

<b>Committee(s):</b> Police Authority Board	<b>Dated:</b> 28 June 2023
<b>Subject:</b> Commissioner's Update	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the <i>City Corporation's Corporate Plan</i> does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	1- People are safe and feel safe
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	N/A
<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>	N/A
<b>Report of:</b> Commissioner of Police Pol 68-23	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Report author:</b> 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 National Lead Force for Economic and Cyber Crime are attached.

### Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note the report.

**Proactive Acquisitive Crime Team (PACT)**

Our Proactive Crime Team have been renamed under a renewed focus and remit to target acquisitive crime in the City. The new Proactive Acquisitive Crime Team have produced some excellent results, a total of 36 arrests have been made since the last reporting period including the successful prosecution of a prolific bag thief Hamza Kalouache who received a custodial sentence for two years for eight bag thefts in the City.

Utilising a combination of plain clothed and high visibility deployments our officers continue to detect thieves in the City who snatch mobile phones or target licenced premises to distract victims or steal unattended bags. This activity is informed by the Integrated Offender Management Sergeant who analyses crime hot spots and nominal offender behaviour to task the two PACT teams which consist of 1 sergeant and 6 constables across a combination of early and late shift patterns.

**Administration of Justice**

The force has launched a pilot which will provide fast-track Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) diagnoses for individuals in custody. We are the first force to pilot this system which aims to identify vulnerability at the soonest opportunity. The system has gained considerable interest from other UK and international forces and positive media coverage.

**Forensic Services**

The use of Virtual Reality (VR) training devices has now gone live, with our new cohort of Crime Scene Investigators being the first to start using this innovative technology as part of their initial training. The technology is an immersive experience which can be mapped onto any previous crime scene or live location using a 360-camera capture feature. The scene can be interacted with by up to twelve operators using the VR headsets. This technology will enrich all aspects of forensic crime scene training for our forensic experts, investigators and student officers.

**Professionalism & Trust (P&T)**

P&T continue as force liaison with our Independent Advisory and Scrutiny Group (IASG). Informal monthly check-ins are held between the Head of P&T and the Chair of the IASG, to ensure concerns are addressed between formal meetings. AC Betts attended the last IASG meeting to discuss with members the Casey Report. A single point of contact has been nominated for CoLP and a ‘training plan’ for IASG members is being progressed, with availability sought for Op Reframe and Ride Along initiatives.

**City of London Special Constabulary**

The Chief Officer Team, following a consultation period, made recommendations to restructure the City of London Special Constabulary to align the positive work the constabulary do with our operational priorities and activities.

- Pro-active patrols during Night Time Economy hours including support to Operation Reframe
- Safer Roads traffic Operations on bridges and entry points within the City
- Public Order Support unit provided for Lord Mayor’s Show, London Marathon & HM King’s coronation

The re-structure has created a positive effect and cultural shift within its ranks demonstrated in a positive trend in duty hours across the constabulary. There has been an increase over the year with average monthly hours starting at 12 per Special, increasing to 15 and reaching 17 in May. A recruitment drive plans to uplift our current establishment of 57 officers to 85.

**National Lead Force**

**International working**

The benefits of having seconded officers from the City of London Police to New York District Attorney’s office and the Homeland Security Teams continue. They have recently increased intelligence, sharing of addresses that are being used to register thousands of suspect shell companies in both jurisdictions. This is information that would otherwise have taken long periods of time to obtain by each jurisdiction. Planning meetings are to follow which will set out possible executive action. CoLP also has a secondee within Interpol, and the organisation is currently exploring opportunities for developing the exchange of information and intelligence between the UK and member countries on fraud and cybercrime. This will help better develop our understanding of the threats and implement initiatives with other countries to disrupt organised fraud that takes place transnationally.

**National lead Force**

There have been many successful operations in 2023, but most recently is Operation Vanbrugh, one of the largest ever investigations into a ‘ponzi’ style fraud has now reached a successful conclusion after five years of investigation, the lead suspect was convicted of seven counts of fraud offences and on the 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023, he was sentenced to 14 years in prison, which reflects the huge harm caused to the hundreds of victims who lost life savings, houses and pensions. The total value of the fraud was £70million. The suspect fled court before the verdict and a live manhunt operation is now underway.

**Insurance Fraud Enforcement Dept**

A cash forfeiture was successful against £102k found in the bedroom of a suspected ghost broker. Sentencing is due at Luton Crown Court for a fraud where the offender was incepting insurance policies and deferring payment to a yearly direct debit. He would then cancel the insurance and get a full refund even though he hadn’t paid.

**Action Fraud/National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB)**

On Friday 9 June AF/NFIB held an exceptional National User Group forum (NUG-X); an in-person one-day conference at the Barbican. Over 130 delegates from across all forces attended. Delegates received updates on the latest developments in vulnerability identification and solvability criteria – plus a progress report on the FCCRAS Action fraud replacement programme. The event was very positive with great feedback. The National Economic Crime Victim Care Unit (NECVCU) has now rolled out its level 1 service to all 43 forces, and its level 2 service to 36 forces.

**Action Fraud**

Action Fraud’s annual holiday fraud campaign continues to attract positive coverage across local and national media outlets. There was also widespread coverage of Action Fraud’s alert on ticket scams linked to the forthcoming European football finals.

**Lead Force Operations Room (LFOR)**

The LFOR has taken a strong leadership role in establishing the new 9 proactive fraud teams who have since their implementation, taken on over 400 proactive fraud cases. The team has also been pivotal in leading the national policing response outside London to Operation Loosestrife, and Henhouse 2 that has seen hundreds of suspects arrested and a number of serious fraudsters disrupted in their endeavours. Lastly, the LFOR is now working to implement best practice across UK policing following a visit to every police force across the UK and an understanding of capability gaps.