

Committee(s): Police Authority Board	Dated: 10 January 2024
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 01-24	For Information
Report author(s): Paul Betts, Assistant Commissioner Operations and Security; Nik Adams, Assistant Commissioner, National Lead Force.	

Summary

It was agreed that the Commissioner's verbal updates would be presented to the Board as formal written updates.

The *public* updates for Operations and Security and National Lead Force, Economic and Cyber Crime are attached.

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Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note the report.

Christmas Campaign

Operation Tinsel has continued to provide a high visibility presence and engagement with licensed premises, ensuring the safety and wellbeing of those enjoying the night time economy.

Op Reframe continues to support licensed premises and the wider community. With a focus on taxi touting, drink spiking and anti-social behaviour which has been highlighted as a key concern. Also supporting #DontCrossTheLine campaign against sexual harassment and misogyny. Launched by Hackney Council, City of London, Tower Hamlets and London’s local pubs, bars and clubs, the campaign aimed to send a clear message to perpetrators of sexual offences that they will not be tolerated and dealt with robustly.

Armed Robberies Conviction

A series of armed robberies across London, including The Chronicle Hotel on Norwich Street where thousands of pounds were stolen at gunpoint led to a joint investigation between City of London Police Major Crime Team and officers from the Metropolitan Police. This led to the identification and apprehension of two dangerous male offenders as well as removing a CO2 powered firearm and ammunition from the streets of London. The diligent investigation by officers led to the successful conviction of both men sentenced to a total of 22 years imprisonment for robberies committed at 3 London hotels.

Violent Disorder Conviction

Two groups were involved in a physical altercation at VQ Restaurant which spread onto the streets. One male was stabbed twice receiving non-life threatening injuries. Officers deployed and despite both groups leaving the area, officers secured the scene to obtain vital evidence leading to the identification of a number of suspects. Despite the victim refusing to cooperate with police, the diligent and tenacious work conducted by officers meant they were able to secure weapon related convictions which now await sentencing.

Good arrests

Whilst on patrol officers attended St Barts hospital where they have seen a rise in thefts. Officers quickly detained a male seen climbing over a wall, following a search they recovered wire cutters, screwdrivers and scissors. The male was arrested and has since been further linked to bicycle theft; investigations continue.

The Proactive Acquisitive Crime Team (PACT), whilst on patrol in plain clothes, has come across a 17 year old male paying attention to members of the public. Following a search, weapons and mobile phones were recovered. A further search of his home address recovered drugs and cash. An individual clearly looking to cause harm has been charged, with strict bail conditions attached whilst he awaits criminal trial.

Strategic Leadership

On the 30th November, Assistant Commissioner Adams attended the launch of the Online Fraud Charter at Lancaster House in company with the Home Secretary, Rt Hon James Cleverly MP. In attendance were also eleven of the largest technology companies in the United Kingdom, including Microsoft, Google, Facebook and Amazon. The Online Fraud Charter is a voluntary public / private sector initiative promoting shared ownership and collaborative working to identify and disrupt cyber enable fraud. This is a world first agreement to tackle online fraud. There was extensive positive media coverage reporting on this launch. The follow week, AC Adams attended the Joint Fraud Task Force, Hosted by the Security Minister, to begin to embed the Charter with private sector partners.

Action Fraud / NFIB

On the 30th November, the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) hosted the National User Group at the Barbican conference centre. This event was attended by over one hundred representatives from across UK Policing. NFIB demonstrated the latest build of the Foundry platform that will replace the Action Fraud service. The event was well received by visiting Police services, with positive feedback received.

Action Fraud launched their annual '12 Frauds of Christmas' campaign on Monday 4th December. The campaign is dedicated to raising awareness around various types of fraud and cyber crime daily in the lead up to Christmas. A partner pack has been circulated to industry partners and forces, which features 20 tailor made assets and a detailed social media schedule with Protect messaging. This campaign has been adopted by local Police forces and positive media coverage in local media outlets.

National Support & Co-ordination

European Money Mules Action (EMMA) concluded at the end of November. This is an action co-ordinated by Europol specifically to target cross border money mules. The project promotes partnership working during the EMMA period between law enforcement agencies and the private sector. Lead Force Operations Room (LFOR) co-ordinated the United Kingdom’s response which resulted in a number of phases of executive action which included arrests, safeguarding visits, cease & desist notices and account freezing orders.

Engagement visits have been completed to promote the new National Policing Strategy for Fraud, Economic and Cyber Crime. Each Regional Organised Crime Unit (ROCU) has hosted an event to which local forces have been invited. Subsequently, forces have sought guidance and expertise offered by CoLP to support implementation. In the New Year we will be engaging with HMICFRS to build the future Inspection framework, which we anticipate will be based on the strategy.

International Support & Co-ordination.

The Economic Crime Academy travelled to Mauritius to meet with the Investigation Directorate of The Mauritius Independent Commission against Corruption (ICAC) to undertake a Training Needs Analysis. Mauritian authorities are keen for the ECCA to potentially provide anti-corruption training.

Assistant Commissioner Adams met with the Royal Cayman Islands Police Service to discuss training and providing operational support as they look to develop their fraud investigation services. Every UK overseas territory is twinned with a UK Police Force from whom they can request support and advice. The Royal Cayman Islands Police Service is twinned with the City of London Police.

Pete O’Doherty
T/ Commissioner
City of London Police