

Committee(s):	Date(s):
Safer City Partnership	7 July 2020
Subject: Community Safety Team Update	
Report of: Head of Community Safety	For Information
Summary	
To update SCP members on Community Safety Team activity not otherwise addressed. Some of the key information repeats that provided in the update note of 3 June.	
Recommendation(s)	
Members are asked to note the report.	

Domestic Abuse

1. Since lockdown measures were imposed on March 23, one case has been heard (April 20) at the City of London Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). The case was referred by City of London Police based on professional judgement. The meeting was held virtually. Partners have been advised that the MARAC remains able to deal with referrals.
2. In addition, there has been one case which was transferred to another local authority and an information request relating to a case being dealt with by a neighbouring borough.
3. The next MARAC is due to take place via Microsoft Teams on 14 July, with one case currently referred.

Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls Update

4. In the early stages of lockdown, a Covid-19 webpage was created on the Corporation website specifically for residents to stay up to date with guidance and information on Coronavirus. Within this webpage there is a page dedicated to 'Domestic Abuse: Information and Support'. The page includes specific guidance on domestic abuse and support services, which is constantly being reviewed and updated. As well as this, information for domestic abuse services

has been included within the City estates newsletter, reaching all residents either electronically or via a hard copy.

5. Before the Coronavirus pandemic, domestic abuse training had started to be delivered to all staff and managers working on the City of London housing estates. The housing estate staff and managers who have attended the training will have an understanding and awareness of domestic abuse, including potential signs, barriers to reporting and signposting for specialist support. It is intended to refresh the training package to include learning from the lockdown period, for example how we can promote services and provide advice over the phone for those victims not able leave their property.
6. Posters with information for domestic abuse services were also distributed across the City of London housing estates. As the estates are within different London boroughs the posters provided national helpline numbers, however within the estates located within the City of London we distributed information for local domestic abuse services.
7. An article was also produced for the Business Healthy newsletter informing businesses what support is available for employees/colleagues who may be affected by domestic abuse. The article included a list of different services and useful information. The article linked to the Spotting the Signs toolkit for further information
8. The City Police have been conducting welfare checks on City residents who are known to police/social services/Victim Support as vulnerable. For those known to be in current or previous abusive relationships these checks by the City Police provide an important reassurance.
9. During this period there has been considerable concern about the digital divide, with some not able to access the internet. This saw us revert to the use of posters in key locations and we were very grateful to our local LFB for physically distributing these to shops and pharmacies.
10. As lockdown restrictions are eased a domestic abuse campaign aimed at residents will be delivered, helping to ensure victims of domestic abuse are able to access support services when coming out of isolation. The campaign will promote the message to victims that they have not been forgotten.
11. The Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance steering group have set up a process for a case conference to be held for each case of domestic abuse from the City housing estates. This is to ensure all the appropriate steps and measures have been taken. This has been progressed as a result of Covid-19 to ensure all partners are continuing to work together. This will now be part of the business as usual model.
12. Information relating to domestic abuse will be distributed to the schools within the City for when they reopen. The information will provide support staff returning to work who may have been affected by abuse as well as students and parents/carers.

13. There is also work under development to help support the wider City business community in this area as people return to work.

Transitional Safeguarding

14. A joint task and finish group across City and Hackney has been set up by the Safeguarding Adults Board, Community Safety Partnerships in City of London and Hackney and the Safeguarding Children's Partnership. The role of the group is to identify the key issues and gaps in safeguarding service provision for young people aged 16 – 25 years. The subsequent aim is to identify what potential improvements can be made to better support young people to meet their safeguarding needs.
15. The group undertook a scoping exercise of two key areas: 1) what services currently exist in City and Hackney for young people aged 16 – 25 years old, and 2) how many young people may potentially be at risk of harm, abuse or exploitation, either now or in the future, including those with care and support needs.
16. Meetings are operating with partners virtually, with the next scheduled for 30th June/ This will host workshops for partners bringing together the work and research that has accumulated.
17. The group is meeting on a bi-monthly basis and aim to have findings and recommendations for partners towards the end of 2020.

City Community Multi Agency Risk Assessment (CCM)

18. The CCM meeting held on March heard two cases. No cases were heard in April or May but that held on 18 June heard four. The CCM is an important tool to support partnership problem solving around ASB and vulnerability and this will remain a key area for development.
19. The agenda item concerning the Community Trigger Action plan provides additional detail of work undertaken to strengthen the understanding and use of the CCM.

Prevent

20. There have been no Channel referrals since the February SCP meeting. However, we have tested our capacity to operate a Channel Panel and are confident the process could be managed remotely if required.
21. Work has been undertaken, with the support of colleagues from the Department of Community and Children's Services, to refresh staff understanding of how to raise concerns, and how to obtain advice. There has also been awareness raising work undertaken with the community given the potential of on-line radicalisation with an information pack containing advice and information being sent to various City of London Forums and community groups.

22. The Prevent Coordinator and City Police's Prevent usually work in tandem to promote Prevent training packages and awareness sessions to businesses, community groups, partner agencies and the education sector. However due to COVID 19, all face to face training sessions have been cancelled and the Home Office online package has been suggested as a temporary alternative. The Prevent coordinator is developing a presentation which can be accessed and delivered virtually to DCCS colleagues in August and CoLP new starters in September.
23. The Prevent coordinator attends bi-weekly virtual forums with the London Prevent Network, which includes all London Prevent coordinators and updates with partners such as, SO15 Counter-Terrorism Policing, Department of Education, NHS England Prevent and National Probation Service. Best practice, support for coordinators in delivering Prevent activity and national updates are the focus of this forum.
24. In June, an updated City of London Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP) was circulated to key internal partners. We hope this iteration will provide a basis on which we can make fuller use of partners knowledge and expertise.

Proceeds of Crime Act – SCP Fund

25. No applications have been received since the last meeting but there have been meetings with partners who are developing bids.
26. Further bids from SCP partners are encouraged where they meet our agreed outcomes and support partnership approaches.

Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) – London Marathon

27. Members will recall that the Court of Common Council approved the PSPO on 5 March. We now await information on when the London Marathon will be able to take place.
28. Work continues to have the City of London's first Public Space Protection Order in place for April 2020. The proposal has passed through the relevant City of London Corporation Committees and is currently out for public consultation. This concludes on 7 February and a verbal update will be provided at the meeting.

Serious and Organised Crime Board

29. The lockdown plus a long-term staffing issue has interrupted the work of this group. However, a CST colleague has agreed to take on this area and there have been discussions between the Chair of this group and City of London Police colleagues about restarting these meetings in the near future.

CST Staff Updates

30. Unfortunately, a member of the team began a long-term absence as lockdown commenced. I am very grateful to my colleagues for their commitment, hard work, enthusiasm and willingness to take on additional work over what has been a demanding period. This will also be my last meeting as I will be leaving the City of London Corporation in August.

Forthcoming Activity

Hate Crime Awareness Week – 10-17 October

David MacKintosh

Head of Community Safety

T: 020 7332 3084

E: david.mackintosh@cityoflondon.gov.uk