

Committee(s): Police Authority Board	Dated: 15 February 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 35-23	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.

Police Authority Board – Commissioner’s Update – 15 February 2023

Operations and Security

Acquisitive & Violent crime

Op Verditer continues to produce positive results targeting phone snatch thieves and handlers. A warrant was executed on 26th January 2023 successfully recovering over 400 mobile phones and £10,000 in cash resulting in the arrest of three suspects.

Officers from our Proactive Crime Team and Response Group detained a suspect for robbery following an attack on a resident of the Barbican by several youths. Stolen property was recovered from the detained suspect who has been released under investigation until 24th April 2023.

Night Time Economy (NTE)

NTE offending remains at a low level as is typical in January, we have recorded 1 high harm incident, a suspected drink spiking at Simmons Bar. A suspect was arrested on scene and is currently under investigation.

The latest Op Reframe took place on 26th January 2023, encouraging management at licensed premises to enrol their staff on drink spiking awareness training and ‘Ask for Angela’.

Key work continues to develop a radio network for the NTE which will link our licensed premises to our officers and Force Control Room.

Professionalism & Trust

Work continues with the Race Action Plan, and the CoLP, Professionalism and Trust Department are well engaged in this at a national level.

Our Professional Standards Department are preparing data after announcements at a national level of further internal checks after recent horrific cases of police perpetrated sexual offences. Further updates will be given through the Professional Standards and Integrity Committee.

In response to the death of Tyre Nichols in the USA, AC Betts and the CoLP Black Police Association have sent out a joint internal communications message about the impact of this.

Police Uplift Programme

Our headcount is currently 1015 officers with 22 leavers in December and January combined. We have 10 Detectives joining us on 20th March and a further 14 starting on 27th March. This will raise our headcount to 20 over our target in line with the agreement made with the Home Office. We are working on our recruitment plan for the coming financial year.

Fraud Operations and Lead Force Operations Room (LFOR).

Support is now active for Operation henhouse 2, a large operation which will co-ordinate mass arrests across the UK for fraud. This is a major piece of work alongside the regions and result data will be available next month.

Op Ajwain

Four suspects plead guilty this month in relation to a £350k wages/overtime fraud at a large City firm. Trial continues for those accused of laundering the money.

Op Denab

Sentencing – The defendant is former professional footballer. There is significant press interest. He was convicted of a £15million investment fraud. He claimed to be operating an investment scheme for friends and family, which was a Ponzi scheme. The defendant received a 7 ½ year custodial sentence.

PIPCU

The intellectual property office has agreed renewed funding for the unit to continue its work. There will be closer working with the government department to raise the profile of the crime type and create a stronger whole system response.

Economic Crime and Cyber Academy

As part of the Academy ongoing support to Protect the UK from the Threat of harm from Economic and Cyber Crime, the ECCA held a meeting with the National Coordinators Office to design a bespoke ‘protect course’ for all protect regional officers. The aim of the course is to provide current and emerging threats, harm & risks that can be cascade onwards to front line colleagues. The next stage is to hold a workshop with regional partners, the ECVCU and Action Fraud to have one consistent message and to understand the gaps. This work will increase capacity nationwide to deal with fraud cases appropriately and increase capacity.

The Home Office Cyber Policy Unit set up a series of meetings for City Police Cyber leads to promote interest in the Police Cyber Alarm and Cyber Resilience Centres with FCDO Cyber attaches in Africa and the Far East over the next month. The hope is foreign countries may seek to adopt these initiatives as a revenue stream to grow domestically and increase cyber security.

Action Fraud/NFIB

A cyber-attack in the form of a Distributed Denial Of Service (DDOS) attack hit NFIB systems in January. The case was initially passed to the NCA but now awaits allocation for a full investigation. City of London police Information Management teams (IMS) carried out successful mitigation. The system didn’t crash and was merely slowed by the attack from a foreign actor which occurred outside of core hours. No suspect has been identified at present.

Angela McLaren
Commissioner
City of London Police