

Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group Update

Aug 2023

Co-Chairs:

Ian Hughes, Director City Operations, Environment Dept, City Corporation

Rob Atkin, Chief Superintendent, Uniform Policing, City of London Police

Attendees inc City of London Police, Community & Children's Services, Environment, Police Authority

Headline Updates

Policy Documents

Draft City Corporation documents covering ASB Policy and ASB Standard Operating Procedures are being drafted by DCCS following consultation with City Police & City Corporation departments.

Final draft of ASB Policy document has been recirculated within the ASB Working Group for final comment before sharing with Town Clerk's Executive Leadership Board of Chief Officers (inc Commissioner of Police) and from there to relevant Member Committees for consultation and adoption.

SCP STRATEGY BOARD ACTION: To review documents and support progression to ELB & Members once finalised by the ASB Working Group

Community Safety Accreditation Scheme Powers

A report is being drafted to enable the City Corporation to request authority from the Commissioner to adopt CSAS powers which enable a number of police-type functions to be undertaken by accredited individuals or organisations. Such powers are intended to complement policing role rather than replace it.

CSAS powers include the ability to require individuals to provide personal details, to enforce cycling on the footway, to surrender alcohol & tobacco and to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for certain offences.

Similar to ASB policy document (above), this is expected to pass through ELB before seeking Committee approval.

SCP STRATEGY BOARD ACTION: To support adoption of CSAS powers by the City Corporation

ParkGuard Patrolling

ParkGuard already provide ASB patrolling services covering some of the City's housing estates. As part of a POCA funded trial, these functions were extended to the City's streets more generally for 12 months, focusing on NTE issues but also covering crime in car parks, drug use & urination in public spaces and street furniture damage from skateboarding.

This trial proved sufficiently successful to warrant further exploration, with positive feedback from stakeholders. The new proposal is to extend their existing daytime patrols to cover hotspot areas for

nuisance cycling, stakeboarding and outreach services, but also to have an additional nighttime patrol focusing on NTE issues. Tasking would be determined in combination with existing resources from the City Corporation and City Police.

This proposal will require additional funding of around £150k - £200k pa (see below) but if funding is found, patrolling could be in place in time for the Christmas period.

SCP STRATEGY BOARD ACTION: To support expansion of ParkGuard role (subject to funding)

Barbican Workshop

A productive workshop was held to review current powers, policies and procedures in relation to ASB on the Barbican Estate. Discussions & actions included:

- Comms protocols to residents to be updated
- Survey of issues to be undertaken to supplement existing data
- ParkGuard patrolling to be explored (Barbican Estate is not currently covered)
- Bylaws to be reviewed (changing them would require Govt Minister approval)

Report to Members

Further to the request from the Chair of the Police Authority Board, a paper on current data trends, reporting & activities to address ASB has been written for Members by the Police Authority team. Report to be finalised in early September.

Funding Bids

From the Headline Updates & the ASB Action Plan, a number of potential bids may be suitable for SCP POCA funding allocations. In particular:

- ParkGuard patrolling, particularly in relation to the NTE
- Support to the City Police cycling team (see Operation Lewis below)
- Support for additional homeless response (see Operation Luscombe below)
- Support for more regular Operation Reframe events
- Actions & tactics arising from the Barbican Estate workshop

SCP STRATEGY BOARD ACTION: To review, prioritise and endorse bids on submission

In parallel, the Police Authority Team identified the opportunity to bid for funding from the Home Office's Safer Streets process. Potential uses included ParkGuard and improved CCTV in the City's car parks to address crime & disorder issues.

Total bid submitted (£300k) equates to 18 months funding and requires 50% City match funding. Outcome likely to be known by end Sept / Oct.

ASB Action Plan

The ASB Working Group finalised its Terms of Reference and reviewed & reconstituted its Action Plan within five themes:



Communications

The Group's focus is on establishing a collective communication plan to link together various aspects of communication & engagement with our community over ASB, inc website, social media, press releases & face to face.

Reporting

A review is underway as to how incoming information is reported through the Joint Command & Control room and quarterly community Cluster Panels, supplemented by localised engagement activities and surgeries.

Support

A City Community Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference has been developed as a problem-solving multi-agency monthly meeting where cases can be referred, particularly for repeat complainants & victims.

Data Analysis

Data has been collated & shared by the City Police from June 2022 to May 2023. Headlines include 964 instances of ASB in 12 month period, down 2.6% from previous year. Most frequent issues were:

- Inconsiderate behaviour (342)
- Begging / vagrancy (220)
- Drunken Behaviour (135)

Three most frequent locations were Bishopsgate, Paternoster Sq & Aldgate bus station, but very few repeat victims identified (majority were recorded as crimes against the state). Vast majority of ASB incidents were reported via either 999 or 101 telephone call.

Additional information is now being drawn from other Corporation functions (eg Cleansing), to be compiled and collectively assessed by Police Authority team to identify hotspot areas & further inform tasking process.

Tasking

Multi-agency tasking groups continue to focus on hotspot issues & locations based on reported incidents, past data & intelligence. Specific recent activities include:

- support to ASB Awareness Week (3-9 July)
- outreach services commissioned to engage rough sleepers & begging
- coordinated Police / Cleansing / Licensing activities for specific NTE issues

City Police cycling team under **Operation Lewis** has also had considerable success in targeting dangerous & nuisance behaviour involving the use of pedal cycles, e-scooters & e-bikes. The first seven weeks of the operation resulted in the following outcomes:

- 1010 hours on the street
- 2254 key messages (including crime prevention and cycle safety/enforcement)
- 22 stop/search with a 57% success rate which is double the national average
- 690 positive outcomes
- 904 Cycle offence warnings
- 94 Fixed penalty notices
- 35 Intelligence reports
- 35 e-bikes seized
- 169 hours of TFL red route patrol

A City Police proposal for **Operation Luscombe** (addressing issues around homelessness) is under consideration with Community & Children's Services covering stakeholder responsibilities, enforcement & resourcing.

Operation Reframe multi-agency NTE activities continue to raise awareness, build cooperation and enforce offences in hotspot locations.