

Committee(s): Police Authority Board	Dated: 24 May 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 75-23	For Information
Report author: Angela McLaren, Commissioner	

Summary

At the April 2022 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

The Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III - Operation Golden Orb

On 6th May a variety of CoLP resources were deployed on His Majesty the King’s coronation in support of the wider Metropolitan Police Operation. These included 88 officers in tunics who lined the King’s procession route, Public Order trained officers, Mounted Branch, specialist search officers, Close Protection teams and specialist motorcycle escort officers. As is usual with collaborative Operations, CoLP will take part in a formal debrief where the use of new Public Order powers will be discussed.

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

In response to new national ASB legislation, and to ensure we implement this well at a local level, a new strategic ASB meeting will be chaired Chief Superintendent Rob Atkin and Ian Hughes under the Safer City Partnership. This will drive policy and change to tackle ASB. Levels of ASB have decreased by 8% which is a total of 96 less offences when looking at the rolling 12 months comparison, figures also show a -19% (-279 less crimes) when comparing to the 19/20 national benchmark year.

Night Time Economy (NTE)

Our new Traffic Light intervention scheme has enabled officers from our licensing team to develop a risk-based strategy for managing relationships with key licensed premises and vary their licenses based on specific areas of risk identified. This furthers our ambition to make spaces safer and reduces ASB associated with the NTE. Operation Reframe held a ‘walk & talk’ opportunity on 20th April for women aged over 18 to join officers on a walk of the City in areas where they may feel vulnerable to develop new methods of creating spaces in the City where people feel safe. The next Operation Reframe is due to be held on 2nd June 2023.

Professionalism & Trust

A Conference highlighting Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) was held and opened by Commissioner McLaren and British Transport Police (BTP) Chief Constable Lucy D’Orsi. The event included a focus on Operation Reframe in the City – supported by the Crime Prevention Association. It also paves the way for collaborative working between CoLP and BTP.

Stephen Lawrence Day

This year marks 30 years since the murder of Stephen Lawrence. On 29 April, CoLP and the PAB held an event for students and CoLP cadets, aged 15-18, to reflect on Stephen’s legacy. The intention was to inspire young people and help them to reflect on what has changed since Stephen’s murder and what still needs to change. There were a number of key speakers including the Commissioner.

Police Uplift

The final headcount was 1007 against a national target headcount of 986. CoLP intentionally secured an additional 20 officers and received an additional £400k of funding from the Home Office for this successful campaign. In addition, all 30 Regional Organised Crime Unit posts were recruited into. The workforce plan for the next financial year has been ratified by the Chief Officer Team and we have also agreed an additional 10 officers on top of our headcount of 986 recouping a total of £45k per officer if successful. We will be assessed at the end of September and March against the home office grant agreement and must ensure we remain at an officer headcount of 986.

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National Lead Force – Economic Crime and Cyber

Launch of the National Fraud Strategy

The National Fraud Strategy was launched by the Home Office on Wednesday 3 May. As National Lead Force for fraud, CoLP played an integral part in its production, and will continue to be key to its implementation. Link to the strategy here: [Tackling fraud and rebuilding trust \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

The strategy sets out 3 pillars under which fall objectives which will collectively aim to reduce fraud offending in the UK by 10% by the end of 2025. These pillars are:

- Pursue Fraudsters
- Block Fraudsters
- Empower the Public.

CoLP has a number of key deliverables under these – including the establishment of a National Fraud Squad, replacement of Action Fraud, expansion of National Economic Crime Victim Care Unit and the creation of a National Police Protect Network. National Lead Force have already co-ordinated the delivery of Proactive Economic Crime Teams in 9 regions – who have undertaken over 400 investigations in the past year and make up a vital part of the National Fraud Squad.

National Policing Strategy

We are currently drafting a national policing strategy that will outline the requirements for policing within the economic crime, fraud and cyber portfolios – this will be launched in the summer and will provide our policing partners will clear objectives, and targets so that we can meet those set by the Home Office under the national strategies in these areas.

Economic and Cyber Policing Headquarters (ECPHQ)

Key to the delivery of this is the establishment of a new Economic and Cyber Policing Headquarters, which will enable the initial alignment of strategy, performance, engagement and national messaging from the NPCC economic and cyber-crime portfolios and National Lead Force for fraud. The initial design phase for this new HQ is nearing completion and we are hoping to launch later this year.

National Lead Force led operations of note

A significant romance fraud investigation that involved victim losses exceeding £1.5 million has made two further arrests of members of the Organised Crime Group and three voluntary interviews were completed.

Police Intellectual Property Crime Unit - PIPCU

PIPCU attended a EUROPOL conference in Romania to discuss joint Investigations/operations against criminal activities concerning illegal Intellectual Property television and illegal streaming. PIPCU advised on how European law enforcement authorities can enhance their response against the threat of illegal television streaming networks and to identify and tackle Organised Crime Groups behind this criminality.

National operational coordination through the Lead Force Operations Room (LFOR)

LFOR continues to successfully co-ordinate national and regional fraud teams:

Op HENHOUSE 2 was a national fraud intensification campaign in February – the policing response to which was co-ordinated by Lead Force Operation Room (LFOR). The national operation involved action from forces and regions, including Police Scotland and Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) and resulted in:-

- 648 Subjects of Interest (SOI’s) arrested or interviewed under caution
- 160 cease & desist notices
- £1.5m in seizures/restraint orders

Op LOOSESTRIFE - This operation is the coordinated UK response to UK-based users of the Genesis Marketplace - an online illicit marketplace. Collaboration with US law enforcement to takedown the

marketplace. In excess of 250 intelligence packages were co-ordinated and disseminated by LFOR to forces and ROCUs identifying UK users.

National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) Cyber

The Team Cyber UK (TCUK) conference took place. This involved two events, ending in March in Birmingham with 460 delegates across Cyber industry. A meeting took place with the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) concerning Cyber Resilience Centres (CRCs) , assurance standards and Cyber Path services.

Economic Crime and Cyber Academy

The academy has now taken booking from Ghanaian officers after the engagement visit from Commander Adams. The courses are fraud and cyber related and there will be more courses booked with Ghanaian officers flying to the UK for training. The indication from Ghana is that this will be the start of a meaningful working relationship that will support wider operational objectives to reduce the threat of Ghana based fraud offending to the UK.

The Academy have continued engagement with the College of Policing and agreed a plan in principle with regards to the academy re-aligning and refreshing their courses to provide a professional pathway in support of the recognised college of policing detective program. The project is now at the phase of further engagement with regional force development officers to ensure all the regions are fully consulted. This is a substantial piece of work, but this recent update demonstrates a positive move towards the end goal.

Angela McLaren
Commissioner
City of London Police