Committee: Economic and Cyber Crime Committee	Dated: 03 October 2022
Subject: Cyber Griffin Update	**Public**
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	**N/A**
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: Commissioner of Police Pol 84-22	**For information**
Report author: Charlie Morrison, Detective Inspector, Head of Cyber Griffin	

Summary

Following a strong start to the year, Cyber Griffin is experiencing a temporary levelling-off of service delivery due to a challenging period for resourcing wider policing combined with meeting the changing demands from organisations in the Square Mile.

Positively, the programme is in the process of confirming stable funding from two sources (City of London Corporation Business Rate Premium and the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) Cyber Crime Programme). This funding will enable longer-term planning and the opportunity for Cyber Griffin to steadily increase the programme's impact on cyber insecurity.

The current unit remains two officers under-strength, though a recruitment process is engaged. One new officer is awaiting vetting clearance ahead of joining the unit. The programme's duty to provide security advice and guidance within the Square Mile will remain its priority and resourcing will be closely monitored to ensure this objective is met.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Members note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. This Committee requested a regular quarterly report on Cyber Griffin activity. The report gives a brief update on the current position of the Cyber Griffin programme. For details of all Cyber Griffin services please visit: www.cybergriffin.police.uk

Current Position

2. Whilst maintaining a good level of service over the last quarter +July, Cyber Griffin has not continued to exceed its performance compared with previous years. Abstractions to support cyber-dependant investigations and wider force deployments have been particularly high and consequently limited the team's opportunities to drive new engagements.

The programme has also experienced a significant change in demand over the last period. Organisations appear to have shifted their focus from staff awareness to incident response training and secure design. Subsequently, Cyber Griffin has delivered a far greater number of its services which deal with these security areas (namely: Incident Response Training and Cyber Capability Assessments). These more intensive services are delivered to smaller groups and aim to provide a longer lasting impact by encouraging the adoption of more secure policies, practices, and technologies organisation-wide. As demonstrated in graphs below this shift has led to a drop in the volume of people trained contrasted with a high number of services delivered.

Graph showing Cyber Griffin's monthly attendees compared with previous financial years
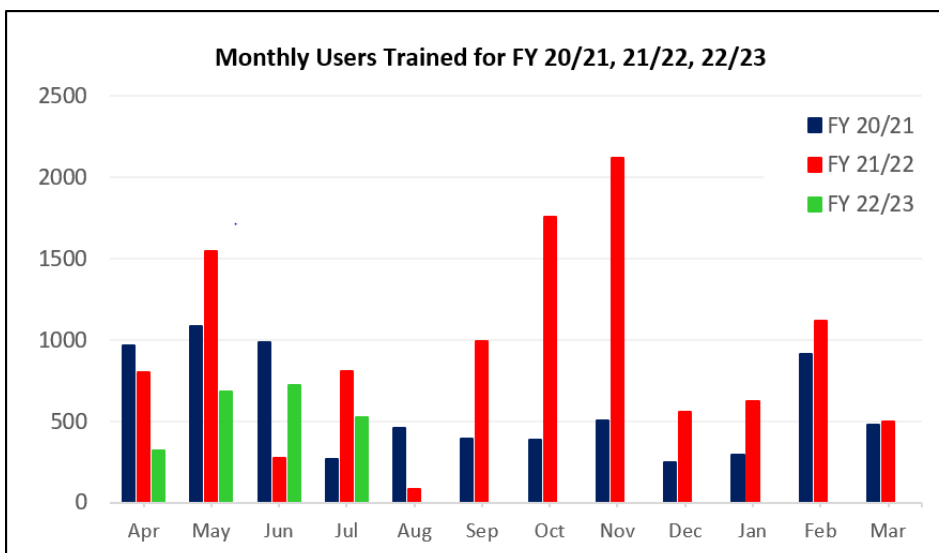
Graph showing the number of Cyber Griffin services delivered compared with previous financial years

Monthly services conducted for FY 20/21, 21/22 & 22/23
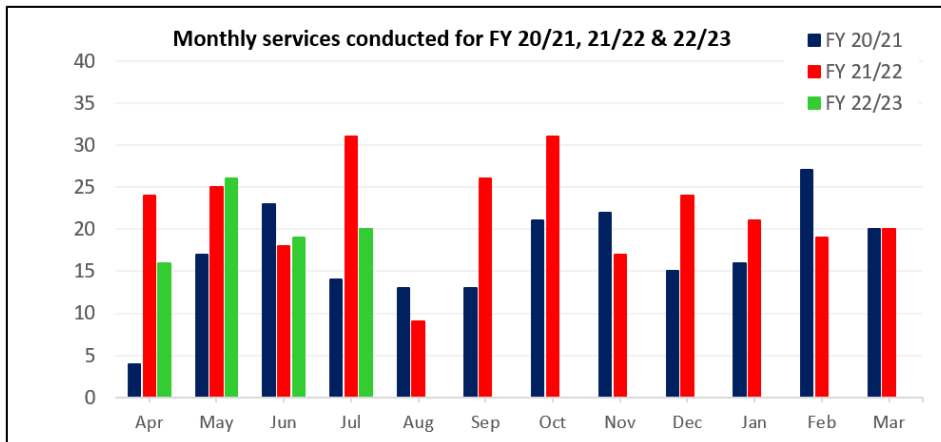
3. Regarding locally set targets, the more ambitious annual targets set for Cyber Griffin remain achievable despite a challenging first quarter. The programme trained 2,316 people (quarter target – 2,500), conducted 86 services (quarterly target 67) and took on 46 new client organisations (quarterly target 36) in Q1. These figures have been adjusted to reflect the financial year as requested by the ECCC.

4. Regarding performance against national targets, Cyber Griffin continues to meet all nationally set key performance indicators (KPIs). Specifically, the programme has engaged with 100% of victims of cyber-dependent crime within its force area and survey data demonstrates that engagements create security behaviour changes in above 75% of attendees. The same events have a satisfaction rate of considerably above 75%. Changes to national reporting have been announced and reviewed locally. It is believed that the extra anticipated demand is manageable with existing resources.

5. Looking ahead at performance, Cyber Griffin is forecast to go through an uncertain quarter. Wider policing demands are expected to continue having an impact on performance however, the coming months are also historically the busiest of the year owing to a greater interest in cyber security due to awareness campaigns such as cyber security month. It is not currently possible to say which of these two factors will have the greater influence on the quarter's performance.

6. Cyber Griffin's financial situation is extremely positive. The programme is in the process of confirming funding from both the City of London Corporation Business Rate Premium and the NPCC Cyber Crime Programme. Combined with the unit's current funding (due to end in April 2023), Cyber Griffin is likely to have stable long-term funding going forward. Meetings with senior officers are being arranged to discuss how the programme can use the advantage of stable funding to create long-term impacts on the digital security of the Square Mile. The outcomes of these meetings will feature in later reports.

7. Cyber Griffin continues to work with Bristol University in the development of a new Incident Response Exercise. The exercise algorithm is close to completion despite a series of setbacks relating to coding issues. What separates this training from alternatives is that Cyber Griffin will be offering an 'open world' exercise. This means that participants will be able to use the exercise multiple times to sharpen their incident response skills as the algorithm will randomly generate scenarios from a pool of hundreds of possibilities that the team have developed over the last three years. This marks a significant progression from traditional more linear 'paper-feed' exercising.

8. Finally, the protect advice landscape in London is due to change again as the London Cyber Resilience Centre (CRC) approaches its launch. This is a not-for-profit 'cyber protect' advice initiative supported by policing and the Home Office. Cyber Griffin remains in contact with CRC leads and will offer any support the initiative needs to establish itself in London's communities.

Conclusion

9. Cyber Griffin continues to offer a well-regarded and effective cyber security programme despite a challenging quarter and changes in the security interests of the Square Mile's community. As businesses continue to focus on incident response resilience and secure design, Cyber Griffin's focus will be to ensure these more intensive services meet the level of demand being placed on them. It is anticipated that the programme will be supported with stable long-term funding and consideration is being given as to how this positive development can be turned into developing a more impactive and effective Cyber Griffin offering. The next quarter is likely to see both a high demand for Cyber Griffin services and abstractions to wider policing demands. For these reasons it is difficult to estimate how the programme will perform against local targets. National key performance indicators (KPIs) will be maintained as a priority as these relate to victim response and care.

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