economic wellbeing and treat them with equality regardless of their life choices, culture, age, gender, sexuality, immigration status, etc. by liaising with various partner agencies.
- We will endeavour to work with primary care networks, the City and Hackney Place Based Partnership and other Integrated Care Boards, to promote a consistent response in GP practices via the use of the Identification Referral to Improve Safety (IRIS) model around domestic violence and abuse.
- We will increase access locations, strengthen working relationships and improve referral pathways between providers, partners and agencies.
- We will promote coordinated need-led and risk-led provisions and services (safety but also housing, advocacy, employment, benefit support, child custody, criminal cases, civil justice measures, resettlement, therapeutic, group work and peer mentoring) and provide joined up specialist and bespoke responses.
- We will work collaboratively with Thames Reach and other voluntary sector services to aim to ensure that staff are trained to respond to disclosures and incidents of VAWG, and staff know where to refer or signpost individuals for support.
- Both the City Corporation and the City of London Police will work with commissioned service Open Doors, as well as the voluntary sector, to encourage sex workers to report crime and seek assistance.
- We will aim to ensure the City of London Police and VAWG support services are working in partnership to signpost and refer people that are not City of London residents and affected by VAWG for appropriate support.
- We will work in partnership with the City of London Police Cybercrime team to ensure people who are experiencing online abuse are receiving advice from the police and being referred for specialist support.
- We will develop a multi-agency approach that reflects the varying need of individuals involved with sex work.
- We will aim to work with specialist human trafficking services to provide support to survivors and avoid repeat victimisation.
- We will provide survivors of VAWG with advocacy support throughout the Criminal Justice process, from the early stages of reporting the incident through to support at court.
- We will ensure the safety of victims at court including a separate waiting area and that they are referred to the Witness Service when giving evidence in court.

- We will aim to invest in resources to help prevent women and girls entering prostitution, to reduce harm to them whilst in it and to help them to be able to exit and have viable alternatives.
- We will aim to criminalise those who profit from individuals selling sex – pimps, managers, exploiters as well as challenge the demand for prostitution by penalising the buyers of prostitution.

Vulnerable cohorts

- We will ensure continued provision to survivors with a range of needs/ complex needs (women-only support groups, accommodation and services, face to face multi-lingual support, LGBTQ+ only spaces, SEND specialist services and counselling services).
- We will ensure that children and young people witnessing/victims of abuse are supported, and that they understand the meaning of VAWG, healthy relationships and consent.
- We will link in with CityAdvice to ensure people working within the City of London are supported.
- We will engage the ‘hidden workforce’ in support and services available to workers in the City of London.
- We will identify and support high-risk domestic abuse cases and provide support to those who need it most.
- We will ensure that men and boys who have been affected by any of the issues under VAWG are supported.

Priority Three: Perpetrators are held to account and rehabilitated

12.17 We want to ensure that VAWG perpetrators are held to account for their actions and deterred from reoffending through rehabilitation. This means that they will be supported to understand the impact and implications on victims, their children and themselves, which is an important step forward in ending violence. Rehabilitation gives perpetrators the opportunity to take responsibility for their behaviour and make positive change.

12.18 Perpetrators need to access help to sustainably change their behaviour, this is particularly important for those women who do not want to end the relationship.

What we will do

Response

- We will aim to improve the arrest conviction rate of perpetrators.
- We will provide interventions to manage risks posed by perpetrators and support them to change their behaviour.
- We will work closely with the City of London Police, the national probation service and community rehabilitation company and the East London specialist domestic violence court to provide an effective criminal justice response and pursue perpetrators.
- We will work directly with perpetrators of abuse as needed to reduce the risk they pose as well as protecting victims and survivors. This will complement working with perpetrators within children and young people

services, the national probation service and the community rehabilitation company.

- We will encourage young people to join the City of London cadets if they have experienced or perpetrated VAWG.
- We will commission perpetrator programmes for perpetrators involved with City Corporation's Social Care. We will refer perpetrators who do not meet the threshold for a programme to be commissioned to a specialist perpetrator service.
- We will work to engage with the British Transport Police, the night-time economy and City of London Police to hold perpetrators to account and counter sexual harassment on transport, on our streets - in public as much as private spaces.
- We will ensure that systems such as MARAC and MAPPA, already in place to deal with high-risk victims, will continue to work in partnership to ensure effective responses to these victims and perpetrators.
- We will access perpetrator programmes for women with external specialist agencies.
- We will investigate utilising the CoL police lifetime offender management unit for prolific VAWG offenders in the City of London.
- We will ensure partnership working through the police and Crown Prosecution Service response, specialist domestic violence courts, sanctions and interventions.
- We will support victims and signpost them for legal advice when applying for civil injunctions and ensure breaches are notified to the police.
- We will lobby criminal courts to order the use of electronic tagging to monitor behaviour and movements of perpetrators.
- We will encourage The City of London Police to keep delivering training and awareness workshops to their staff on Domestic Violence Protection Orders and Domestic Violence Notice Orders to ensure the appropriate and effective use of these orders.
- We will continue to encourage victimless prosecutions, in cases where victims are unable or unwilling to pursue the perpetrators themselves, to make the Square Mile safer for everyone.
- We will work with Criminal Justice Courts to explore ways that vulnerable victims can give evidence at a secure location away from the court.
- We will aim to create a collaboration between the police and the NHS to support perpetrators and victims, by addressing mental health support needs.
- We will encourage the City of London Police to supply body worn cameras to frontline officers who might respond to VAWG incidents.

Campaigns and training

- We will deliver awareness raising campaigns aimed at perpetrators to confront them and call out misogynistic behaviours and sexual harassment. Campaigns will encourage perpetrators to take responsibility for their actions, rather than putting responsibility to stay safe on the victim. Any campaigns delivered will aim to create a hostile environment for misogyny and sexual harassment.

- Reduce perpetrator risk by intervening to address their behaviour through prevention and rehabilitation workshops as well as training of offenders.
- Services will be identified to support people and specialist training will be offered to service providers who work with perpetrators in order to be skilled and confident to engage and champion the positive outcomes of perpetrator programmes.
- We will ensure the City of London Police and the Metropolitan Police are working in partnership using the stalking threat assessment centre.
- We will aim to create pathways between the Civil and Family Courts and the City of London Police to ensure that protection orders are being monitored.
- We will aim to challenge the lack of separate waiting rooms in Civil and Family Courts for victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse. We will also aim to work with Civil and Family Courts to ensure Judges are trained on domestic abuse and VAWG.
- We are supporting the Draft Domestic Abuse Bill in its aim to pilot the use of polygraph testing as a condition for high-risk offenders' release.

13 Serious violence – A new strategy has been developed and published [City of London Serious Violence Duty Strategy](#)

Why is this a priority?

- 13.1 Serious violence, as defined in the National Serious Violence Strategy, includes "...homicide, knife crime and gun crime, and areas of criminality where serious violence or its threat is inherent, such as in county lines drug dealing... and other forms of serious assault". It does not currently include domestic abuse, sexual abuse and alcohol, but this is under review, and these issues are dealt with elsewhere in the City of London Community Safety Strategy.
- 13.2 Serious violence is a national priority due to its growing prevalence and impact. There has been a significant rise in serious violence, with increases in homicide, knife and gun crime in virtually all police force areas since 2014. Robbery has also risen significantly since 2016. The violence is often gang related and the association with drugs markets, particularly crack cocaine, is evident. Too frequently, children are the victims of gun crime, knife crime and exploitation, in many cases by organised criminal groups running 'county lines'.
- 13.3 In response, the government published 'Ending Gang and Youth Violence: Community Engagement' in 2014, and its Serious Violence Strategy in 2018. Both documents advocate an end-to-end approach, from prevention and early intervention to law enforcement, and a strengthened partnership response involving statutory and non-statutory partners, including the local community and businesses.
- 13.4 A new statutory duty was placed on Community Safety Partnerships in 2022⁶ to address serious violence. Although this element has not been enacted at the

⁶ Police, Sentencing and Courts Act – Serious Violence Duty

time of writing, current government plans suggest that each area should deliver a local strategy based on a strategic needs assessment which identifies the drivers of serious violence acting in the local area and the cohorts of people most affected or at risk. The Strategy should “outline the multi-agency response that the partnership will take to address the drivers identified in the strategic needs assessment and work to prevent and reduce serious violence in the specified local area. The strategy should set out how the proposed actions will enhance and complement existing local arrangements responding to serious violence.” This is the City of London’s first Serious Violence Strategy.

Key Issues

- 13.5 Unlike other forms of crime and disorder, violent crime in the Square Mile has steadily increased over the past seven years to 2022. Violent crime costs the local economy an estimated £15m; this is around two thirds of the total cost of crime in the City of London. In the City of London hotspots of violent crime are focused on concentrations of licensed premises and transport hubs.
- 13.6 London has seen increases in violence over recent years following a decade of declining crime rates; violence against the person offences have risen by more than 60% since 2014. This violence appears to have become more serious, as well as more frequent; the proportion of attempted murders and robberies involving a knife has increased by five percentage points since 2014. Although serious violence in the City has not reached the levels of some of the neighbouring boroughs, violence in the Square Mile is increasing.

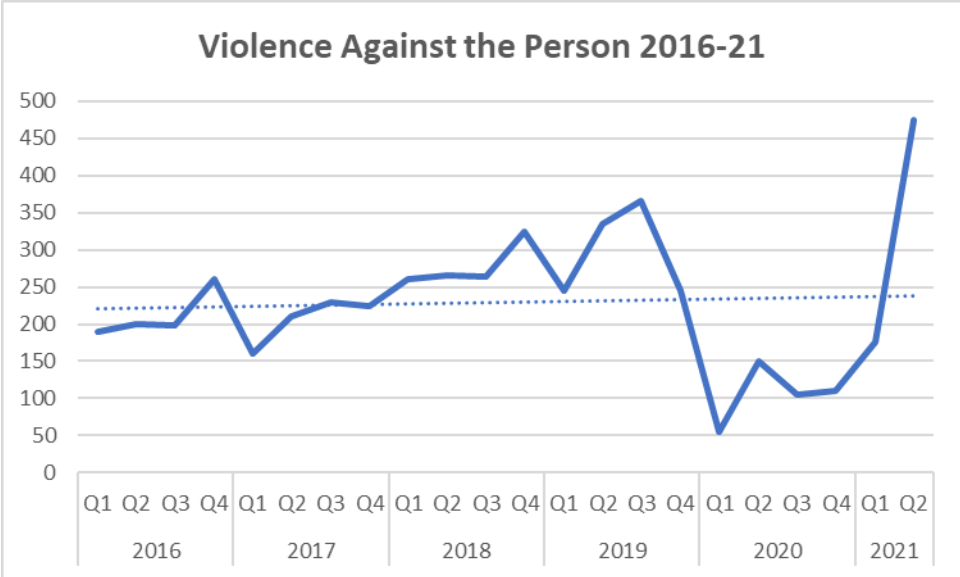


Figure 1: Violence against the person in City of London 2014-22; City of London police recorded crimes.

- 13.7 National research suggests that the following are drivers of serious violence:
 - Education, Employment and training

- Poor school attendance and attainment
- High levels of poor emotional and mental health needs in school age children
- High levels of young people not in education employment or training
- Alcohol and Substance Misuse
 - High levels of hospital admission for substance misuse (15-24 year olds)
 - High levels of hospital admissions for alcohol-specific conditions (under 18s)
- Parenting, Families and Communities
 - Early years child development
- Child poverty and unemployment

13.8 Whilst these indicators are low in the City, the Square Mile borders seven London boroughs, all of whom have outcomes beneath the national average in these indicators and are deemed to be higher risk areas for serious violence.

13.9 There is no set definition of serious violent crime. The Home Office have chosen to focus on homicide, knife crime and firearms offences. However, we are keen to broaden our oversight to a wider range of offences to provide us with a fuller picture of violent crime in the City and to help build our performance management framework. These include:

- Violence with injury
- Violence without injury
- Homicide
- Possession of a weapon
- Robbery

Our aims and strategic intentions

13.10 In line with agreed national approaches around serious violence, we will take a “public health” approach to tackling serious violence as a partnership.

13.11 Furthermore, the SCP supports the World Health Organization’s (WHO) definition of taking a public health approach to reducing violent crime. A public health approach that “seeks to improve the health and safety of all individuals by addressing underlying risk factors that increase the likelihood that an individual will become a victim or a perpetrator of violence. By definition, Public health aims to provide the maximum benefit for the largest number of people. Programmes for primary prevention of violence based on the public health approach are designed to expose a broad segment of a population to prevention measures and to reduce and prevent violence at a population-level.”

13.12 The success measures for the national programme are reductions in:

- hospital admissions for assaults with a knife or sharp object and especially among those victims aged under 25;
- knife-enabled serious violence and especially among those victims aged under 25, based on police recorded crime data;
- all non-domestic homicides and especially among those victims aged under 25 involving knives.

13.13 We will seek to understand the baseline data for these national success measures and develop our own performance framework on top of this.

How will we achieve this?

13.14 There are substantial crossovers with other elements of this strategy. Vulnerability is acknowledged by national government as key driver of serious violence, with those vulnerable groups at risk of being drawn into criminality as well as being more likely to be victims. Drugs and alcohol are known to be drivers of violent crime, including demand for opiates and the mismanagement of the night time economy. Although domestic abuse is dealt with elsewhere in this strategy, there are clear links between adverse childhood experiences and perpetrators of violent crime; this includes witnessing or being a victim of domestic abuse.

Inform

13.15 We will work with statutory partners as per the Police, Courts and Sentencing Act to help develop a strategic needs assessment for serious violent crime, and to help understand the impact of the causes of violent crime and the importance of delivering these. We will adopt a public health approach which will seek to expose a broad segment of the City's population to violence preventative measures.

Identify

13.16 We will develop a dedicated Strategic Needs Assessment based on a range of sources to further support our understanding and commissioning around serious violence in the Square Mile. We will seek out opportunities for relevant funding to support joint working opportunities throughout the Prevent-Prosecute cycle as outlined below.

Prevent

- Responsible partners⁷ will seek to prevent the onset of serious violence or to change behaviour so that serious violence is prevented from happening. We will ensure relevant bodies are sharing timely information to understand and respond to local needs and prevent serious violence.

1.1 ⁷ "Responsible Partners" refer to those named in the Crime and Disorder Act – namely, local government, police, fire and rescue services, local health boards and probation providers.

- Responsible partners maximise opportunities to work with children and families before issues arise and when they do arise, respond in a swift and co-ordinated way.
- Improving existing partnerships and links with City schools to develop opportunities to support and identify those who may be vulnerable through attendance and behavioural issues and escalate into support services where required.
- Responsible partners will equip professionals with the skills to identify and respond to Adverse Childhood Experiences and a trauma-informed approach.
- Responsible partners will work with the licensed trade to help reduce serious violence.
- Responsible partners will support families experiencing serious violence to stop the intergenerational cycle of violence from continuing through the Family Support programme.
- Responsible partners will support education providers in reducing exclusions and off-rolling from school.
- Seek to communicate to communities the risks and indicators of serious violence
- Engage with communities to listen and understand activities and risks as outlined in our local serious violence profile.
- Ensure the involvement of local communities in problem solving issues of serious violence in their communities alongside neighbourhood policing.

Protect and Support

- Responsible partners will work with a range of early intervention services to identify potential victims and potential offenders
- Signpost into mentoring, coaching or other forms of targeted interventions with children and young people at risk of involvement in violence or knife carrying.
- Responsible partners will divert children away from harm through positive activities
- Responsible partners will work with voluntary and faith groups in developing and supporting the mentoring of our most at-risk young people as a way to change behaviour.
- Responsible partners will support the Tower Hamlets and City of London Youth Offending Service to address the needs of young people most at risk of being drawn into continuing violence.
- Responsible partners will work with the Integrated Offender Management programme to provide employment, education and training opportunities for ex-offenders as appropriate.
- Responsible partners will support MAPPA (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements) for high-risk violent offenders.

Pursue and Prosecute

- Responsible partners will direct proactive operational enforcement activity within hot-spot areas across the City to target serious violent crime.
- Responsible partners will carry out proportionate enforcement activity that is focused on the identified problem profile

- Identify and prosecute irresponsible retailers who sell knives and other weapons to children and young people
- Responsible partners will support City of London Police and the National Crime Agency to undertake enforcement and innovative practice to tackle emerging or persistent serious violence
- Responsible partners will support City of London Police in taking targeted enforcement and disruption action against drivers of serious violence (county lines, drug markets etc)
- Responsible partners will maximise enforcement opportunities through effective partnership work across the Criminal Justice System and through Integrated Offender Management, prisons and probation as well as partnership enforcement approaches.

14 Tackling serious acts of discrimination including hate crime

14.1 Hate crime is any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice, based on a person's disability or perceived disability; race or perceived race; or religion or perceived religion; or sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation or transgender identity or perceived transgender identity.⁸

14.2 The purpose of the strategy is to provide clear direction for stakeholders to deliver an effective and robust response to tackle hate crime. The strategy will establish the activities of the partnership over the next three years and will outline how it will review and implement change.

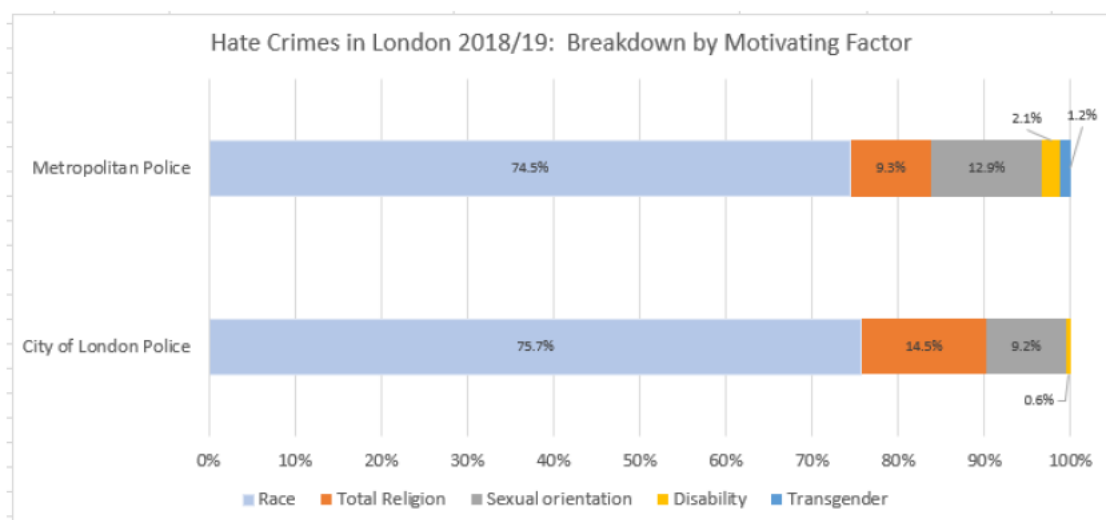
Why is this a priority?

14.3 Hate crime can have a significant impact on victims as it targets a fundamental part of their identity. We know from research that victims of hate crime are more likely to suffer repeat victimisation and serious psychological impact. Hate crime is also a damaging social problem that harms entire families and communities, as well as individual victims.

14.4 Failure to recognise and effectively target hate crime and hate incidents can lead to victimisation of individuals and vulnerable groups, as well as the destabilisation of entire communities. While there is no specific offence of 'hate crime' in criminal law in the UK, there are existing offences such as assault, harassment, and threats which, when driven by hostility or prejudice, are considered as hate crimes. This can determine how the offence is investigated, and under provisions within the Criminal Justice Act 2003, a judge can impose tougher sentences on perpetrators.

⁸ <https://www.cps.gov.uk/crime-info/hate-crime>

14.5 The majority of recent hate crimes are public disorder related and motivated by race. A minority (less than 10) were sexual orientation or transgender motivated.



Motivating factors in hate crime, Metropolitan Police v City of London Police⁹

14.6 The above Figure shows how these motivating factors in the City compare to those recorded for hate crimes across London as a whole for 2018/19. The breakdown by motivating factor is relatively similar, with around three-quarters in both the City and across London motivated by race. Those recorded in the City are more likely to be motivated by religion than in the rest of London, and less likely to be motivated by sexual orientation, transgender or disability.

14.7 It is recognised that hate crime is under-reported. Nationally, only 47% of hate crimes are reported to the police. One of the objectives of this strategy is to increase confidence in victims of hate crime to ensure that more incidents are formally reported to the police.

14.8 Misogyny and gender-based crimes (as opposed to sexuality-based crimes) are not considered as hate crimes. These will be managed through the SCP Violence against Women and Girls Strategy.

Our aims and strategic intentions

14.9 The main aim for the SCP is a City of London which experiences zero hate crime. Our longer term aims include:

- Increasing the reporting of hate crime
- Lessening the impact of hate crime through supporting victims

14.10 We have agreed five objectives to deliver our hate crime objectives:

⁹ City of London Police reported crimes

Inform – we will work to communicate to communities and those with protected characteristics routes to report hate crime. We will communicate to those who live, work and visit City of London that hate crime is not tolerated.

Identify – We will work across the partnership to identify and reassure victims of hate crime and signpost towards reporting mechanisms.

Prevent – We will prevent those with protected characteristics from experiencing hate crimes by improving community resilience, promoting equality, diversity and community cohesion, and practicing a zero-tolerance approach to hate crimes.

Protect and Support – we will provide support to minority communities and seek to reassure anyone with protected characteristics that they are supported in City of London.

Pursue and Prosecute – we will support City of London Police in increasing successful prosecutions of hate crime incidents.

Outcomes we want to achieve

14.11 Our strategic aims are outlined above, but our ambition for hate crime outcomes include:

- Increasing the reporting of hate crimes to the police leading to better sanctions and detections rates.
- Increased confidence and victim satisfaction in police response.
- Improving victim support and reducing repeat victimisation.
- Increase awareness of support services available for victims of hate crime
- Increasing the variety of reporting routes available for victims and witnesses of hate crime.
- Increasing public awareness of third-party reporting centres and reporting mechanisms.
- Increasing community confidence in the local police, council, and partners.
- Providing more education and training to schools and colleges as well as upskilling workforces to identify and reject hate.
- Increasing community understanding and awareness of hate crime.

How will we achieve this?

- Using our resources such as CCTV and Community safety patrols to support the police in gathering evidence and prosecuting offenders.
- Ensuring frontline services have a consistent practice for responding to hate crime reports
- Establishing multi-agency processes for sharing information about victims and perpetrators of hate crime so that appropriate interventions, including potential tenancy action against perpetrators, and support packages for victims can be provided.
- Working closely with the police to consider ways to increase sanctioned detection rates for hate crime in the borough

- Exploring the use of solutions such as community resolution and restorative justice for hate crime victims.
- Co-ordinate effective partnership working between community and victim services to ensure support for victims is visible and reachable – develop referral pathway.
- Develop communications strategy around support services to engage with and promote to the community.
- Review and update hate crime webpage on CoLC website with relevant, up to date information for the public to access
- Consider funding opportunities to increase awareness of support available for victims
- ensure both strategic and operational partners are able to effectively signpost and refer victims to appropriate providers and agencies

14.12 We will ensure the best possible support for victims is available by:

- Working closely with Victim Support, Stop Hate UK, Galop, Equality Advisory Support Service, Age UK London, Disability Rights and City of London Police.
- Ensuring our employees are safeguarded against hate crime in the workplace through hate crime awareness training and designated hate crime champions.
- Promoting the Community Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (Community MARAC) so that agencies supporting hate crime victims are encouraged to make appropriate referrals to access multi-agency support.
- Working with the CJS and Victim Support to ensure victims of hate crime are adequately supported through their involvement with the criminal justice process.
- Ensuring the Victims' Code of Practice is effectively implemented by all partners

15 Reducing reoffending to protect our communities

Why is this a priority?

15.1 A high volume of crime is committed by offenders described as 'prolific or priority offenders'. Providing appropriate monitoring and supervision and working together with offenders to tackle drug and alcohol abuse, improving their basic skills, tackling their offending behaviour and improving the chances of them getting a job has proven to help break the cycle of offending.

15.2 The City of London is unique in England and Wales in not having any resident offenders who meet the criteria of being "prolific or priority offenders", although offenders from other areas may come to the City to commit offences. Therefore, this strategy outlines the intentions of the partnership to manage prolific offenders should any resident meet the criteria in future.

Our aims and strategic intentions

15.3 We will work in partnership to reduce reoffending. We will do this by:

- Improve the interventions we have in place against the seven pathways of reoffending:
 1. Accommodation
 2. Education, training and employment
 3. Health
 4. Drugs and alcohol misuse
 5. Finance, benefit and debt
 6. Children and families
 7. Attitudes, thinking and behaviour

Outcomes we want to achieve

- Visible drug and alcohol use and dealing reduced
- Reduction in the reoffending rate for adults and juveniles
- Reduce reoffending behaviour through Integrated Offender Management
- Fewer first-time entrants into the criminal justice system
- More people successfully complete treatment and do not returning to the service for treatment within a six-month period.

How will we achieve this?

15.4 We will target persistent offenders through the rollout of a refreshed 'Integrated Offender Management' (IOM) framework that emphasises a more consistent and evidence-based approach. This cohort does not include those managed through MAPPA (high risk) or MARAC (domestic abuse) arrangements. will focus on a cohort of the most prolific offenders. These will be:

- Neighbourhood crime offenders with a high, very high or prolific risk of reoffending, assessed using the Offender Group Reconviction Score (OGRS).
- More serious neighbourhood crimes such as robbery and burglary even when they have a medium OGRS score to reflect the level of harm caused by these offences.

15.5 Key CSP partners including the council, the police, and probation services in the City all have a key role to play in the rollout of this new framework.

Inform

We will work with police and HM Prisons and Probation Service to ensure that those on the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) cohort are aware of the expectations of compliance placed upon them. We will communicate across services to ensure that the holistic needs of the cohort are met; this will have the largest impact in reducing the likelihood of their reoffending.

Identify

15.6 We will develop a cohort of the most prolific offender's resident through analysis of offending behaviour and need. This will be based on the following four criteria:

1. Should be subject to statutory supervision
2. Should have an OGRS score of 75 or above
3. Should be an individual who is a high crime causer in the areas of Neighbourhood Crime
4. Persons who are already managed by MAPPA at Level 2 & 3 will not be managed on the IOM PPO Cohort

Prevent

15.7 We will seek to prevent offenders from reoffending by providing support alongside the seven pathways (nine if female). Address drugs, as a driver of crime, and associated criminalities through innovative initiatives, work in partnership, locally and nationally, to disrupt and prevent serious and organised crime to reduce the impact of its resulting social harms on communities and residents.

15.8 These seven pathways are:

- Accommodation
- Education, employment and training
- Health
- Drugs and alcohol
- Finance, benefit and debt
- Children and families
- Attitudes, thinking and behaviour.

15.9 There are two additional pathways for female offenders:

- Women who have experienced violence
- Women who have been involved in prostitution

Protect and Support

15.10 We will increase support across the partnership to offenders by providing access to housing, training and employment, financial aid, debt recovery and drugs and alcohol services.

15.11 We will support those who misuse drugs and/or alcohol to successfully complete community/facility-based treatment

15.12 We will protect the public from prolific violent and high risk offenders through Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements.

15.13 We will review opportunities to improve referral rates to drug and alcohol services.

15.14 We will continue to provide support for young people who are involved in offending, and reduce First Time Entrants to the criminal justice system

Pursue and Prosecute

15.15 Whilst prolific offenders will be provided with support in order to change their behaviours, we will take opportunities to bring any offender on the cohort to justice should they continue to offend.

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City of London Corporation

City of London Police

Safer City Partnership

**City of London
Anti-Social Behaviour Policy 2024**

Produced by:	Community Safety Team, Department of Community and Childrens Service
Approved by:	Pending: Safer City Partnership
Original Approval Date:	
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1 Introduction

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) can have an overwhelming impact on its victims and, in some cases, on the wider community. Therefore legislation has given public services a range of powers to ensure that local agencies have the tools they need to respond to different forms of ASB.

Government guidance is clear in setting out the legal tests that must be met before each of the powers can be used. It emphasises “the importance of ensuring that the powers are used appropriately to provide a proportionate response to the specific behaviour that is causing harm or nuisance without impacting adversely on behaviour that is neither unlawful nor anti-social.”

This policy brings together the policies that departments and services within the City of London Corporation (City Corporation) have – with the agreement of its elected members – put in place to respond ASB. It also reflects the approach of the City of London Police and partners of the Safer City Partnership.

The approaches they set out – and their implementation – meet the expectations of legislation and guidance. This policy aims to provide clarity by bringing together the approaches of the many services that respond to the range of ASB that is experienced. It does not change or supersede the policies approved by the responsible Committees to which service areas report and agree policy.

1.1 Policy statement

The City Corporation remains committed to prevent the escalation of, and to addressing, ASB. It will act in support of, and provide support to, victims – whether they live, work or study in the Square Mile.

The City of London Corporation will use the powers available to it to ensure ASB does not remain unchecked, and to ensure that victims can easily access information about how to apply for a formal ASB Case Review and in what circumstances they can do so.

We will ensure that three key approaches are used in tackling all cases of ASB:

- Early intervention and prevention to resolve the problem as quickly as possible
- Partnership working with appropriate agencies
- Enforcement using the full range of informal and legal tools available.

1.2 Equality and diversity

The City Corporation is committed to promoting equality within the delivery of its services to ensure that everyone is treated with respect, dignity, fairness and, above all, that they are not discriminated against.

The Equality Act 2010 provides a framework to ensure that City Corporation services (and all public services) are not provided in a discriminatory manner, ensuring that there is a fair and transparent approach in place, and that the vulnerability or disproportionate impact on those who are known or suspected of having a protected characteristic is considered in the application of any power.

We will:

- Demonstrate that we have considered any vulnerability identified within the Act when deciding to proceed with legal action

- Have concluded that legal action is needed due to the effect of the ASB on either the wellbeing of the victim and/or the perpetrator
- Ensure that the proposed legal action is a proportionate response to the ASB in accordance with legislation and guidance.

2 Anti-social Behaviour

2.1 Understanding anti-social behaviour

The City's Anti-social Behaviour Policy sets out the approach of services to intervention, partnership working and enforcement.

The policy is set out in the context of the definition of ASB as described in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. That is:

- conduct that has caused or is likely to cause harassment, alarm, or distress to any person
- conduct capable of causing nuisance or annoyance to a person in relation to that person's occupation of residential premises, or
- conduct capable of causing housing-related nuisance or annoyance to any person.

ASB may include:

- noisy and/or abusive behaviour
- vandalism
- graffiti
- intimidation
- public drunkenness
- littering
- fly-tipping
- excessively barking dogs

There may be a fine line between ASB and issues of nuisance, or disputes between neighbours over relatively minor inconveniences. There are many behaviours that can be disruptive and inconvenient, they are not always ASB. However, these issues, in some cases, if persistent, or conducted in a manner that is targeted and threatening, can become anti-social behaviour.

When determining if a reported incident or action is considered to be ASB, officers will exercise professional judgement to assess each case.

2.2 Assessing what is anti-social behaviour.

The legal definition of ASB is very broad allowing authorities to respond to emerging issues. It is not a specific list of behaviours, actions or incidents. Issues need also to be considered in conjunction with other key factors in order to make an informed and fair determination.

The key factors distinguishing antisocial behaviour are

- **its negative impacts on the community**
- **intent to disturb others, and**
- **violation of social norms and laws.**

Everyday activities and inconsideration may cause nuisance, but would only amount to ASB if the context, impact and intent of such actions suggest they substantially interfere with others' peaceful enjoyment and go beyond the tolerance levels of a reasonable person.

In making a professional judgement, City Corporation services, and the City of London Police, will consider:

- **Context** - consider the location, time of day, and other contextual factors. Behaviour that is disruptive given the context is more likely to be antisocial
- **Reaction of others** - gauge if the behaviour is alarming, distressing or threatening to others. Reactions like fear, annoyance, anger, or disruption suggest the behaviour is antisocial
- **Intent** - assess if the behaviour is deliberately intended to harass or disturb others or is reckless in that regard
- **Laws and rules** - check if the behaviour violates any explicit laws, regulations, or rules against things like noise, public intoxication, trespassing, etc
- **Persistence** - look for patterns of repeat offending: persistent behaviours that continually disturb others are more likely to be deemed antisocial conduct
- **Harm** - evaluate if the behaviour causes tangible harm like damage, injury or costs. Harmful conduct is a sign of antisocial actions
- **Mitigating circumstances** - consider any mitigating conditions like youth, disabilities, or incapacitation that could make a behaviour less deliberately antisocial.

By weighing these kinds of factors, the teams and agencies can assess whether a behaviour crosses the line into being anti-social in nature.

2.3 Severity of ASB and risk assessments

Reports of personal ASB are assessed as being low, medium or high risk

- where ASB involves the use or threat of violence or there is a significant risk of harm (for example, a hate crime/incident), an officer will aim to contact the complainant within one working day
- for other reports of ASB, an officer will aim to contact the complainant within five working days
- if a victim's risk assessment score is high, then the Corporation officer will consider whether a referral should be made to an appropriate agency.

For reports of noise pollution, the Public Protection Team has its own attendance standards which can be found on the City of London website: [Disturbed by noise in the Square Mile? - City of London](#).

2.4 Categorising and prioritising reports of anti-social behaviour

While risk can be a subjective judgement, officers will look for key indicators to help them understand the potential severity of risk:

- behaviour consists of threats of violence, actual violence, or if there is a genuine risk of harm
- the behaviour is directed at the complainant: in some cases, the complainant may be experiencing ASB which is not directed at them specifically (for example, someone playing music and disturbing a neighbour). If the behaviour is targeted at the complainant (for example, physical abuse), then this is a higher risk. This risk is further escalated if the incident is motivated by hate for a protected characteristic.
- frequency of incidents: if they are more frequent, then the harm caused is likely to be higher.

- proximity of the perpetrator – if the perpetrator is in close, regular proximity to the complainant, then the opportunity to encounter each other is high and therefore so is the risk of further incident and harm
- additional vulnerabilities of the victim such as mental or physical ill-health, or homelessness
- whether the victim has previously been a victim of ASB or crime
- whether the victim has support networks such as friends or family.

2.5 What is not ASB

There are also many normal, innocent activities that should not be deemed antisocial, such as children playing during the day.

Some behaviour, even though it may cause nuisance to individuals, will usually not be regarded as ASB, but this will be assessed on an individual basis by either the City Corporation or City Police officers. For example, this can include:

- one-off parties and barbecues
- infrequent and occasional noise or disturbances
- children’s play
- occasional dog barking
- excessive noise from domestic appliances (e.g. washing machines, vacuum cleaners)
- minor vehicle repairs
- gossip
- escalated disputes.

Some of these issues will require a response, but not be deemed ASB. For example, one-off parties that are excessively noisy can lead to interventions that either seek a solution or result in enforcement action. In a one-off case, such action would be a response to “noise nuisance” rather than formally considered as ASB, and subject to the powers to address [Noise Nuisance](#).

3 Reporting Crime or Anti-Social Behaviour in the City of London

Please see Appendix 1 for details and links for reporting crime and ASB in the City of London. Appendix 2 maps out the relevant services of the City Corporation.

4 Responding to anti-social behaviour

4.1 Principles of addressing anti-social behaviour

The Anti-social Behaviour Policy is founded on five principles developed by the Home Office Anti-social Behaviour Strategic Board.

- victims should be encouraged to report ASB and expect to be taken seriously
- clear and transparent processes to ensure that victims can report ASB concerns
- partnership working identifies, assesses, and tackles ASB and its underlying causes
- community and stakeholder concerns in relation to ASB will be considered within the strategic needs assessments for community safety and will deliver a holistic, intelligence based approach
- adults and children who exhibit ASB should have the opportunity to take responsibility for their behaviour and repair the harm caused by it.

4.2 Our approach

The City Corporation, City Police and other agencies will work in partnership to identify, assess, and tackle ASB and its underlying causes. In doing so the City Corporation, City Police and partners aim to:

- encourage victims to report ASB
- take any necessary early intervention to protect people and property
- take it into account (and adjust our approach as necessary) when a victim or a perpetrator is a vulnerable person.

We will have clear and transparent processes to ensure that victims can report ASB concerns. We will:

- treat all reports as confidential, sharing information only within data protection laws and information-sharing agreements
- ensure that all ASB incidents reported that involve criminal behaviour are reported to the police
- quickly refer cases between the different departments of the Corporation, the police, and other agencies as necessary
- signpost to the Corporation's complaints process and the ASB Case Review process (formally known as the Community Trigger) where there is concern with any agency response to an ASB issue.

The City Corporation and the City Police will use the powers available to it appropriately and proportionately, recognising the potential harm that inappropriate use can have on individuals and communities.

Adults and children who exhibit ASB should have the opportunity to take responsibility for their behaviour and repair the harm caused by it. To support this we will:

- use any of the tools and powers available to us under the law and Corporation policy, including those tools and powers that do not require court action
- support the police in the use of Community Resolution, for incidents of ASB at the lower level of harm or risk
- facilitate an apology from the perpetrator to the victim, in a manner that the victim supports
- ensure any restitution is forthcoming in a timely fashion.

5 Taking action

Enforcement action should follow a stepped approach, exhausting non-legal remedies before deciding on legal action. However, there may be occasions that the behaviour is so serious that it precludes non-legal action and warrants immediate legal sanction.

5.1 Informal action

If the behaviour is assessed as being at a low or medium level and the victim risk assessment concurs, non-legal enforcement may be appropriate. These include:

- **Warning letters** – a formal letter from the Corporation outlining the complaint and a record of which will be held on file, should the behaviour reoccur.

- **Community remedy** – when a criminal offence or ASB incident has been admitted, the police can instruct the perpetrator to undertake an act to compensate the victim, in lieu of court proceedings.
- **Acceptable Behaviour Contracts** – a voluntary written agreement between persons who have been involved with ASB.

5.2 Legal enforcement

Legislation provides a wide range of tools and powers to tackle ASB in its various forms – such as housing legislation that enables possession proceedings in some ASB cases. Many general relevant powers are set out in the [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014](#) and include:

- **Community Protection Notice** – to stop a person aged 16 or over, a business or organisation committing ASB that spoils the community's quality of life.
- **Civil Injunction** – to quickly stop or prevent individuals engaging in ASB, nipping problems in the bud before they escalate.
- **Without notice (ex-parte) Injunctions** – as above, but the perpetrator is not made aware of the application. Without notice, injunctions are likely to be used where violence has been used or threatened or is likely to happen.
- **Criminal Behaviour Order** – issued by a criminal court against a person who has been convicted of an offence, designed to tackle the most persistently anti-social individuals who are also engaged in criminal activity.
- **Closure Power** – to allow the Police or the Corporation to close premises quickly which are being used, or likely to be used, to commit nuisance or disorder.
- **Public Spaces Protection Order** – designed to stop individuals or groups from committing ASB in a public space.

5.3 ASB Case Review (formerly the Community Trigger)

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 introduced specific measures designed to give victims and communities a say in the way that ASB complaints are dealt with. This includes the Anti-Social Behaviour Case Review, (formerly known as the Community Trigger), which gives victims of persistent ASB reported to any of the main responsible agencies (such as the local authority, police, and housing providers) the right to request a multi-agency case review where a local threshold is met.

The City of London Corporation has a duty to carry out an Anti-Social Behaviour Case Review on request when a case meets the threshold. The threshold is met when:

- At least three separate qualifying complaints of ASB or hate incidents must have been made within the past six months
- No action has been taken
- The case has been closed and the original problem persists.

Applications for an Anti-Social Behaviour Case Review may either come directly from the victims of ASB or from a third party (with the victim's written consent), such as a family member, friend, or local elected representative (a councillor or MP). The victim may be an individual, a business or a community group.

5.4 No action

In certain circumstances e.g. where the detrimental impact is small and falls short of the definition or risk issues set out above, we may take no further action, or action that the complainant does not consider to be adequate. We will explain the reasoning behind our decisions to ensure that complainants and perpetrators understand them clearly.

6 Partnership working

We recognise that working in partnership with other agencies is key to dealing effectively with issues of ASB. We will participate in initiatives designed to improve information exchange and better joint working, with the aim of improving responses to anti-social behaviour.

Reports of ASB may be discussed at a multi-agency forum to ensure that a coordinated response is taken, involving the relevant partners to resolve the ASB problem. Such forums may include the:

- City of London Corporation City Community Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference
- ASB in the Night-Time Economy Group
- Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Task and Action Group
- ASB Case Review (in relation to relevant request).

6.1 City Community Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference

The City of London Corporation Community Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference is a multi-agency panel meeting where representatives from the statutory and voluntary sectors share information on vulnerable ASB victims, ASB perpetrators and ASB hotspot locations.

Partner representatives discuss options for increasing the safety of the victim, perpetrator, or location and turn these into a co-ordinated action plan. The aim is to identify the highest risk, most complex cases and solve the issues of concern. Victims also include those experiencing hate crime.

The focus is on managing the risk to the vulnerable victim and/or perpetrator and providing options for increased safety. The panel will decide on the best approach to managing the overall risk to the victim, perpetrator, or community and on effective safety planning strategies.

6.2 ASB in the Night-Time Economy Group

ASB in the City's night-time economy is discussed at a weekly meeting of partners. It considers issues including crime relating to licensed premises or by perpetrators who have visited licensed premises, ASB, noise issues and any other emerging trends. As the remit of the meeting is broad, representatives attend from the City of London Police, the City Police Licensing Team, the City Corporation Licensing Team, Port Health & Public Protection and the Community Safety Team.

6.3 Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Task and Action Group

The Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Task and Action Group is a multi-agency meeting led by the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping team to support the most vulnerable people whose rough sleeping is long-term. The aim of the group is for professionals to support the work undertaken by the City of London commissioned Outreach team in sourcing collaborative, innovative and integrated solutions to individual rough sleepers who present with complex and difficult needs.

Through effective partnership working, the group aims to resolve areas of support that compound the individual's current homelessness. Some of those who are homeless on the City's streets can be the victims or perpetrators of ASB. The Group provides a multi-agency forum to plan an approach appropriate to the context and vulnerabilities of individual circumstances.

7 Teams responding to ASB

The City of London Police are the Corporation's first responders and are responsible for dealing with ASB reports that fall outside of the remit of the City of London Corporation. This will include public disorder, crime, and nuisance behaviour.

Incidents where there is an immediate risk of harm to person or property must be reported to the police or other appropriate emergency service. Incidents of a criminal nature must be reported to the police, for example, drug dealing. The police are the lead response and investigatory service for criminal offences. The City Corporation will work closely with the police and will consider criminal behaviours when investigating an anti-social behaviour case.

Within the City Corporation services including the Housing Service, Public Protection, City Operations, and Community and Children's Services respond to ASB. The Community Safety Team provides professional support to services where enforcement action may be necessary.

7.1 Housing

Social landlords are responsible for managing ASB on their estates.

The City Corporation's has a separate [Housing Services Anti-social Behaviour Policy](#) in relation to ASB affecting its residents, or which relates to, or affects, its ability to manage its estates and related premises. Anti-social behaviour is prohibited by the City's tenancies, leases and licences. The policy describes how housing management staff will deal with breaches of these agreements by residents and others who commit acts of anti-social behaviour

The Housing Service will investigate and respond to:

- ASB incidents (including environmental ASB) that occur in the City Corporation's Housing Revenue Account (HRA) housing estates, the City of London and Gresham Alms houses, and commercial properties managed as part of HRA estates
- ASB that affects residents and their households or visitors, commercial tenants, City of London Corporation staff, agents, and contractors
- Disputes between the City Corporation's Housing tenants.

Estates managed by other social landlords will be subject to the policies and action of that landlord.

The Barbican Estate office is responsible for the residential management of the Barbican Estate.

7.2 Port Health and Public Protection

The responsibilities of the City Corporation's Port Health and Protection team include regulatory activity in relation to licensing, trading standards, street cleansing and noise. Where issues they investigate amount to ASB, they may serve Community Protection Warnings and notices or any power utilised as specified by the Antisocial Behaviour Crime

and Policing Act 2014. Their approach is set out in the [Port Health and Public Protection Policy Statement on Enforcement](#). It includes:

- Protecting consumers and working with businesses to bring them into compliance with licensing legislation
- Enforcing all noise and nuisance legislation (there is a service level agreement with the Street Environment Team to provide an out-of-hours noise response)
- Ensuring that all licensed premises comply with legislative provisions and promote the licensing objectives for the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm
- The enforcement of illegal street trading and buskers.

7.3 Pollution Control Team

The Pollution control team will respond to and investigate most complaints of noise or requests for advice including those related to construction sites, street works, bars and clubs, building plant, air conditioning, servicing of commercial premises, audible intruder and vehicle alarms.

Details of the team's response to noise – and how noise complaints can be made - can be found [here](#).

7.4 City Operations

The City Operations division provides a range of relevant activity to support the prevention and response to ASB, including:

- enforcement relating to littering, fly tipping, graffiti, flyposting, and other types of environmental ASB
- cleansing of ASB sites
- parking enforcement
- highway licensing.

Reports can be made to the City Corporation's Switchboard (020 7606 3030) or via the Online Service Enquiry form [Online Service Enquiry Form - Online Enquiry - My City \(cityoflondon.gov.uk\)](#).

7.5 Community Safety Team

The Community Safety Team responds to referrals from the City Police, other City Corporation departments and external agencies working in the City to provide specialist advice, guidance and support with enforcement in relation to ASB.

It co-ordinates multi-agency responses to ASB, where responsibility for investigation needs a collaborative approach.

Examples of cases that the Community Safety Team will oversee are:

- ASB incidents that pose a risk to individuals or the community
- ASB that is taking place in any public place or place to which the public have access that poses a risk to individuals or the community.

7.6 City of London Police

The City police specialises in ASB involving criminal behaviour and can be reported to the Police [online](#) or by calling 101 for non-emergencies, or 999 in an emergency. The 999 number should only be used when:

- it is an emergency
- a crime is in progress
- someone suspected of a crime is nearby
- there is danger to life
- violence is being used or threatened.

The City police can receive complaints relating to all types of ASB, and where they are more relevant to another service or team will refer them onward.

ASB can also be reported to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. Those making reports can choose to remain anonymous. This will be taken into consideration by officers when undertaking an investigation.

8 Publicity and data control

The City of London Corporation Communications Team will, wherever appropriate, liaise with Police press offices to publicise its work, to promote positive case outcomes and reassure residents of its ability to tackle and prevent ASB.

8.1 Information sharing and confidentiality

Information sharing should not be seen as a barrier to successful action. In cases where informed consent is not given (i.e., a request for information is made without the subject's knowledge or consent), for the prevention of crime and disorder or to protect vulnerable people, lack of consent should not be seen as a barrier to action.

The City of London Corporation will treat all information received with the strictest of confidence. At times it is imperative to understand that, in certain circumstances, we may have a legal obligation to share relevant information with other statutory agencies, especially where there is a need for the prevention and detection of crime or safeguarding concerns.

We have a duty to share information with partnership agencies as defined in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and data-sharing protocols.

8.2 Crime and Disorder Act 1998

Section 115 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 allows for the exchange of information where the disclosure is necessary or expedient for the purposes of any provision of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, or amendments to that legislation.

The information, whether from a private individual or a member of a public body, can be disclosed to a relevant authority or a person acting on behalf of such an authority.

Under the Act, the City of London has the Community Safety Partnership information-sharing protocol.

8.3 Data Protection Act 2018

The non-disclosure provision of the Data Protection Act 2018 does not apply where a disclosure is for the purposes of (section 29):

- the prevention and detection of crime, or
- the apprehension or prosecution of offenders,
- where failure to disclose would be likely to prejudice those objectives in a particular case.

To satisfy these terms, any request for personal information, where the purpose is the prevention or detection of crime, should specify as clearly as possible how failure to disclose would prejudice this objective.

For example, if a social landlord wanted information from the police to assist them in civil proceedings, their request should make it clear why the proceedings are necessary and how a successful action could prevent crime.

8.4 Human Rights Act 1998

Article 8(1) of the Human Rights Act 1998 states that everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home, and his correspondence. This right is not absolute – interference can be justified in the interests of the prevention of disorder or crime.

9 Monitoring the service

9.1 Case supervision

Every agency in the City with responsibility to investigate ASB has its own service standards and procedures. However, the manager or nominated officer will conduct reviews of cases and will consider that:

- service standards have been/are being adhered to
- all actions arising during the case investigation are accurately recorded
- all avenues of investigation have been explored, with all witnesses contacted and any problem-solving opportunities considered
- all documents, letters, statements, and evidence have been scanned and attached to the case, and all hard copy documents retained for the potential of future legal action
- all guidance and direction previously provided to the investigating officer has been actioned and cases are progressing in accordance with any planned timescales.

9.2 Complaints

The City of London Corporation is committed to always providing the best possible service, but sometimes mistakes are made. If this happens, we want customers to contact us and let us know.

Where complaints cannot be resolved by local managers and exhaust the Corporation's complaints procedure, complainants will be referred to either the Local Government Ombudsman, depending on the case issues and the complainant's tenure.

If an individual or organisation has a complaint, compliment, or comment about the City of London Corporation, they can talk to the member of staff concerned or the relevant team manager. Contact details will be provided for all teams.

9.3 Performance monitoring

The performance of this policy will be monitored by the ASB Strategic Delivery Group, that sits under the Safer City Partnership.

The group will ensure that all collated performance data is purposeful and adds value to the work of the organisation insofar as it ensures that senior managers and key partners are fully informed of ASB performance and can be used to influence procedural improvements.

Data relating to enquiries and cases logged within the City of London Corporation Community Safety Team's case management systems will be extracted through tailored reports for performance measurement, management purposes and corporate monitoring.

9.4 ASB policy review

This document will be reviewed on an annual basis, as a minimum, to ensure that it remains relevant and up to date.

Appendix 1: Reporting Crime or Anti-Social Behaviour in the City of London

Reporting ASB to the City of London Police

- Emergency – 999
- Non-emergency – 101
- Online [Home | City of London Police](#)

Reporting ASB to the City of London Corporation

- Switchboard – 020 7606 3030
- Online Service Enquiry form [Online Service Enquiry Form - Online Enquiry - My City \(cityoflondon.gov.uk\)](#)

Specific issues

Drug dealing

The dealing of drugs is a serious criminal offence and needs to be reported to the Police in the first instance.

ASB: City of London Corporation tenants and leaseholders

If ASB is happening on a Square Mile estate or block, please report this to the City of London Police and the City Corporation's [Golden Lane](#), [Middlesex Street](#) or [Barbican Estate](#) Office Teams.

If you are a City Corporation tenant or leaseholder and live outside the City of London, please contact [your estates team](#) and the Metropolitan Police Service

ASB: Guinness Partnership tenants and leaseholders

If the ASB you wish to report is not one that requires an immediate call to the City of London Police and concerns an issue where you live, please report this directly to [Guinness Partnership\(external link\)](#).

Noise nuisance

You can report incidents of noise via the City Corporation's [noise pollution](#) page.

If you are in the Square Mile and being disturbed by noise **now** call 020 7606 3030. This is a 24-hour service available every day of the year.

Fly tipping and graffiti

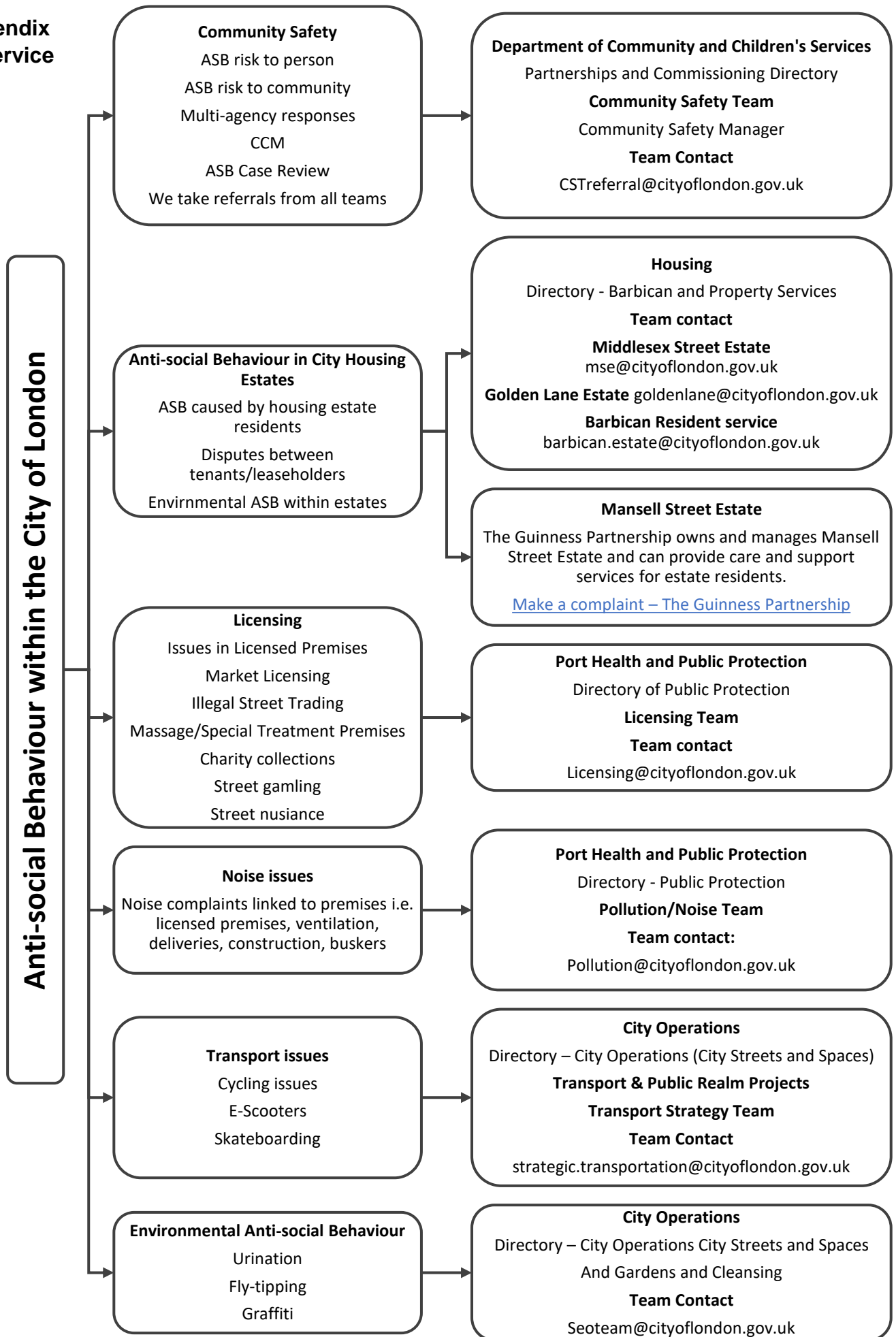
You can report dumped rubbish, fly tipping and graffiti using this [Fault Reporting Form\(external link\)](#).

Encampments and rough sleeping

Please note that rough sleeping alone is not considered ASB. Visit the City Corporation's [rough sleeping](#) page to get more information on how to support a person who is homeless. If you are concerned about a rough sleeper, or sleeping rough yourself, you can report this online using the [Streetlink\(external link\)](#) website

Encampments are tents or temporary shelters put up by individuals and/or groups – and are often associated with rough sleeping. If this causes nuisance, alarm and/or distress to other people it can be regarded as ASB.

Appendix 2: Service map



Crime and safety grants – 2023/24 and 2024/25

Summary

This paper summarises the five grants currently funding crime and safety initiatives in the City. Two of these are ‘internal’ grant-making initiatives controlled by the Safer City Partnership and Police Authority team respectively, the other three are Home Office grants that all end – or are not confirmed beyond – 1 April 2025. Grant spend is detailed in full at *Annex 1*.

Broadly, grant funding appears to be well-aligned with the City’s main crime and safety issues but – as below – the SCP Board is asked for views on this, where we might look to invest further over 2024/25 (or beyond), and how we ensure the SCP properly captures the net impacts of this spend.

Background on grants

- *SCP POCA* – This is funding the Safer City Partnership receives from the City of London’s Proceeds of Crime Act allocations. It previously received an automatic transfer of 10% of the overall allocation (90% being retained by the City Police), but due to an increasing unspent reserve (currently totalling c.£200k) it was decided that SCP would in future need to bid for further funding. The SCP re-commenced its grant making in 2023/24, open to internal and external bids that support all seven SCP priorities and with an emphasis on reducing serious violence, ASB, and reoffending.
- *PA team budget grants* – In 2023/24 the Police Authority began using its own budget to make grants supporting priority crime and safety issues. To date, this has largely been used to set up ‘out of court disposal’ programmes for lower-level offenders required under new national legislation, but it has also funded the ‘Touch DNA’ forensics initiative in our Serious Violence Strategy and will likely fund a joint MOPAC-City initiative to set up a victim voice panel.
- *Home Office Safer Streets Fund ‘bridge crime’ initiative* – in 2023/24 the City successfully led a multi-borough bid with Lambeth, Southwark, and Westminster councils for a range of initiatives to reduce crime on central London bridges. This funds City-specific initiatives to expand community safety patrols and CCTV coverage in buildings near bridges, increased patrols in other boroughs, and various cross-borough support and coordination for the initiative from the Safer Business Network. It ceases at the end of 2024/25.
- *Home Office Serious Violence Duty* – The Police Authority is receiving funding in 2023/24 and 2024/25 to implement the new Serious Violence Duty legislation. This can only be used for staff/admin costs and not for new initiatives.
- *Home Office ‘GRIP’ funding* – In 2024/25, the City will receive £1m Home Office funding for ‘hotspot’ initiatives targeting serious violence and anti-social behaviour. This can only be spent on a “uniformed presence” in hotspot crime areas or on certain things that facilitate these interventions, and City’s plans for the funding have already been agreed with the Home Office (see table below) and are being rolled out. Funding is uncertain beyond 2024/25.

SCP POCA funding

The table below summarises SCP POCA allocations and the current reserve.

	Opening Balance	Allocations	Running Balance
Balance Sheet			
		23/24	
	£	£	£
Safe City Partnership	£301,073.75		£301,073.75
CoLP - Operation Lewis		£29,495.00	£271,578.75
Safer Business Network		£50,000.00	£221,578.75
City of London Crime Prevention Association		£24,000.00	£197,578.75
NYE Stewarding		£5,605.00	£191,973.75
City of London Crime Prevention Association		£26,000.00	£165,973.75
Women's safe accommodation (approved in May 2024)		£50,000	
Total	£301,073.75	£185,100.00	£115,973.75
Current Balance	£115,973.75		

Applications for funding are anticipated in relation to:

- Operation Luscombe: creation of a role to support the operations aim to reduce begging, and more effectively target those with vulnerabilities to direct them to City support services or to those local authorities where they have entitlement (approx. £60,000)
- ASB enforcement patrols: expand the hours and times of the current patrols (provided by parkguard) as levels of all types of ASB enforced by the City Corporation and Police have increased. The ASB strategy group is supportive of this future bid. (approx. £40,000)

Commentary on grants

The grant funding being spent over 2023/24 and 2024/25 totals almost £2 million, although not all of this is to be spent in the City (c.£450k of 'bridge crime' funds support cross-borough work) and the majority of it (c. 80%) is constrained to very specific purposes by respective Home Office grant conditions. It will be important to understand the net effect that this spend has had on crime and safety outcomes in the City, and the SCP should play a role in bringing this analysis together.

Although the grants fund a wide range of initiatives, they predominantly address (in rough order) violent crime, ASB, neighbourhood crime, and reoffending. This aligns both with the SCP's priority areas and with the biggest issues (in terms of crime volumes) in the City. To this extent, there isn't an immediate need to 'rebalance' the allocation of funding, however it is worth discussing this at the SCP Board. Further, we should consider any remaining gaps which additional grant-making could address. These may include:

- Victims services / support – we are publishing a victim's strategy imminently, are there areas where SCP can aid this work with grants?
- Prevention – scope for 'whole system' prevention initiatives on e.g. housing, health, education, youth intervention are limited by the City's unique circumstances (very small resident population, vast majority of offenders non-resident), but these interventions can

often represent the highest value-for-money options to reduce crime. Where could we look to invest here?

- 'Facilitators' – are there areas where the SCP or PA team can improve things like data-gathering and sharing, analysis, coordination with additional grant-making?

Questions for SCP Board

1. Is current grant-spending correctly aligned with the City's biggest crime and safety issues?
2. Where, as above, might SCP and/or PA team focus on further grant-making?
3. How can the SCP ensure we properly assess the net effects of current grants on crime and safety outcomes?

Annex 1 – Detail of current crime and safety grant spending

NB – The below excludes ‘core’ grants received by the City Police from central government, such as the counter-terror grant, and also excludes the Late-Night Levy. Figures in the table below are rounded to the nearest £500.

Grant	Held / controlled by	£ 2023/24	£ 2024/25
SCP POCA	Safer City Partnership	129,500	TBD
<i>Safer Business Network VAWG initiative</i>		50,000	
<i>Taxi Marshalling Scheme 'Round 1'</i>		24,000	
<i>Taxi Marshalling Scheme 'Round 2'</i>		26,000	
<i>City Police Op Lewis anti-theft scheme</i>		29,500	
PA team budget grants	Police Authority	26,000	TBD
<i>"Offender pays" behavioural change programme</i>		2,000	
<i>Victim awareness courses for offenders</i>		4,000	<i>Likely to</i>
<i>Druglink substance misuse treatment programme</i>		5,500	<i>all be</i>
<i>Project PIPA domestic abuse perpetrator programme - NB PAUSED</i>		14,500	<i>continued</i>
<i>Touch DNA forensics</i>		12,000	<i>in</i>
			<i>2024/25</i>
Home Office Safer Streets Fund 'bridge crime' initiative	Police Authority	413,500	355,000
<i>Parkguard community safety patrols</i>		79,000	158,000
<i>CCTV installation</i>		25,000	37,500
<i>Non-City initiatives - SBN analyst, patrols in other areas, data-sharing</i>		309,500	159,500
Home Office Serious Violence Duty	Police Authority	100,000	100,000
<i>Admin / staff costs for implementation</i>		100,000	100,000
Home Office 'GRIP' SV and ASB hotspot initiatives	Police Authority	0	1,000,000
<i>Operation Vigilant in the night-time economy</i>			246,000
<i>CCTV monitoring staff</i>			152,000
<i>Acquisitive crime team patrols</i>			138,000
<i>Cycle team patrols</i>			112,000
<i>Dedicated Ward Officer patrols</i>			36,000
<i>Taxi and private hire compliance checks</i>			31,000
<i>CoLP analytical staff</i>			104,000
<i>[Transfer to SSF 'bridge crime' initiative]</i>			<i>[180,000]</i>
TOTAL		669,000	1,275,000