

CITY OF LONDON POLICE: OFFICIAL - RECIPIENT ONLY

Safer City Partnership Strategy Group Review Period November 2020 – January 2021

City of London Police Update
Supt Helen Isaac
City of London Police (Sector Policing)
February 2021

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Introduction

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

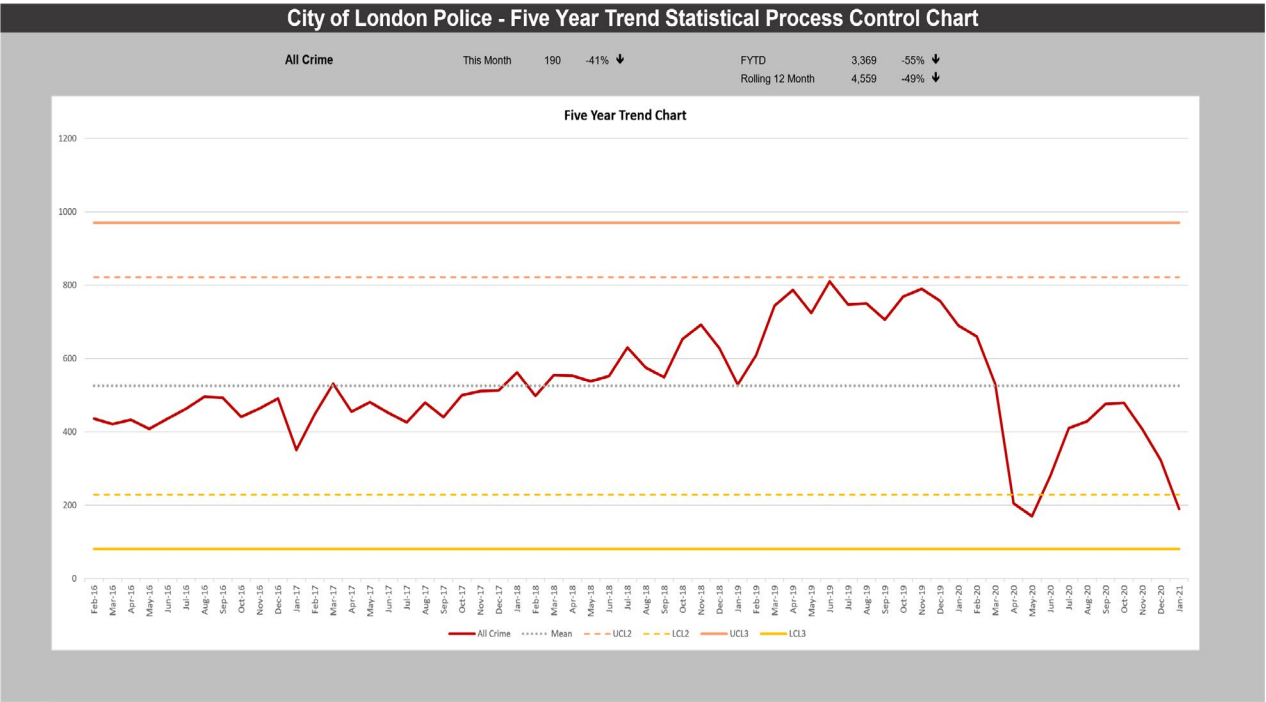
Working together we contribute to maintaining the City as the world's leading financial and business centre as well as being an attractive place to live, socialise and visit. Since its establishment the Safer City Partnership has played a key role in reducing crime and other harm.

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

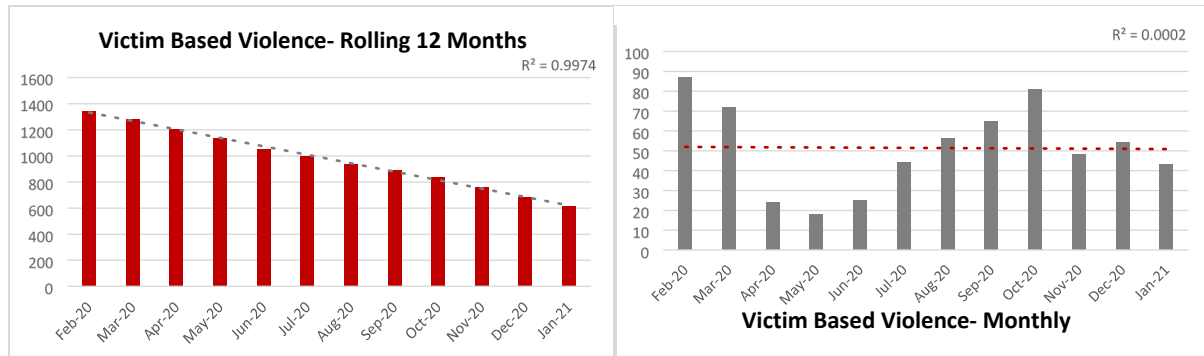
- **Violence Against the Person** – People are safe from violent crime and violence against the person
- **Night Time Economy Crime and Nuisance** – People are safe and feel safe in the night-time economy
- **Acquisitive Crime** – People and businesses are protected from theft and fraud/acquisitive crime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

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Five Year Crime Trend



Violence Against the Person

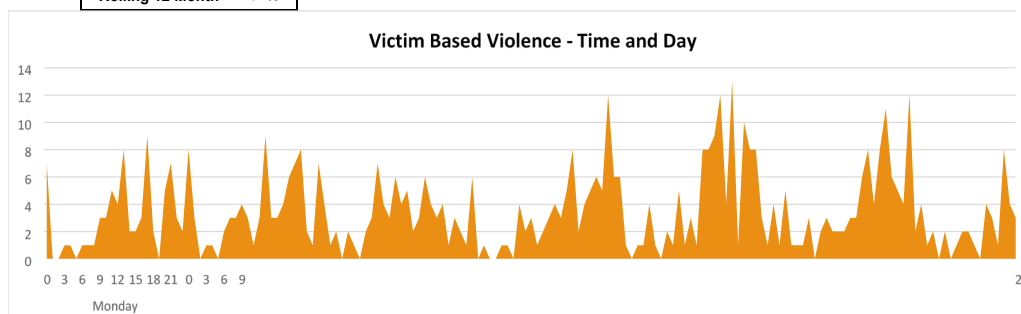


Change

* This Month -20%
* FYTD -59%
* Rolling 12 Month -54%

Detection Rate FYTD: 27%
Positive Outcome Rate FYTD: 29%

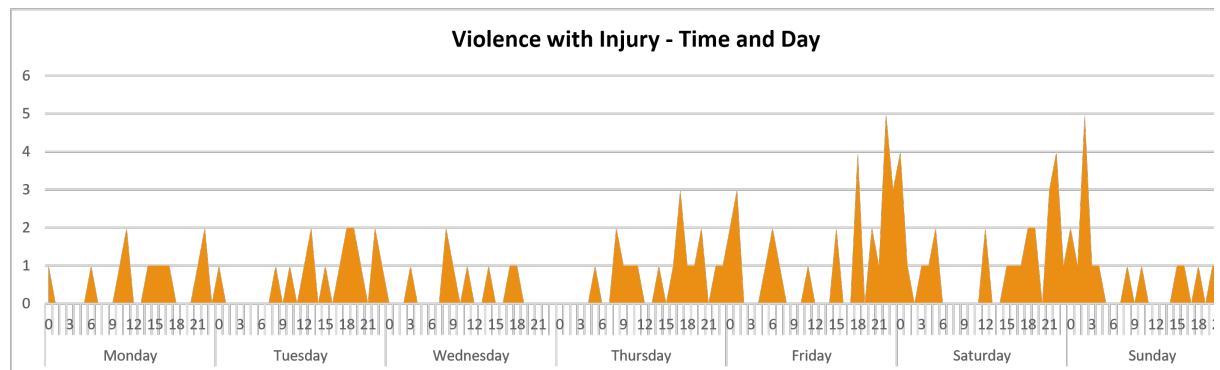
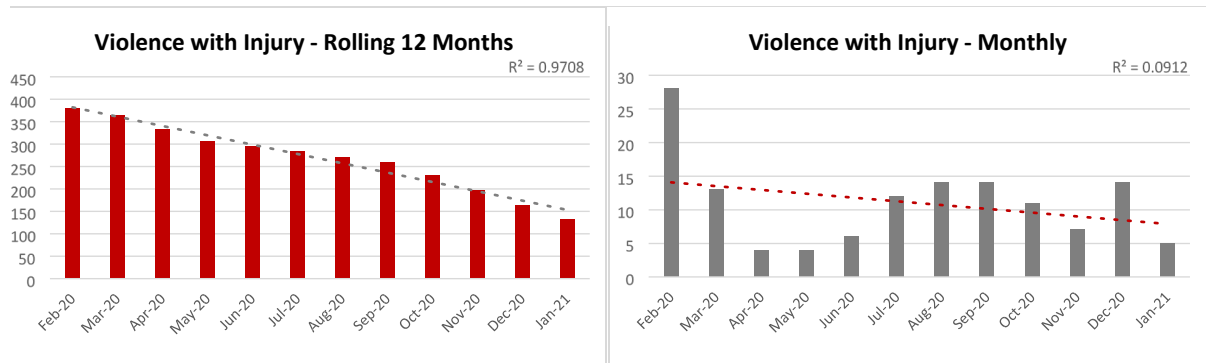
National Position: N/A



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

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Violence with Injury



* This Month -64%
* FYTD -72%
* Rolling 12 Month -66%

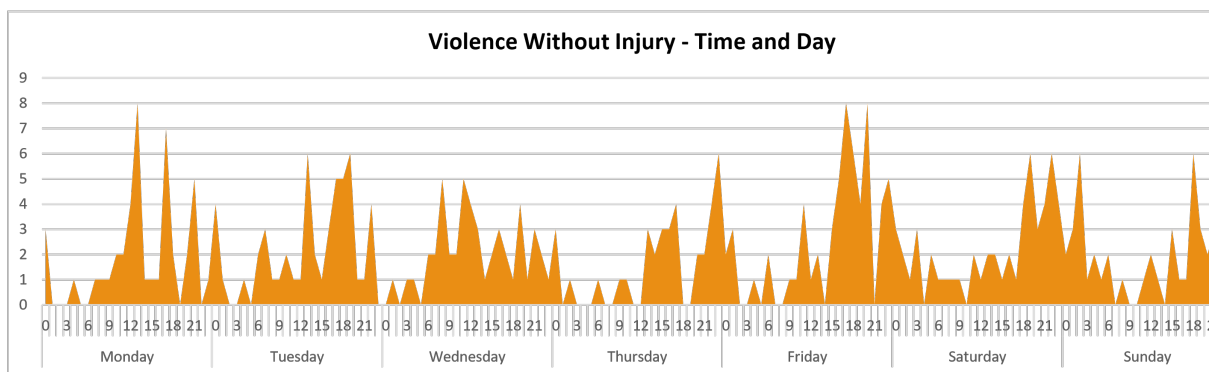
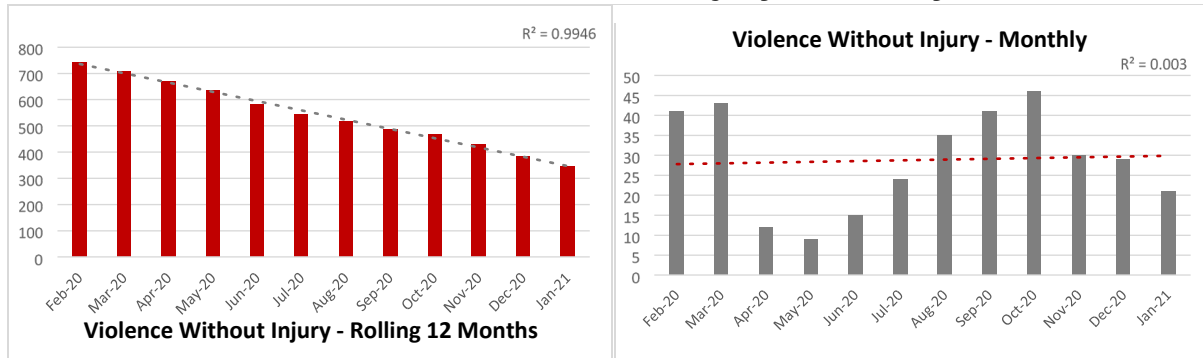
Detection Rate FYTD: 45%
Positive Outcome Rate FYTD: 48%

National Position: 1

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Violence without Injury

Violence Without Injury Summary



* This Month	-28%
* FYTD	-58%
* Rolling 12 Month	-54%

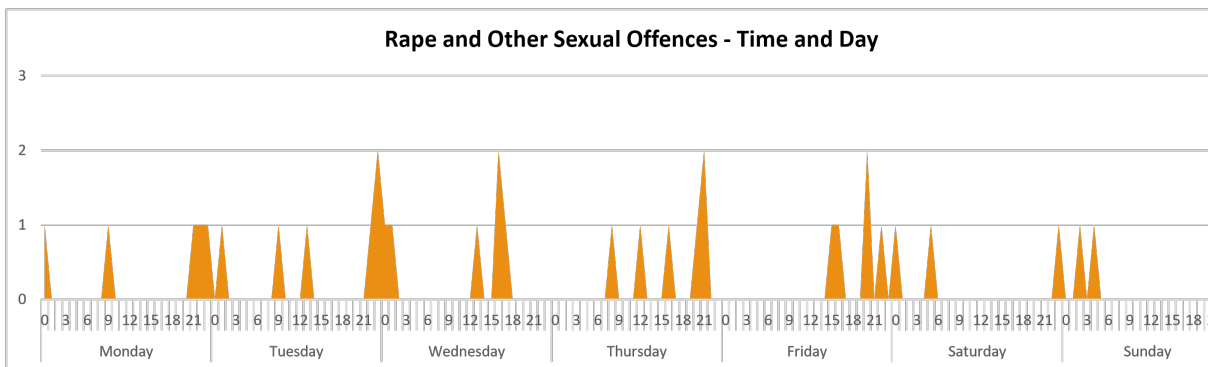
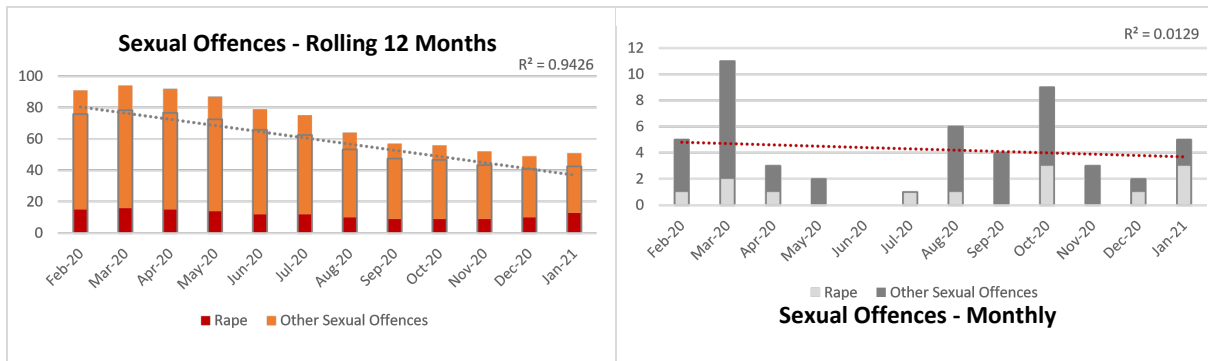
Detection Rate FYTD:	24%
Positive Outcome Rate FYTD:	26%

National Position:	1
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Rape & Sexual Offences

The FYTD has seen a 55% decrease in sexual offences, with an increase seen in August and again in October, most likely due to the lifting of more lockdown measures and more people being in the City.



* This Month	150%
* FYTD	-55%
* Rolling 12 Month	45%

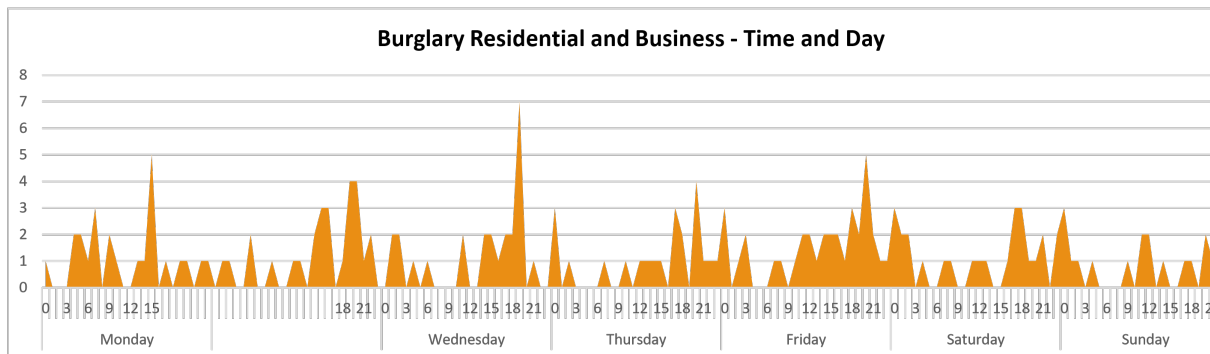
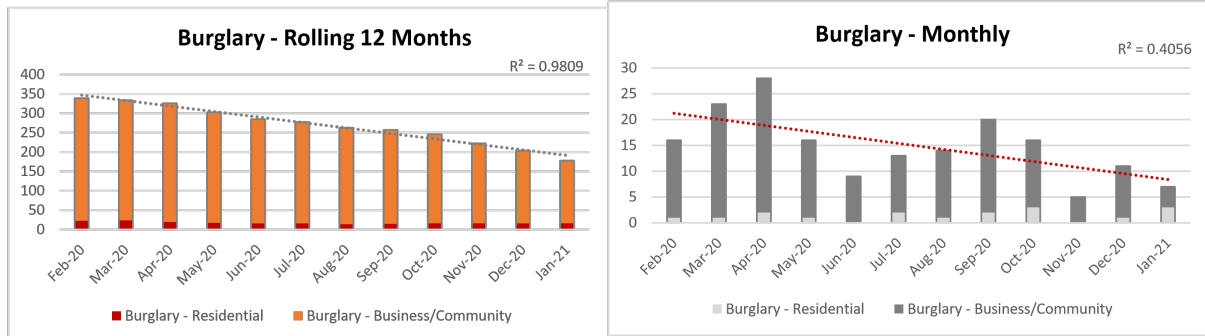
Detection Rate FYTD:	26%
Positive Outcome Rate FYTD:	26%

National Position:	1
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Acquisitive Crime

Burglary

The FYTD shows a 53% reduction with an increase in the summer months before falling back again in October. The impact of the second lockdown in November and the third in January can also be seen in the figures.



* This Month	-36%
* FYTD	-53%
* Rolling 12 Month	-49%

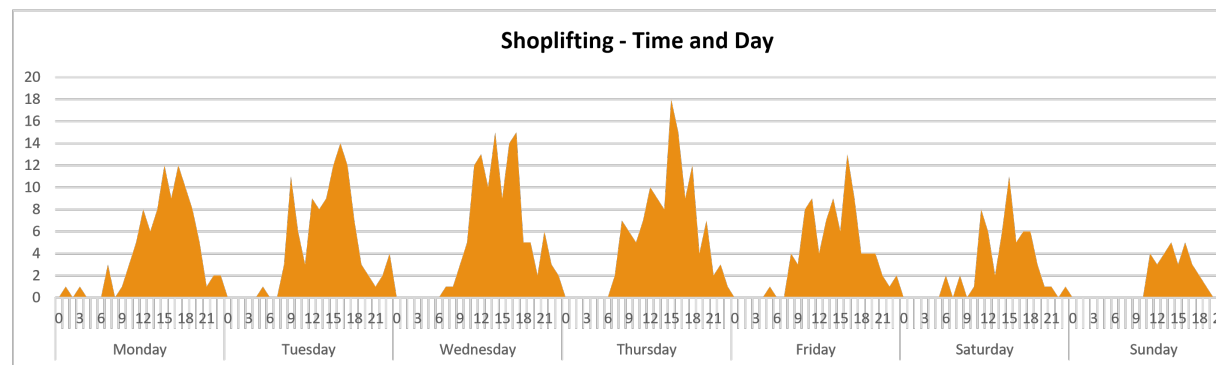
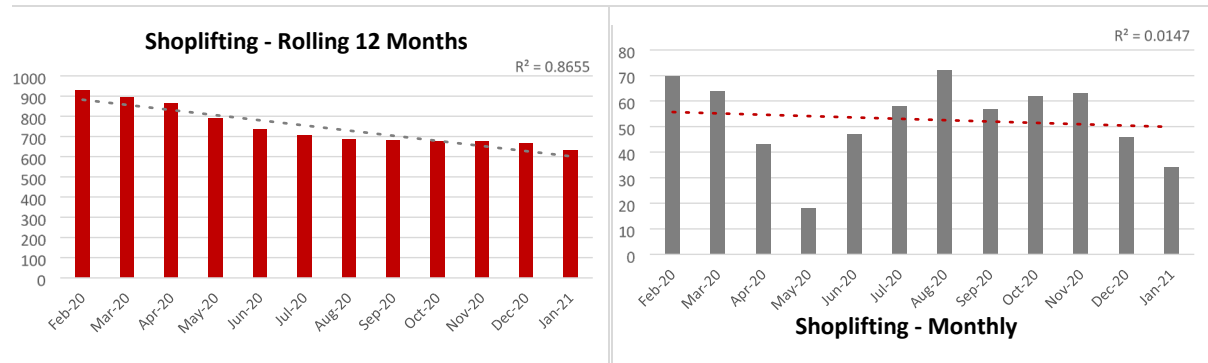
Detection Rate FYTD:	37%
Positive Outcome Rate FYTD:	37%

National Position:	1
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Shoplifting

City is on a 34% reduction FYTD. Seasonality shows higher levels of offending over the summer, though due to lockdown, fewer shops have been open. Alcohol, food and clothes remain the items commonly taken. After the first lockdown more shops reopened and offending continued to increase with the lifting of lockdown. The impact of the lockdown in January can also be seen in the figures.



* This Month	-26%
* FYTD	-34%
* Rolling 12 Month	-32%

Detection Rate FYTD:	32%
Positive Outcome Rate FYTD:	35%

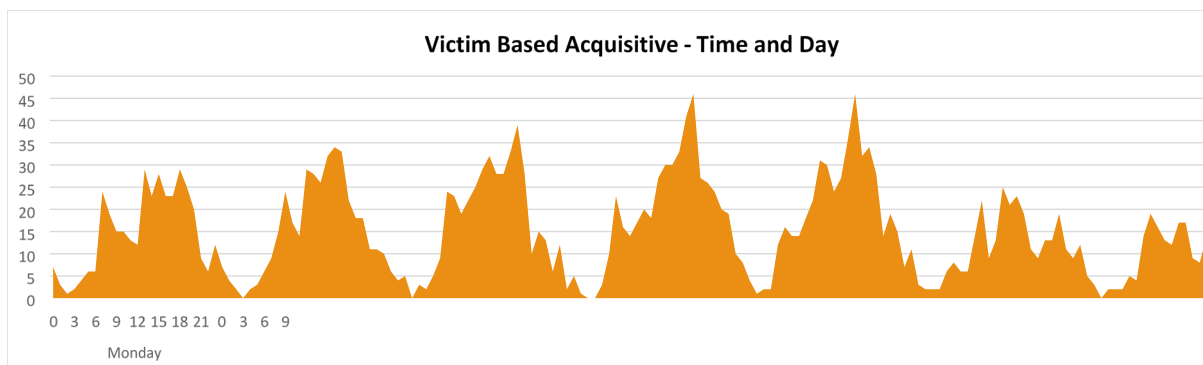
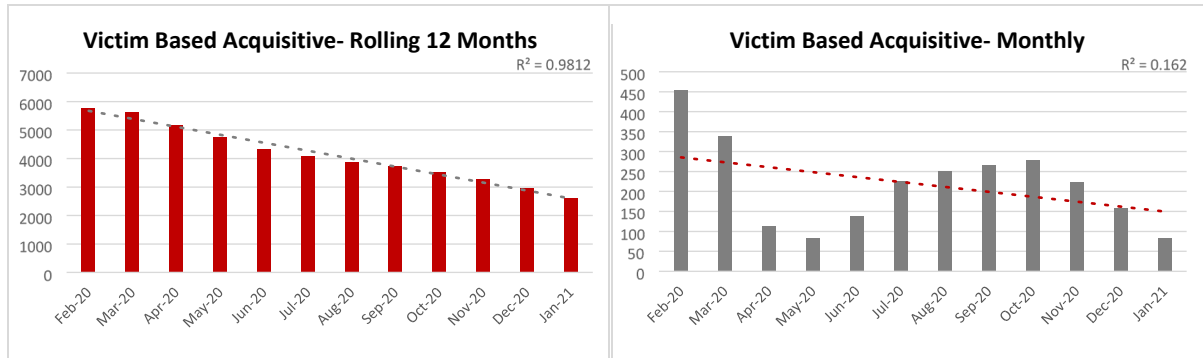
National Position:	15
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Theft from the Person

Offences have reduced for the FYTD by 62%.

Increase in offences since July with the reopening of shops & restaurants, followed by a decrease since the second lockdown in November.



* This Month	-47%
* FYTD	-62%
* Rolling 12 Month	-54%

Detection Rate FYTD:	16%
Positive Outcome Rate FYTD:	17%

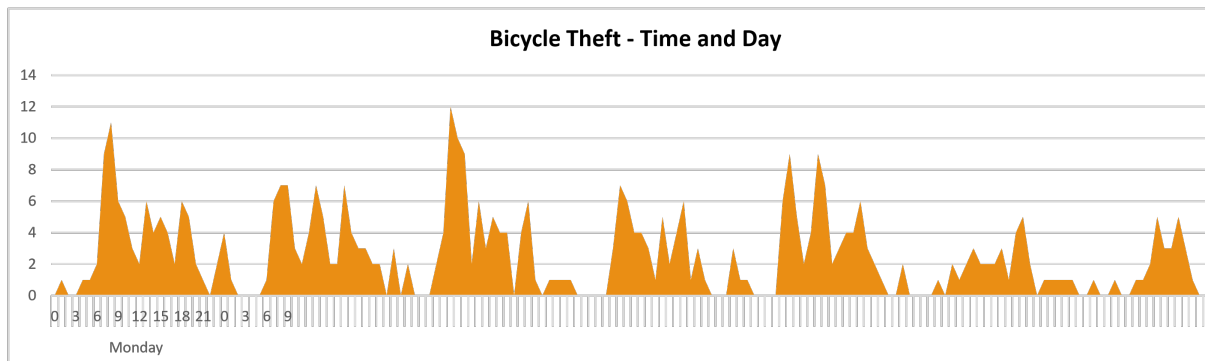
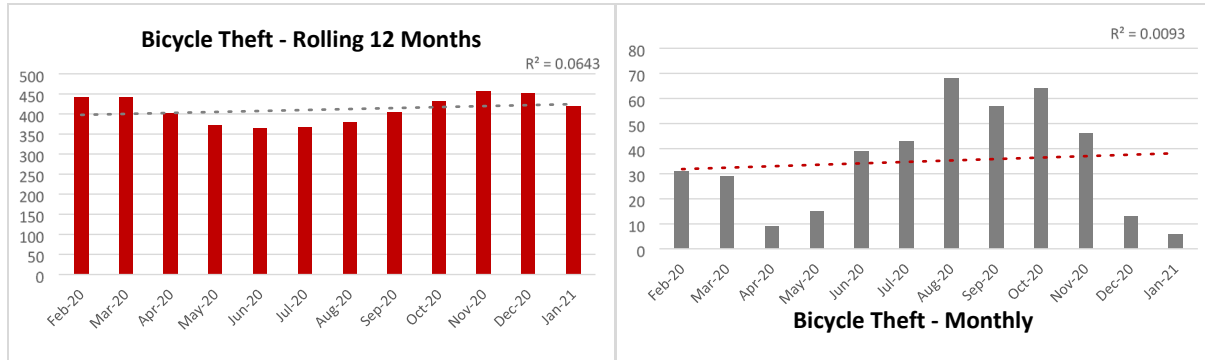
National Position:	N/A
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Bicycle Theft

Bicycle theft shows a 6% reduction FYTD.

Post the first lockdown, levels of offending were higher than those seen prior, with a seasonal rise in August continuing into September and October. The combined effort of a targeted police operation along with Covid restrictions are likely to be the cause of the sharp fall since December.



* This Month	-54%
* FYTD	-6%
* Rolling 12 Month	4%

Detection Rate FYTD:	5%
Positive Outcome Rate FYTD:	5%

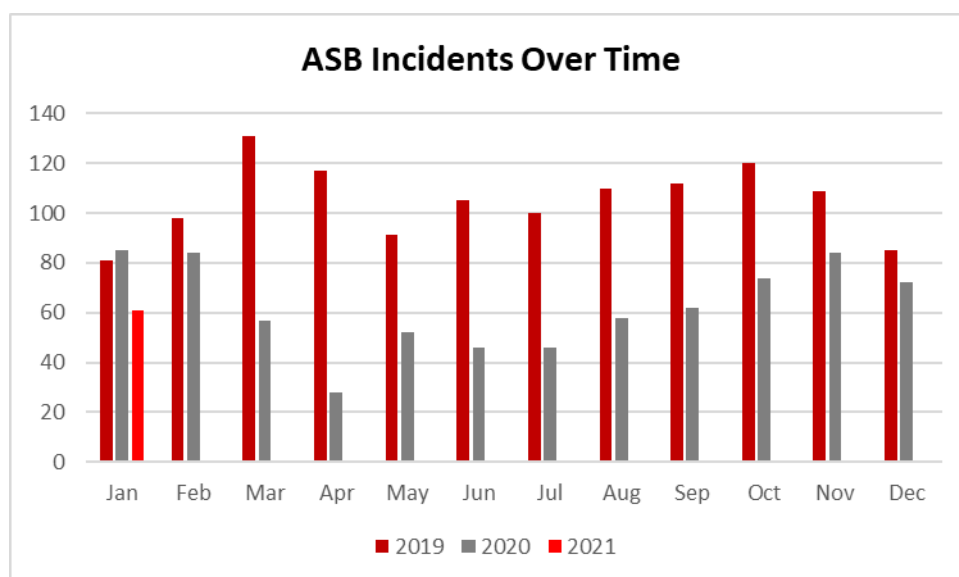
National Position:	38
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Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

1.1 Key Findings

- Levels of reporting decreased significantly during the first national lockdown and while they have increased since then remain lower than those experienced this time last year. We have not seen as sharp a decrease in December and January as we did in the first lockdown.
- The main type of ASB reported is Inconsiderate Behaviour which can cover many types of incident.
- One area that continues to be an issue from pre COVID reporting is groups (usually of young males) on bikes or skateboards behaving inconsiderately and potentially dangerously with key locations remaining in and around the Barbican and at the Castle Baynard Tunnel. Reports also now include the fact that these gatherings are in breach of COVID regulations.
- Other key incidents reported include noisy gatherings both inside and out breaching regulations and people refusing to leave buses at the end of the route.

1.2 ASB Incident Data by Month



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2019	81	98	131	117	91	105	100	110	112	120	109	85
2020	85	84	57	28	52	46	46	58	62	74	84	72
2021	61											

The number of ASB incidents reached a two year low in April 2020 when we were initially in lockdown in response to the Coronavirus pandemic, as restrictions eased levels increased again and we have not seen a similar decrease in January with the new lockdown. On average there have been 72 incidents reported a month between November and January.

These numbers remain lower than the number of incidents reported across the same period last year (23% reduction). If patterns from previous years are followed and as restrictions ease again we could see a steady increase in incidents between now and April/May.

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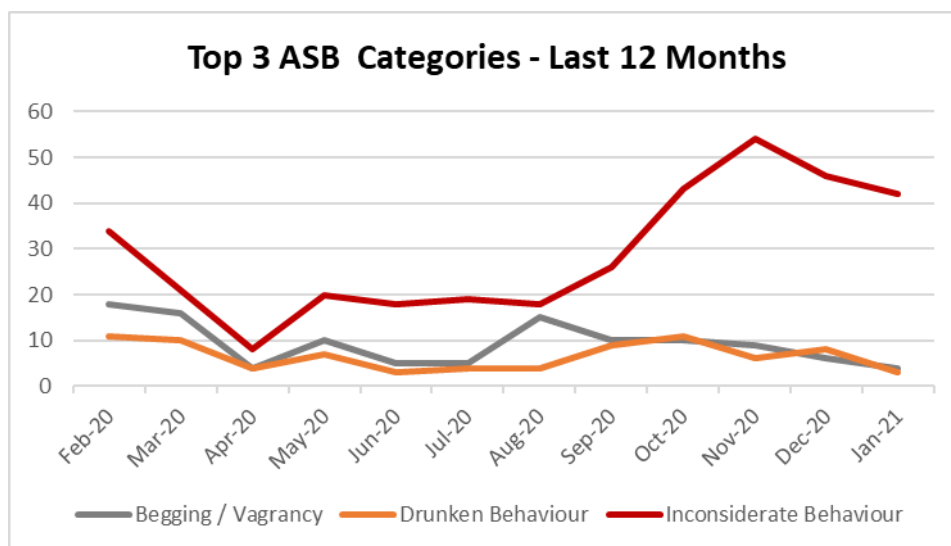
1.3 Data Breakdown November 2020 – January 2021

1.3.1 Highest Recorded Categories of ASB

In the current period **Inconsiderate Behaviour** (n=142) is the most reported category of ASB. The next most common are **Begging/Vagrancy** (n=19) and **Drunken Behaviour** (n=17). This is a return to usual categories after we saw an increase in **Noise Nuisance** complaints in and after the previous lockdown.

Noise nuisance is the fourth most reported category (n=14) followed by nuisance neighbours (n=7) suggesting that perhaps people are more aware of noises being made by their neighbours or are more sensitive to external noises during lockdown. With the last lockdown we didn't initially see these categories increase in the first month but reports began increasing as lockdown continued suggesting we could see a similar increase in coming months depending on when restrictions are eased.

After reviewing records classified as '**Inconsiderate Behaviour**' some records could have been recorded in other categories in the above table as they have referred to specific behaviours such as drunkenness, playing loud music, throwing objects etc. Categorisation is based on the recording officer's interpretation and where some incidents refer to multiple categories they may have been recorded against inconsiderate behaviour as a catch-all. This could explain why it is always the most prevalent category in data returns.



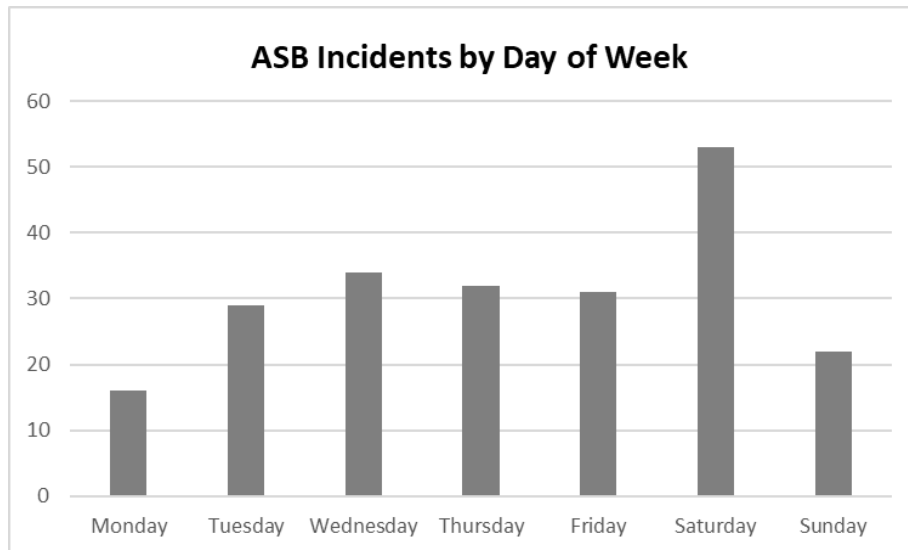
The above graph shows how inconsiderate behaviour reports saw a swift drop off as we went into the first lockdown and then a sharp increase through August-November. Whilst there has been a slight drop in December and January it is nowhere near what we saw with the previous lockdown. Both Begging/Vagrancy and Drunken Behaviour have remained at a lower level than before the initial lockdown throughout the year.

The main issue being raised in this period is groups of youths skateboarding or cycling and performing tricks either reported for noise nuisance, intimidating residents or breaching Covid regulations. People also report noisy gatherings either in the street or private residences that they believe to be in breach of regulations and there are several reports of individuals refusing to leave buses, cafes and licensed premises.

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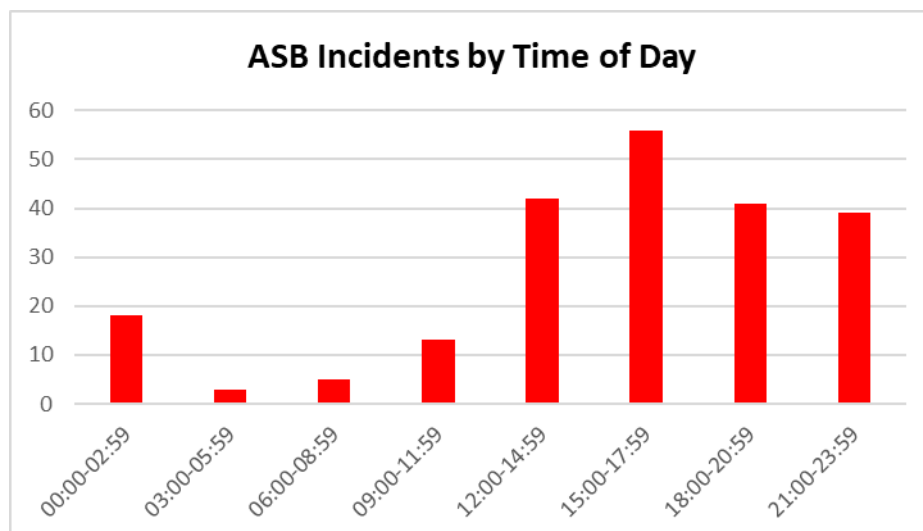
1.3.2 Days of Week

On average there have been two ASB incidents reported a day in the current period. Incidents are more commonly reported on Saturdays and lowest reporting levels occur on Sundays and Mondays.



1.3.3 Time of Day

Reporting of all ASB incidents in the current period are shown in the below graph broken down by three hour periods across the day. Incident reports occur most frequently from the afternoon into the evening peaking between 15:00-17:59.



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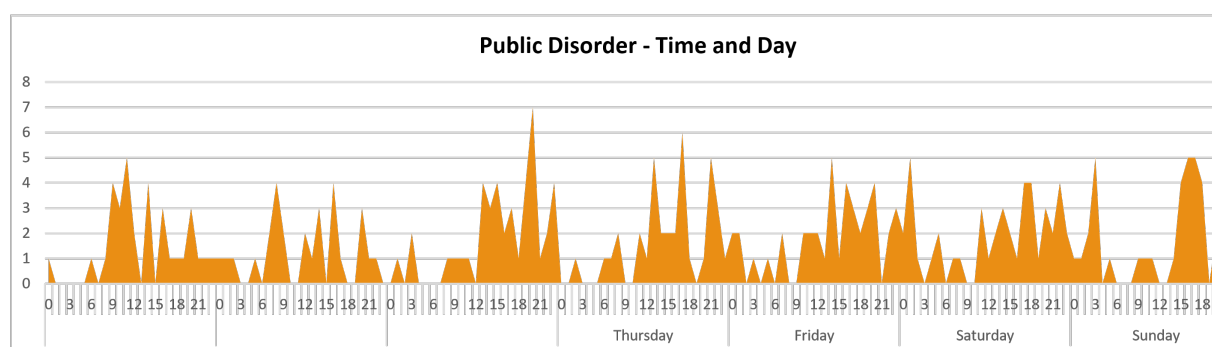
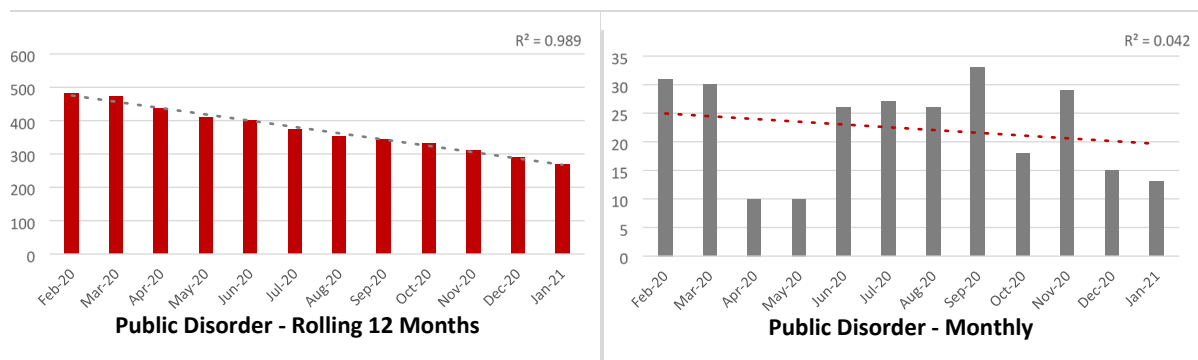
Operation Luscombe, which targets the issue of begging, is due to recommence with an intervention hub being scheduled for late February / early March. Partnership and Prevention (P&P) officers have met with new service providers to ensure their cooperation with the operation and will also be training BTP officers at Liverpool Street station.

P&P officers continue to work in collaboration with partner agencies on a joint approach to rough sleeping, ASB and MH related issues and have worked with partners to assist in mental health reviews and mental health act assessments.

Public Disorder

Public Disorder

Currently public disorder, which in the City is either linked to protest activity or the night-time economy, remains low. The FYTD shows a 50% reduction in offences, likely to be due to the lower footfall and the implications of lockdown. This is likely to increase with the release of lockdown measures.



* This Month	-13%
* FYTD	-50%
* Rolling 12 Month	-45%

Detection Rate FYTD:	32%
Positive Outcome Rate FYTD:	33%

National Position:	1
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Prevent

Referrals

The Prevent team has received no referrals during this period.

Engagement/Meetings/Training/Media

Prevent Induction sessions delivered monthly via Teams to transferees and new starters to the force as well as new student officers..

Prevent training/awareness session delivered to the whole of IFED within CoLP

Prevent team have provided training and awareness sessions to Adult Social Care, the Rough Sleeping and Homeless Team, Education and Early Years Providers and Nurseries all based within the CoL.

The first Prevent Forum for City of London based Higher and Further Education sites was held in November 2020, this was a collaborative approach between the City of London Police Prevent Team, the CoL Prevent officer and the regional HE/FE Prevent officer.

Prevent team have promoted the launch of ACT Early – the new Prevent safeguarding website with all police and City of London contacts including City of London schools, CoL Education Safeguarding Forum, Adults safeguarding Sub Committee, Business Healthy, CoLC social media website, Higher Education and Further Education Prevent Forum, The Buzz – CoLC internal communications platform and future newsletters.

Prevent team have continued to promote ACT Early with local schools and statutory partners due to education being closed currently and majority of the population working from home.

ACT Early has been promoted via the CoLP/CoLC social media sites to reach as many people as possible.

Prevent team have met with the safeguarding lead for Guildhall School of Music and Drama in order to plan for a number of Prevent workshops in the future months reaching safeguarding leads, all staff and students too.

Plans have been made to load Prevent related material onto the force's new digital boards when they are rolled out imminently so that we can continue to promote ACT Early and the signs of radicalisation we all need to be aware of.

Plans have been made for the Prevent team to make a short video for release on CoLP social media surrounding radicalisation, what this is and the signs to look out for in others.

Prevent team have compiled a new current Prevent presentation and plan to share this via a webinar format for schools and business in the coming weeks.

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

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

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Prevent coordinator attending virtual London Prevent Network meeting bi-weekly, which features updates from SO15, DfE, OSCT, NHS England and NPS.

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

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

Regional Meeting/Training

The Prevent Team are continuing to work with the Prevent teams from around the country looking at the best ways to develop best practice.