

Committee(s): Police Authority Board	Dated: 5 June 2024
Subject: Commissioner's Update	Public
Which outcomes in the <i>City Corporation's Corporate Plan</i> does this proposal aim to impact directly?	CoLP impact the following Corp Plan outcomes: Vibrant Thriving Destination- (Community Safety/ CT) Dynamic Economic Growth- (National Lead Force)
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 74-24	For Information
Report author: Peter O'Doherty, T/Commissioner	

Summary

The *public* updates for Operations and Security and Economic and Cyber Crime are attached.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note the report.

Police Authority Board – Commissioner’s Update – 5 June 2024

Operations and Security

PAB Updates

Animal Welfare

It was reported in international news when Household cavalry horses bolted from Buckingham Palace and travelled through the City at pace. City officers quickly deployed risking their own safety to provide first aid to the injured and anxious horses whilst keeping them calm awaiting the horse box and veterinarian. The courageous actions from our teams prevented any further harm and distress to the horses, public or property.

Drugs investigation

An intelligence led investigation by The Serious and Organised Crime Team uncovered a large-scale importation and supply of cannabis. Working in partnership with a number of agencies, City of London officers led a coordinated proactive operation recovering a significant amount of class B drugs and cash, disrupting a criminal network intent on causing harm not only in the city but across the country.

Cycle Team

Several successful operations were run by the Cycle Team focusing on anti-social cycling. Following community engagement, a particular concern was food couriers who were cycling dangerously and ignoring road laws. In partnership with a number of departments within the City of London police and the Corporation, 26 illegal e-cycles were seized, and 10 fixed penalty noticed issues. Reinforcing such anti-social and illegal behaviour will not be tolerated in the City.

Operation Reframe

‘Don’t cross the line campaign’ focused on educating the public and licensed premises about the offences of sexual touching. 44 licensed premises were visited promoting ‘don’t cross the line’ and the risk of drink spiking. A number were tested on the ‘Ask for Angela’ response which was positive and reinforced CoLP’s commitment alongside licensed premises making the City a safe place to work, socialise and visit.

Safeguarding Investigation

A city worker who was stalked by a prospective job applicant was quickly identified and located by City’s CID. Their quick intervention allowed the arrest of the individual who was charged and remanded. Ensuring the safety and security of any victim from predatory behaviour.

Strategic Leadership and Engagement

It has been a busy month focusing on strategic engagements to highlight to partners and government the leading role the City of London Police has in combatting Fraud & Cybercrime. On Tuesday 9th May 2024, AC Adams joined a roundtable discussion with Feryal Clark MP (Shadow Crime Reduction Minister at the City of London corporation offices. Discussion was focused on the threat of Economic Crime and the current response.

On Tuesday 14th May 2024, AC Adams joined a roundtable discussion with Emily Thornberry MP (Shadow Attorney General & Labour Policy Lead on Fraud). The roundtable brought together a small group of leading organisations working in law enforcement, industry, consumer protection and victim support to explore the strengths of the current system that should be protected and enhanced, and the options for where a labour government could improve the collective response to fraud.

On Wednesday 15th May 2024, AC Adams joined a panel and presented at the Cityforum Economic Crime Summit. The panel was chaired by Dominic Grieve KC (former Attorney General). The forum was joined by leading industry experts to discuss economic crime, the strengths and weaknesses in the financial centre & a spotlight on corruption.

On Wednesday 15th May 2023, AC Adams attended a parliamentary panel session and discussion. It was chaired by Dame Margaret Hodge MP with Simon Fell MP & Emily Thornberry MP in attendance. The event was titled, “The UK Fraud Epidemic - Turning the Tide on Fraud and Scams”.

Operational activity highlights

The Insurance Fraud Enforcement Department (IFED) has continued to target offenders’ post-conviction to make sure they don’t profit from their crimes. In May 2021 a fraudster was convicted for two counts of fraud where they utilised a claims management companies to make fraudulent claims obtaining referral fees from solicitors. They made 62 false claims for car accidents to insurers. A Proceeds of Crime enforcement hearing has now taken place at City of London Magistrates court with a £210,000 confiscation order made which includes an overseas property.

National Support & Co-ordination

In response to the legislative and policy changes, the Economic & Cyber Crime Academy (ECCA) has completed a full review of their learning offer, including its most popular courses – the Specialist Fraud Investigator Programme and the Accredited Counter Fraud Manager course. The new courses have been renamed and submitted to Skills for Justice Awards for accreditation. The courses focus on the wider fraud and economic crime arena and are the product of 12 months of dedicated research and development. In doing so, the ECCA has created a Professional Training Pathway, designed to complement the College of Policing’s Professionalising Investigation Programme (PIP), and support investigators from foundation level to complex economic crime investigations, including supervision and management. This will improve timeliness and outcome of investigations for the benefit of victims.

International Support & Co-ordination.

The Insurance Fraud Enforcement Department (IFED) presented at the Insurance Sweden annual conference in Stockholm on Monday 5th May 2024. The presentation focused on IFED’s work, the IFED operating model, and our public-private partnership. Attendees included insurance company CEOs, senior police figures, and an MP from current coalition.

The Police Intellectual Property Crime unit (PIPCU) attended the international anti-counterfeiting coalition conference in Orlando, Florida in May 2024. They presented to a panel of experts the excellent work PIPCU does as law enforcement specialists in this area. Their input was well received by delegates.

Pete O’Doherty
T/ Commissioner
City of London Police