

Serious Violence Subgroup

August 2023 Update	
Chair	Chief Supt. Rob Atkin, City of London Police
Co-Chair	T/ Chief Supt. Sanjay Andersen, City of London Police

The SV sub-group's main task is producing (by January 2024) a strategy to reduce serious violence in the City, as required by recent national legislation.

Over the past quarter we have:

1. *Helped produce a quantitative profile of local serious violence* – We worked with consultants funded by the Home Office (Crest Advisory) to produce the basis of our 'strategic needs assessment' (SNA) analysing the City's characteristics, risk factors, and profile of serious violence offences. The quantitative profile sets out that the City has the lowest rates of serious violence in London despite some risk factors of concern (such as estimated rates of alcohol misuse), that offences are concentrated in Bishopsgate, and that the commonest types of serious violence are assaults (without weapons), perpetrated by and against men in their early 30s. We will be adding to this analysis with medium-term trends of the volumes, day of week, and time of day of violent offences, and qualitative information about the City, to produce our SNA by January 2024.
2. *Built a more detailed picture of what we are already doing* – We have been working with the City police, probation, health, fire and rescue, licensing authorities and teams to establish a full picture of what action is already underway to tackle serious violence in the City. This has helped identify priorities and gaps for our strategy.
3. *Collated a longlist of options for our strategy* – We have held a workshop with local public sector and private partners and been engaging informally to gather a broad range of options for what we can do to reduce serious violence in the City. Current themes are: improved data analysis and sharing, a more intensive operational response particularly in the night-time economy, improved collaboration with non-policing and private sector actors, and more preventative initiatives for alcohol-related and sexual violence.

Over the next quarter we will be bringing together the quantitative profile, current activity, and longlist of options into a draft SNA and draft strategy, which will be shared with Members for information when ready. We have scheduled stakeholder engagement with some large City employers and are working on plans for engaging a range of other local groups on the emerging strategy – note that there are no legal requirements for a formal public consultation and we do not intend to issue one.