

Committee(s): Police Authority Board	Dated: 25 January 2023
Subject: Commissioner's Update-	Public
Which outcomes in the <i>City Corporation's Corporate Plan</i> does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1- People are safe and feel safe
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 04-23	For Information
Report author: Angela McLaren, Commissioner	

Summary

At the April Police Authority Board, it was agreed that the Commissioner's verbal updates would now be presented to the Board as formal written updates.

The *public* updates for Operations and Security and Economic and Cyber Crime are attached.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note the report.

Operations and Security

Acquisitive & Violent crime

Operation Porsche investigated a serious violent disorder involving two groups of men in July of 2021. Our Major Investigations Team traced all available suspects and charged them with Violent Disorder. The first hearing is scheduled for 18th January 2023.

Operation Mig is an overarching operation set up in the Summer of 2021 to monitor linked crime series of distraction thefts and robberies occurring in the City of London. Recent results include: seven men jailed for over three years after being convicted of stealing nearly £160,000 from members of the public; and two men who were responsible for stealing nearly £157,000 jailed for over three years.

Our Christmas campaign Operation Tinsel ran from 21st November to 23rd December 2022, through our busiest periods of footfall, and used statistical analysis of current crime trends to focus resources. Hotspot Policing and pulse patrols were amongst the strategies used to deter and detect crime whilst providing a high visibility presence of officers from across our teams. Violent crime was reduced overall during this operation with 19 arrests and 22 positive outcomes from stop and searches.

Night Time Economy

On Saturday 3rd December we hosted another Operation Reframe focussing on drink spiking. This was supported by AC Paul Betts hosting guest National Police Chiefs Council lead for Violence Against Women & Girls Deputy Chief Constable Maggie Blythe. 32 licensed premises were visited, and 22 drinks were tested. Inspector Caroline Hay who leads on Reframe arranged a short film to be created covering the activity on the night during which AC Betts and DCC Blythe filmed a joint section highlighting Operation Reframe and the importance of supporting the fight against Violence Against Women & Girls. (Video shown at December PAB).

Our Public Protection Unit have charged and remanded suspects for two serious sexual offences committed in the City of London in January. The suspect investigated under Operation Cassian was charged with Rape and will appear before magistrates on 31st January. Another suspect, charged with four sexual offences in the City, will appear before a court in February. Both suspects were arrested within 24 hours of the reported offences, the thorough investigations resulted in these positive outcomes.

Professionalism & Trust

A meeting was held with the National Lead for Police Race Action Plan (PRAP), it is understood that CoLP is in a good place in terms of the progress it is making against the National Plan.

Police Uplift Programme

Headcount is currently 1006 which is 20 above our uplift target of 986. Our attrition forecast for the final quarter are higher than we have seen year to date, but not higher than we have profiled for. We are planning a final cohort of 14 direct entry detectives via the IPLDP programme at the end of February. We are aiming for this to be our most diverse cohort yet with an ambition of at least 60 % being female or from underrepresented groups. Work is progressing on the workforce plan for next year with the aim of maintaining our numbers throughout FY23/24.

Police Authority Board – Commissioner’s update – 25 January 2023

Public Update – National Lead Force (NLF)

Notable Operations

National Lead Force

Op Holland – Significant assets from across NLF and the wider force executed 6 search warrants at premises in London, Home Counties and the Midlands in relation to an organised motor insurance fraud affecting major insurers. 5 suspects arrested for fraud and money laundering, which will represent a major disruption to the Organised Crime Group (OCG).

PIPCU

Operation Brunel – Warrants executed in the Cheetham Hill area of Manchester by PIPCU; 18 Suspects detained, 3 ‘badging’ Factories shut and a large volume of counterfeit goods seized. PIPCU were supported by North West PIPCU and the Operation Vulcan team from GMP. Operation Vulcan is a new large multi-agency operation which has PIPCU as a core member. It has increased resource to deal with the prolific counterfeiting and organised crime present in the Cheetham Hill area. This has been partly driven by the huge successes PIPCU have had in exposing the criminality in the area in recent years.

FCCRAS

Initial meetings have now taken place in the first weeks of January, with preferred suppliers of the new system, in advance of the technology build and finalisation of contracts. This will also help establish working relationships as the collaborative approach with the suppliers is maintained to deliver the new service.

Economic and Cyber Crime Academy

The academy met with the MOD to plan courses for 2023/24, as well as developing courses for Interpol. This is to support the Policing Plan objective to protect the UK from the threat of Cyber and Economic crime.

The Academy has also developed training to the FCA to upskill their staff in fraud investigation as part of their pursue strategy; putting the victim at the heart of what they do.

NPCC Cyber

Police CyberAlarm – At the start of January a review showed that Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) uptake continues to grow significantly with 6000 organisations now signed up with 3000 having suspicious activity data collectors now live on their systems.

Campaigns & Media

Action Fraud

Action Fraud launched the ‘12 Frauds of Christmas’ campaign on Thursday 1 December. Whilst this was detailed in the previous PAB update the results are now published, it was highly successful and has been Action Fraud’s best Christmas campaign to date with 94 million impressions and 21 million reach.

NFIB

The annual online shopping campaign was delivered in collaboration with the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC). The campaign reached a potential audience of 20 million individuals achieving 49 million impressions. As part of the campaign the NCSC paid for targeted advertisements on social media sites, providing a tailored message to males aged 19 – 25, who according to Action Fraud reporting are most likely to fall victim to this crime.

As a direct result there has been a 12% reduction in online shopping and auction fraud reported to Action Fraud during November and December 2022 when compared with the same period for the previous year (2021). This campaign, alongside the other work has clearly provided excellent crime prevention over the Christmas period.

Angela McLaren
Commissioner
City of London Police