

Committee(s): City of London Police Authority Board	Dated: 20 September 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 101-23	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

Bavarian State Police visit CoLP.

On 4th July 2023, the Bavarian Police Commissioner and members of his management team visited CoLP to understand more about the Counter Terrorism, Fraud and Cyber response in London. A number of presentations included advancement in technology and innovative ideas employed by CoLP such as Op Servator, Cyber Resilience Centre, forensic technology and CT partnerships.

Rape investigation

Through a diligent investigation and bravery of the victim a male was identified, arrested and convicted of a rape in the nighttime economy, he was sentenced to 6 years 9 months.

Phone Theft conviction

Following a violent attack on members of the public who intervened when two males attempted to steal a mobile phone from a passerby, the Major Crime Team launched an investigation identifying and convicting both males. This resulted in one pleading guilty to eight offences, including having an article with a blade or point, assault occasioning actual bodily harm, wounding with intent and theft, jailed for 12 years. It also resulted in the other pleading guilty to five offences, including wounding with intent, assault occasioning actual bodily harm and having an article with a blade or point jailed for a 12-year prison sentence. This particular violent incident attracted a lot of media attention.

Youth IASG

The first meeting took place on 13th July 2023 with 10 members in attendance. This meeting involved setting the terms of reference and vision for the group. The next meeting is to be scheduled following the school holidays.

Bag theft

Whilst officers were on patrol, they stopped a male who initially ran from police. In his possession were a number of stolen items and through a diligent investigation, victims were identified resulting in the male being charged with 6 thefts and drug possession.

Theft Shoplifting

Following an intelligence led operation around St Pauls, a prolific shoplifter was identified and charged with 5 thefts and a breach of court order. The operation also led to the arrest of 7 others for shoplifting.

Police Authority Board – Commissioner’s Update – 20 September 2023

National Lead Force

National lead Force Operations

The positive outcomes are consistent;

Fraud Ops Op Sanguine - is an employee invoice fraud with losses of £2M to the victim company, a Law Firm. The trial concluded with two guilty and two not guilty verdicts. This may receive media attention at the sentencing in late September.

Police Intellectual Property Crime Unit (PIPCU)

Italian authorities requested PIPCU attendance at EuroPol to discuss an ongoing operation involves a Senegalese crime group based in Bristol, who are at the centre of importing counterfeit clothing / watches / handbags into the UK from China, which are then exported to Italy and Spain. The meeting covered links between the two cases and the best way of sharing information and evidence.

Insurance Fraud Enforcement Department (IFED)

On 19 July 2023, DCI from IFED presented National Tactical Guidance on the use of Cease & Desist for Fraud and Economic Crime to the Economic Crime Partnership Board. IFED officers served 6 cease and desist notices across the UK. This is a new and innovative approach.

Action Fraud (AF)/Fraud and Cyber Crime Reporting and Analysis Service (FCCRAS)

On Thursday 20 July AF / National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) hosted a delegation of Tanzanian senior prosecutors and police leaders. The visit was arranged by the Foreign office and included National Crime Agency (NCA) (in-country) representatives. Delegates were informed about CoLP / National Lead Force’s (NLF) existing operational relationships with African nations - including Ghana and Nigeria (with reference to Commander Adams’ visit). This work is crucial for several crime types including romance fraud which is becoming more and more prevalent and has been for some time.

Throughout the summer there was continuing media coverage of Action Fraud’s warning about the rise in mortgage fraud. The UK’s cost of living crisis, and the recent hike in the bank base rate which have created an environment conducive to criminals exploiting homeowners / potential homeowners.

Discussions have started with the Home Office’s Fraud Policy team to rationalise the number of fraud and cyber-crime offences listed in the existing set of crime statistic counting rules (over 60 offence types combined). When concluded, this work will simplify and speed up the experience for victims reporting fraud and cyber-crime.

Economic and Cyber Crime Academy (ECCA)

The ECCA met with CPS Seniors, in relation to upskilling CPS lawyers, nationally, with regards to the Fraud Investigation Model (FIM) and their knowledge of Cyber Crime.

Dedicated Card and Payment Crime Unity (DCPCU)

Conviction for OP DUNSTABLE, awaits sentencing. Involves a bank insider working with another to impersonate account holders and commit fraud against

accounts to the value of over £130,000. Potential media interest.

Campaigns

National Economic Crime Victim Care Unit (NECVCU) National media coverage of the completion of NECVCU's expansion programme; the unit now provides a service to all forces in England & Wales. The media story was headed up by AC O'Doherty and received further promotion from the Home Office's Economic Crime Policy team.

An IFED led social media campaign running this week to raise awareness of a notable trend/threat in 'crash for cash', involving induced accidents with mopeds in North London.

The Operation Vanbrugh investment fraud conviction is now being recorded as a Podcast by a major broadcaster.

Angela McLaren

Commissioner
City of London Police