

<b>Committee(s):</b> Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee	<b>Dated:</b> 11/06/2024
<b>Subject:</b> Safer City Partnership 2022- 2025 Strategy - 2024 Update	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	N/A
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>If so, how much?</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Judith Finlay – Executive Director – Community and Children's Services, City of London Corporation	<b>For Discussion</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Valeria Cadena – Community Safety Manager, Community and Children's Services, City of London Corporation	

### Summary

This report highlights the changes made to the Safer City Partnership Strategy 2022-2025 in order to update it to be in line with new central Government legislation and other changes. It also provides a view into the updated delivery plans for the year 2024.

### Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.
- Approve changes
- Consider recommendations

### Main Report

#### Background

1. The Safer City Partnership (SCP) Strategy 2022 – 2025 is the statutory three-year partnership strategy document. It outlines seven strategic aims, four of which are legally mandated.

2. An annual review of the SCP three-year strategy is necessary to ensure continued alignment with priorities and the needs of the City.
3. The current proposed changes only account for legislative updates and do not reflect any modifications indicated by analytical products. A key challenge for the partnership is obtaining up-to-date data analysis to inform strategy updates.

### **Current position**

4. The current strategy was formulated to address all relevant statutory requirements up to 2021. Since then, changes impacting how certain crime types are addressed and responded to have occurred. Crime and legislation continually evolve, necessitating regular updates and reviews by the SCP Strategy group to address emerging needs in addition to monitoring progress.
5. The changes made to the SCP 2022- 2025 Strategy are as follows:
  - a. Clinical Commissioning Groups have been replaced by Integrated Care boards, making the City and Hackney Place Based Partnership one of the SCP Responsible authorities.
  - b. A new Serious Violence Duty Strategy has been completed and published in the City of London website in line to the new legislation.
  - c. Sexual violence has been moved from the 'Reducing Neighbourhood Crime and ASB strategy' to the Serious Violence Duty Strategy.
  - d. Our reducing reoffending strategic aim will incorporate the partnership's response to the new legislation in 'Out of Court Disposals' and our partnership response towards Integrated Offender Management (IOM) managed in other areas of London.
  - e. Definitions and types of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) have been reviewed to reflect the increasing variety of behaviours and crimes committed primarily by men against women.
  - f. The VAWG strategy now provides misogyny more recognition in playing a detrimental role in leading to VAWG.
  - g. Engagement work with Licensed Premises, including the promotion of the Women's Safety Charter, has been removed due to it now being included within the Serious Violence Duty Strategy. The engagement work detailed within this section of the strategy has been refreshed to only include the sectors and community-based groups providing local effective work.
  - h. Operation Encompass has been highlighted as this project forms a key role in ensuring clear and regular contact in place between the City of London schools and the City of London Police Public Protection Unit.
  - i. The Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) have been noted as they have become instrumental in ensuring any campaigns and initiatives led by the City Corporation are widespread amongst the businesses and organisations in the City. This leads to further awareness of VAWG and increased engagement with the work being delivered.

6. The VAWG, Hate Crime and Vulnerability action plans 2023 were completed and presented at the SCP Strategy Board meeting in January. Reviewed plans in these areas have been produced to deliver and progress the strategic aims for 2024. Please see Appendix 2,3 and 4.
7. Over the past couple of years, significant changes have occurred in the City, particularly those related to the night-time economy/entertainment industry and rough sleeping. However, it is crucial to ensure that data analysis captures these new developments to aid in strategy review and future preparation.
8. Ideally, an annual strategic assessment would facilitate the partnership's alignment of the strategy with fluctuations in crime levels, emerging issues, and shifts in criminal trends.
9. The SCP Strategy Board does not currently have a dedicated data analyst to produce the analytical products required by the partnership and strategic delivery group to comprehend current crime trends and assess the impact of strategic actions. While the Police Authority offered to provide an analyst to address this gap, other challenges arose preventing this from proceeding.
10. The SCP Strategy Board is exploring alternative options for supplying the board with analytical products. Most agencies within the partnership have teams of analysts who could potentially contribute to this work. In the spirit of the legislation, no single agency bears sole responsibility for the partnership, and all partners collaborate to share information and jointly plan effective interventions to reduce crime and disorder.
11. Consideration of the implementation of a Vulnerability Forum was discussed at the SCP Strategy Board in May 2024 as a way to centralise the actions from the Safeguarding and supporting high risk and vulnerable children and adults from harm strategy. This proposal was rejected by the board as they felt the actions were already being reviewed. As a result, actions will be passed to the following boards, who will in turn be responsible for reporting on their own actions quarterly at the SCP Strategy Board.
  - **City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board**
  - **City and Hackney Safeguarding Children Board**
  - **City Police Vulnerability Forum**

## **Proposals**

12. The SCP Strategy Board needs to consider acquiring a dedicated analytical resource to consolidate all relevant data for annual reviews, enabling the capture of all pertinent information in a centralised location.

13. To mitigate single points of failure, the analytical resource would preferably be allocated in a team of analyst with one of the five responsible authorities, the SCP could pay for this resource with available POCA funds.
14. The delivery groups will also benefit from analytical help and products that allow them to identify current issues and verify if targeted solutions are achieving what was planned. The analyst should be able to resource all delivery groups with dedicated products.

### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

**N/A**

### **Financial implications**

15. The proposals – if adopted would require financing.

### **Resource implications**

16. As noted in the report.

### **Legal implications**

17. The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 introduced a Duty on a specified list of public sector authorities in all local government areas to work together to prevent and reduce local serious violence.
18. In December 2021 the government's 10-year plan to cut drug crime and save lives, 'From harm to hope' was published.
19. Reforms to the adult out of court resolutions framework in the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill

### **Risk implications**

20. None.

### **Equalities implications**

21. As noted in the report.

### **Climate implications**

22. None.

### **Security implications**

23. None.

### **Conclusion**

24. Updating our strategy and actions plans annually is a statutory responsibility for the partnership and allow the partnership to look at any matters that need to be

incorporated and prioritised for the year. With the help of everyone in the SCP Strategy Board these changes can be very relevant and help us achieve our overall aim of reducing and preventing crime and keeping the City safe.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – Safer City Partnership Strategy 2022 – 2025

### **Valeria Cadena**

Community Safety Manager

Department of Community and Children's Services

City of London Corporation

[Valeria.Cadena@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:Valeria.Cadena@cityoflondon.gov.uk)