

<b>Committee(s):</b> Police Authority Board	<b>Dated:</b> 22 June 2021
<b>Subject:</b> Responses to Anti-Social Behaviour in the City of London	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	1
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	Y/N
<b>If so, how much?</b>	N/A
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	N/A
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	Y/N
<b>Report of:</b> Andrew Carter, Executive Director, Department of Communities and Children's Services	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Valeria Cadena, Community Safety Manager & Jillian Reid, Anti-Social Behaviour and City Community MARAC Coordinator	

## Summary

This report updates Members on the City of London Corporation's (henceforth referred to as "*the Corporation*") current responses to Anti-Social Behaviour.

## Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report.

## Main Report

1. Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) in the Square Mile is addressed by the City Police and the Corporation. Other support services are provided by agencies commissioned by the Corporation, such is the case with Parkguard.
2. The Corporation responds to Statutory Noise and Environmental ASB through the Department of Markets and Consumer Protection.
3. All relevant agencies meet regularly to discuss and develop responses to cases, as well as any other issues which may be of concern. Our most recent meeting

was on the 19<sup>th</sup> May to consider the City ASB profile, with the aim to have all agencies present and able to voice their concerns. We were also able to plan how to improve our collaborative working.

4. The Community Safety Team (within the Department of Community and Children's Services) plays a role in coordinating a multi-agency response to ASB through established channels. The work we undertake and an update of recent efforts are outlined below.

#### City Community MARAC

5. The Anti-Social Behaviour Coordinator (within the Community Safety Team) organises the City Community MARAC (CCM). The CCM is the City of London's monthly MARAC, whereby information is shared on vulnerable victims and perpetrators of ASB to manage risk and safeguard individuals. The aim of the CCM is to:
  - Identify the highest risk and most complex cases
  - Problem-solve issues of concern
  - Promote joint ownership of the issue(s)
  - Reduce re-victimisation
6. As a result of recommendations arising from the January 2020 Community Trigger, the ASB Coordinator has been distributing information, delivering presentations and hosting workshops to new and existing partners. This has helped to promote the benefits of the CCM as valuable multi-agency tool. In addition, the Community Safety section of the Corporation's website has been updated with a page displaying information and advice for professionals on the CCM, as well as the referral process – <https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/services/community-and-safety/city-community-marac>
7. Further work has also been undertaken to enhance the reputation of the CCM within the Corporation's front-line services, particularly amongst those agencies which frequently encounter certain elements of ASB. The Corporation's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping, Adult Social Care, Noise & Pollution and Housing teams are all now core-group members of the CCM. The introduction of mandatory attendance for core-group members under the revised Terms of Reference has seen the number of delegates attending the CCM significantly increase.
8. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic temporarily curtailing further direct engagement, the quantity, quality and diversity of referrals into the CCM has continued to increase. Between June 2020 to June 2021, the CCM panel has received 14 complex case referrals. Some of these referrals have been submitted by new referral agencies, including the City Police Public Protection Unit and the Barbican Housing Office. In some of the most high-risk cases, we have initiated enforcement action against perpetrators of serious crime and disorder, to forward manage their behaviour and safeguard victims, residents and staff.

9. The ASB Coordinator co-chairs the CCM with Joseph Easterbrook – the City of London Police’s new Inspector for Local Policing and the Partnership & Prevention Hub. As the former Chair of the Surrey County Council Community Harm and Risk Management Meeting, he brings a considerable amount of experience to the role, with an in-depth working knowledge of the multi-agency problem-solving function of the CCM.

#### City of London - London Marathon Public Spaces Protection Order

10. On 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020, the Corporation’s Court of Common Council ratified the City of London London Marathon Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO). This was in response to serious ASB and public disorder along the section of the London Marathon route which passes through the City of London.
11. The ASB and CCM Coordinator undertook important practical work in preparation for the PSPO, which was to be implemented for the first time during the London Marathon on the 26<sup>th</sup> April 2020. This included:
  - The design of a compliant Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) template
  - Acquiring the StarTraq online payment system for FPNs
  - The design, purchase and siting of temporary PSPO signage
  - Liaising with the Police and Corporation’s Communication Team to promote the PSPO
  - Liaising with the Tower Hamlets Enforcement Officers to mitigate expected displacement
12. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the London Marathon 2020 was postponed, and the route dramatically altered. The race did not pass through the City and subsequently, the City of London, London Marathon PSPO was not implemented. The 2021 race will now take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2021 and is projected to revert to its usual route through the City. The ASB Coordinator has recommenced important practical work with the City Police in preparation for the PSPO to be deployed for the first time.
13. A PSPO is valid for up to three years and therefore the City of London, London Marathon PSPO will be utilised when the race is expected to return through the City of London in 2021 and 2022. This will provide sufficient evidence in order to review and evaluate the effectiveness of the PSPO and to explore extending its duration beyond 2023.

#### Electronic Charting and Integrated Navigation System

14. The Community Safety Team continues to endorse Empowering Communities Inclusion and Neighbourhood Management System (ECINS) as the multi-agency information sharing platform for community safety-related issues and casework in the City.

15. The Community Safety Team offers tailored City-centric ECINS user training to all internal and external partners licensed within the City scheme. Officers for the British Transport Police at London Liverpool Street Station and the City's newly commissioned outreach and recovery services (Thames Reach and Turning Point), now have access to the system.

16. In addition, all Officers within City Police's Sector Policing, Partnership & Prevent Hub, Integrated Offender Management and Prevent teams have ECINS user profiles. Officers can now utilise the system to quickly check whether an individual is already known to services or authorities within the City or in neighbouring London boroughs.

#### Anti-Social Behaviour webpage

17. In March 2021, the Community Safety Team published a webpage providing comprehensive information and advice to residents and the general public on reporting ASB in the City. Such behaviours include:

- Drug dealing
- Noise nuisance
- Fly tipping and graffiti
- Encampments and rough sleeping

18. The webpage can be found at:

<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/services/community-and-safety/reporting-crime-or-anti-social-behaviour-in-the-city-of-london>

It contains contact information and links to the City Police and Guinness Partnership ASB portals. Reporting ASB through the correct channels is imperative for services to accurately measure the extent of such behaviours in the locality and to allocate necessary resources appropriately.

#### Operation Luscombe

19. The ASB Coordinator has been assisting the City Police in its successful delivery of the fortnightly Operation Luscombe Intervention Hub, which recommenced in May 2021.

#### Skateboarding and 'Bike Storming'

20. The Corporation has been working closely with the City Police to proportionately respond to Members and residents' concerns around skateboarding and 'bike storming' in certain locations within the City.

21. Several options have been explored by partners to holistically mitigate the issue. However, many of proposed solutions have been compounded by data from the City Police, which indicates that the actual number of reports to the Police regarding ASB and such activities is very low. Additionally, if there is ASB displayed with the skateboarding and cycling activities the age range of many of those

participating in those activities limit the use of low-level ASB enforcement powers, such as Community Protection Warnings and Notices and subsequently displacing the issue.

22. We understand due to Covid-19 restrictions, people are having to spend more time at home. As a result, this is likely to mean that more noise will be generated and perceived. For the purpose of noise complaints, everyday living noises such as moving furniture, people talking, children moving around or playing is not consider ASB unless it is happening at unreasonable hours (after 11pm or before 7am) and persistent.
23. The Community Safety Team is currently liaising with youth service stakeholders to devise several viable medium to long term sustainable proposals to expand facilities for youths. One of the suggestions is to hold 'pop up' skateboard events in areas of the City where there is less human and vehicle traffic. However, such events require considerable financial and human resources assistance. The Community Safety Team is requesting the support and advice of Members on possible sponsorship.
24. Another long-term solution being explored is to have a specific area in the City where children and young people can play safely. This would be in a space which is not in close proximity to residential areas in order to avoid noise complaints. However, if this is possible, there will be a significant timeframe before such an area is viable for use.
25. We have consulted with the Planning Department and they believe it is possible to build a skateboard park in the City as a part of future developments. However, the process of approving this will take a considerable amount of time, as appropriate City Members will need to be consulted on any plans and activities proposed.
26. The police have offered their support to the Barbican Estate and St Paul's in order to help improve building designs, with the aim of reducing the number of children and young people playing in these areas. However, as they are listed buildings, it will both be complicated and expensive to implement changes. Nevertheless, discussions are continuing in order to explore the possibilities open to us.
27. We are exploring which are the most effective options to address this issue and aim to provide the best possible outcome for both residents and young people. We know young people come to the City for a number of reasons and one of them is that the City is a safer place to spend time in comparison to other London boroughs. As such, children and young people can visit the City to play with a significantly reduced risk of becoming involved in serious criminal activities, both as victims and perpetrators. Rather, they can spend their time taking part in an active hobby which promotes exercise, with many of them considering it a sport.

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