

Committee: Licensing Committee	Date: 10 April 2019
Subject: Violent Crime from Licensed Premises	Public
Report of: Chief Superintendent Maleary	For Information
Report author: T/Chief Inspector J Wynne	

Summary

This is a report from the City of London Police for the Licensing Committee to update on crimes committed linked to Licensed Premises from January – March 2019.

Recommendation

- Note the report.

Current Position

Violence Against Persons

Violence Against Persons (VAP) offences linked to Licensed Premises since January 1st 2019 have been examined – there have been 86 offences in or outside Licensed Premises. 17 offences in January, 41 in February and 28 in March (until 25th March 2019) – indicating increasing levels of reporting associated with Licensed Premises.

In most months, the majority of VAP offences at Licensed Premises are Common Assaults, although February does prove the exception to this. The increase in February reporting is primarily due to an increase in ABH in this month. Increase of 200% (+12 offences).

Common Assaults are typically committed via Pushing or Punching (although lower levels of spitting, throwing items, slapping, pulling hair were all reported). The majority of GBH offences involved the use of a bottle or glass by the suspect within the venue. Majority of ABH offences involve suspect punching the victim.

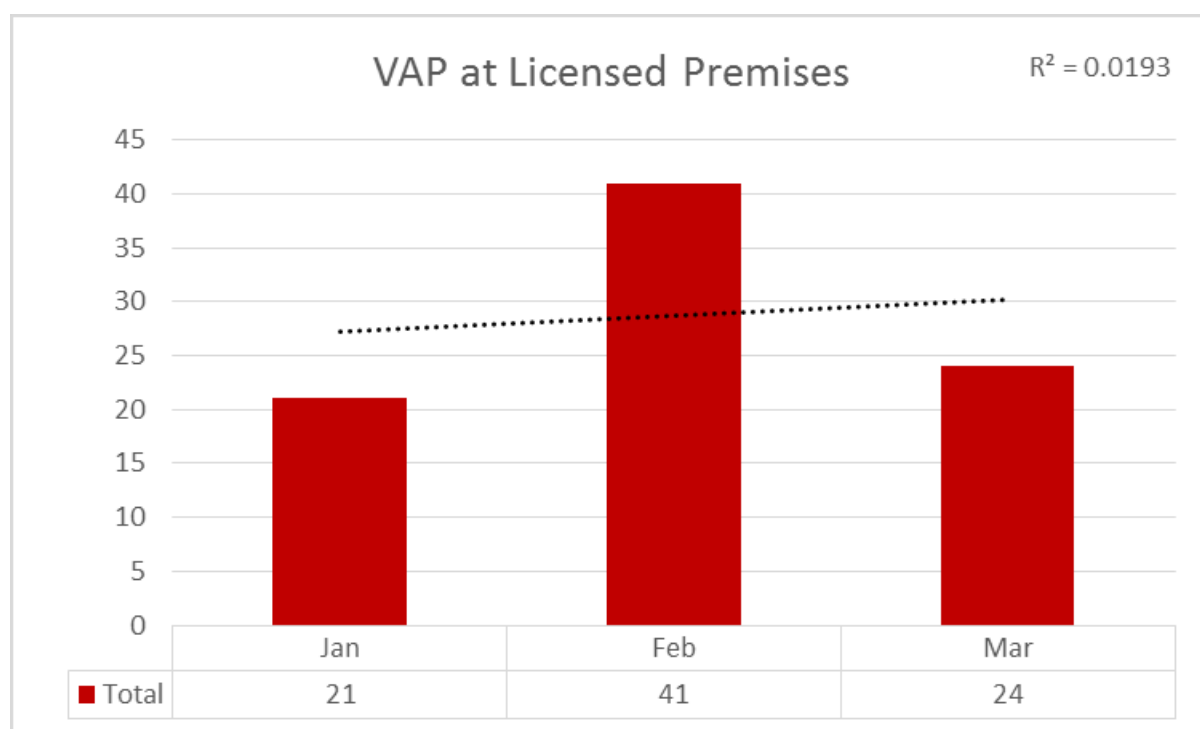
Late night operating procedures (restricting access to toilets, poor queue organisation and customers not being allowed to eat in venue) appear to be common triggers in a number of offences.

Thursday, Friday and **Saturday** nights account for 68 offences (79.1%) of VAP at Licensed Premises. VAP offending at Licensed Premises is typically during NTE hours (1800-0600) – with the peak hours of **2200-0000** and **0100-0200** accounting for 52 offences (60.5%).

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The number of offences does not include those where individuals involved in VAP crime (victim or offender) have been drinking at City Licensed Premises prior to an offence at a different location, this is despite alcohol consumption at these venues undoubtedly playing a role in these offences.

Illegal parking outside of venues has also been recorded at a very low level as a trigger for VAP offence.



Stats Class Description	January	February	March
Assault - S18 - GBH grievous bodily harm with intent	3	3	0
Assault - S20 - GBH Grievous bodily harm without intent	0	2	0
Assault - S39 - Common assault	10	13	15
Assault - S47 - AOABH assault occasioning actual bodily harm	6	18	3
Cause administer poison with intent to injure / aggrieve / annoy	0	1	1
Public Order - S2 Harassment without violence	1	0	0
Racially / religiously aggravated common assault	0	0	1
Robbery - Personal	0	0	2
Sex - Assault a female 13 and over by penetration with part of body / a thing - SOA 2003	0	0	1
Sex - Rape a woman 16 years of age or over - SOA 2003	1	1	0
Sex - Sexual assault on a female - SOA 2003	0	3	1

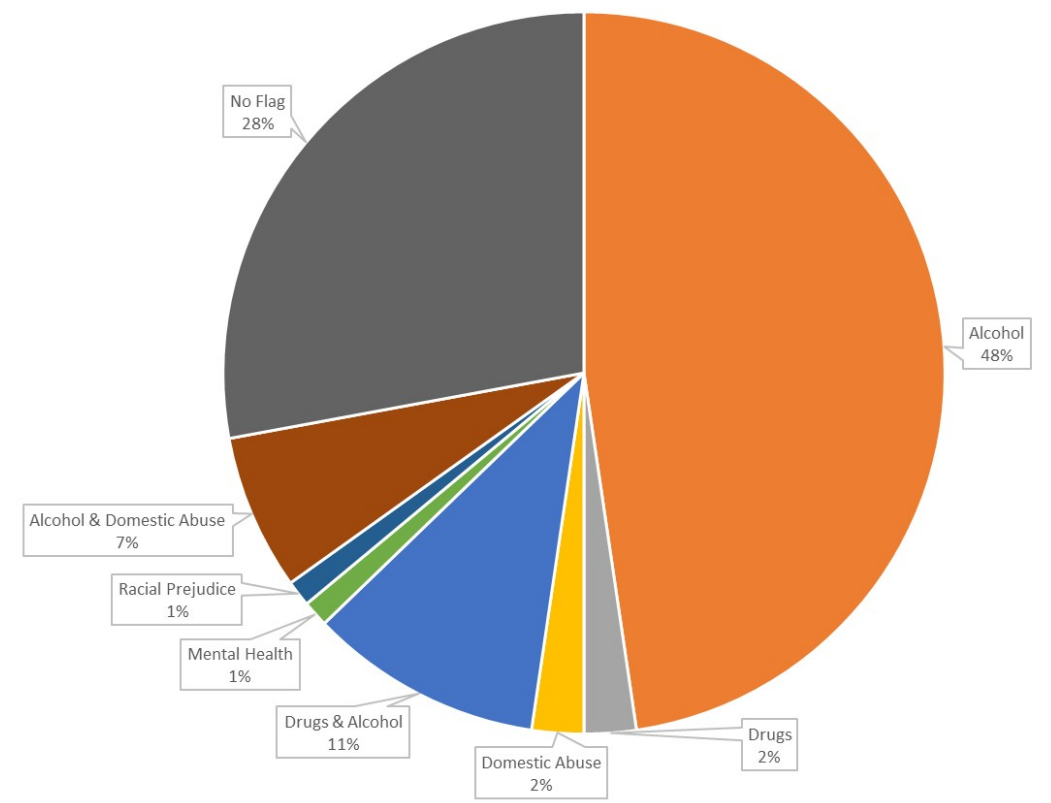
Offence Type: The majority of VAP offences reported each month at Licensed Premises are typically Common Assaults. However, February did see a noticeable increase in reporting of ABH offences at Licensed Premises with additional increases in Sexual Assaults and GBH with Intent.

MO Sexual Assaults & Rape Offences: 7 offences over the period in question – 2 offences (rape and attempted rape) were based at hotels whilst the remaining 5 took place at bars. Only 1 repeat venue however both crimes related to a singular incident. Only 1 case in which the victim knew the offender – allegation of rape made by girlfriend against boyfriend whilst they were staying at a hotel. Sexual Assaults MO mostly touching over clothes in buttocks/inner thigh/genitals area. Alcohol consumption in both victim and suspects appears to be a contributing factor in all offences.

GBH Offences: 8 Offences reported in period – 5 of which occurred in February. All victims and offenders were male. 5 of the offences involved the offender using a bottle or glass against the victim inside the venue. No repeat venues for GBH. 1 incident relates to the victim knowing the offender. All other incidents were stranger assaults. Alcohol has been a factor in all offences with a variety of triggers initiating assaults (knocking over a box of chicken, disagreement over song choice, celebrating a goal whilst watching a football match, advising offender to leave females alone, domestic dispute, removal of intoxicated customer from premises).

Common Assault: 39 offences (only 1 racially aggravated). 21 offences (53.8%) involved staff – either as suspects or victim, 4 offences (10.3%) involved domestic partners, 3 offences (7.7%) involved persons known to each other as friends or work colleagues whilst in the remaining offences victims and suspects were strangers. Alcohol did appear to again be a contributing factor in the majority of offences. MO is predominantly pushing or punching, however lower levels of slapping, pulling hair, grabbing face/throat, spitting and throwing items all reported.

Reasons for VAP Offences at Licensed Premises



Thefts

Thefts from Licensed premises since January 1st 2019 have been examined, it appears that there has been a sharp increase in the number of reported incidents. In January, a total of 40 theft offences were reported, 75 were reported in February and 71 in March (until 25th March 2019).

Offenders have typically targeted unattended high-value items across multiple venues in the City.

These number of offences do not include distraction type offences within licensed premises. A separate number of distraction thefts within licensed premises have been recorded as: approximately 10 per month since January. The main MO involved in these offences are by suspects placing a map or a piece of paper over an unattended mobile phone.

SUSPECT MO for Thefts from Licensed Premises: All of these offences have occurred within the Licensed Premises. All offences have occurred in close proximity to the victim whereby they have left items unguarded for a period of time.

The most common MO for thefts within licensed premises have been:

Targeting items on the floor – 38% (71 offences)

Targeting items within an unguarded bag – 20% (38 offences)

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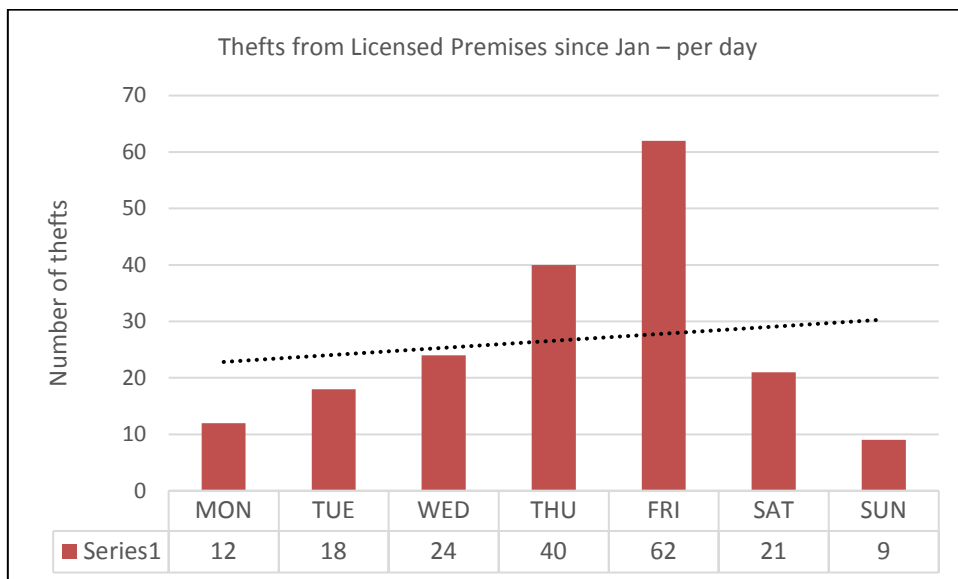
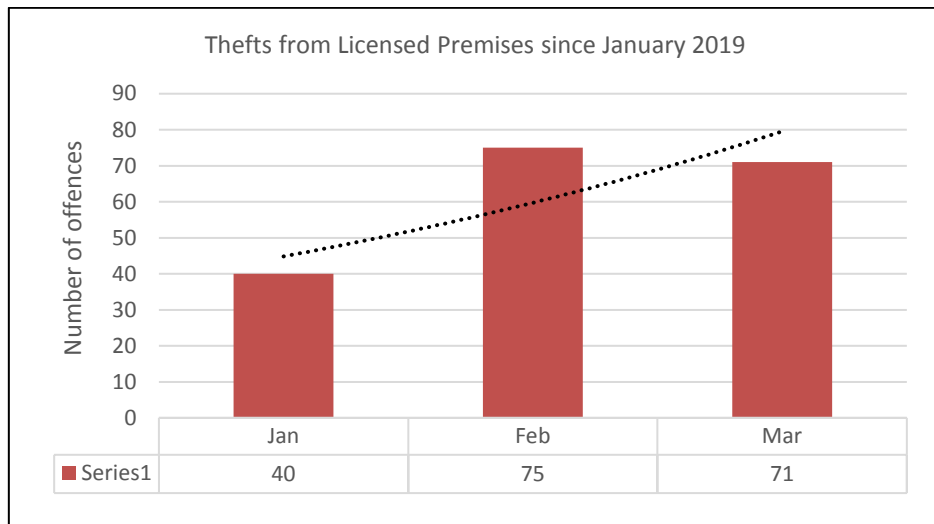
Stealing items left on tables – 18% (34 offences)

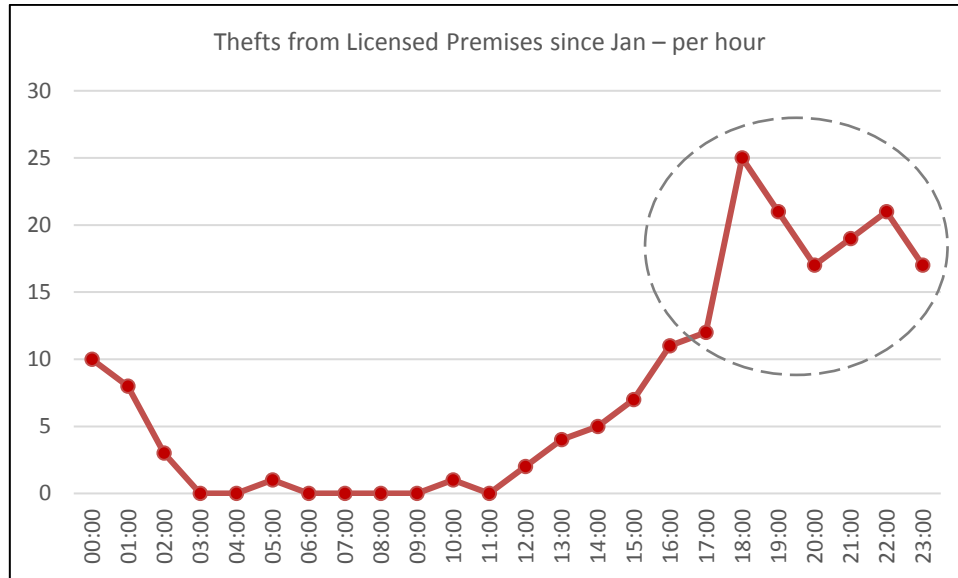
Pickpocketing items still on a person – 13% (24)

Stealing items on / behind chairs – 10% (10 offences)

STOLEN GOODS: The most commonly stolen items have been: bags which accounts for approx. 40%. Occasionally the bags contain laptops & debit / credit cards which are further used by suspects. In addition to this, bags are most commonly stolen from the floor (85%), wallets from inside bags (41%), phones from tables (61%).

VICTIM: Victims have been various ethnicities, genders and age. Some victims report being intoxicated at the time of offence which affects their recall.





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