

City of London Police Annual Report 2023-24

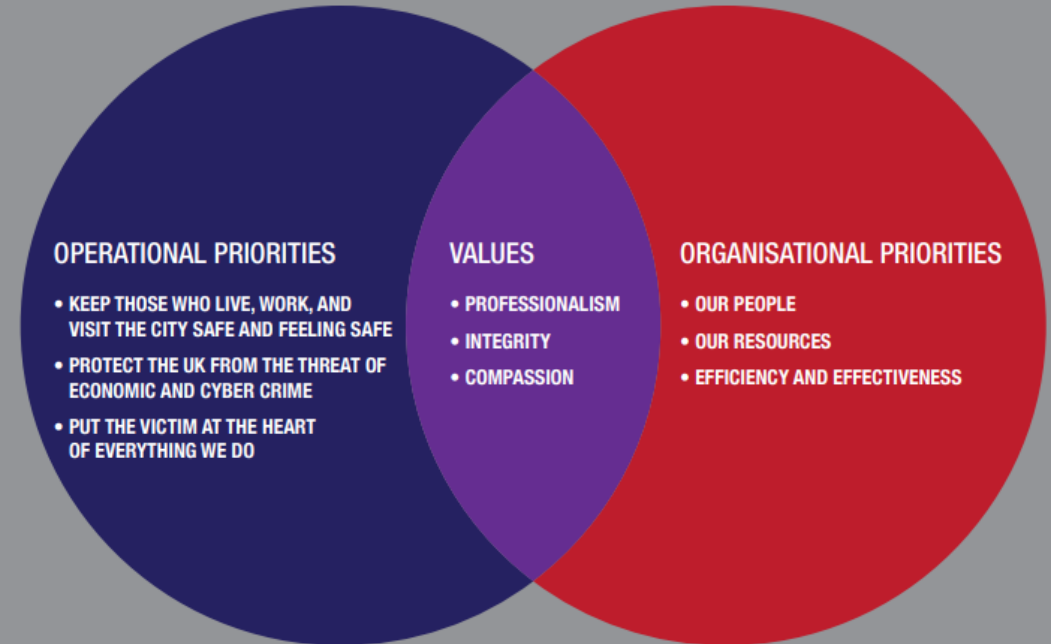


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Our Policing Plan

A LOCAL SERVICE WITH A NATIONAL ROLE, TRUSTED BY OUR COMMUNITIES TO DELIVER
POLICING WITH PROFESSIONALISM, INTEGRITY AND COMPASSION



Commissioner's Foreword



I am delighted to present this annual report which sets out progress against our Policing Plan 2023/24.

It's been another busy year for the City. We have been involved in large events including the King's coronation in May, Lord Mayor's Show in November and New Years' Eve celebrations. We have also seen a number of increased planned and unplanned protests following issues across the world. We have continued to deploy operations such as Project Servator to protect the City from terrorism and Operation Reframe to protect women and girls from violence in the City.

This year, we have also developed our National Policing Strategy for Fraud, Economic and Cyber Crime 2023-28, which strengthens national police capabilities for detecting offenders and protecting victims. We have visited forces all across England and Wales to demonstrate how this strategy will benefit them.

We remain committed to restoring trust among our communities. Tragic events and the behaviour of individuals in policing have provided a platform for public concern about standards, racism, misogyny, and homophobia in policing. Ensuring professionalism and integrity by our officers and being able to attract and retain the very best police officers, staff and volunteers remains an important priority. A representative workforce and a culture that is genuinely inclusive will help us to retain talent, benefit from diversity of thought and drive innovation and creativity in our services.

In 2024, we are replacing the technology for Action Fraud and the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau, to give victims a more accessible and customer friendly service, and to ensure the right crimes are disseminated with expediency across policing.

Tackling crime requires an understanding of the root causes and a whole-system response. We will continue to work collaboratively with partners, including the Corporation, law enforcement and the public and private sectors to prevent and reduce crime and bring offenders to justice, locally nationally and internationally. In doing so, we will also increase our engagement across our communities. Last year has continued to be a particularly challenging time for society and for policing, therefore working with our partners to provide the best outcomes for our communities and victims of crime remains a key priority for this plan, including implementation of Right Care Right Person.

I am proud to be leading the City of London Police and look forward to working collectively to deliver a modern engaging and professional service for all our communities.

Pete O'Doherty

T/Commissioner, City of London Police

Chair's Foreword



At a time when trust and confidence in policing is challenged, the City of London Police has continued to protect the Square Mile and the nation. It has done so by putting victims and communities at the heart of everything we do.

The ambition of the City of London Police, supported by the City of London Police Authority Board, is to be the most inclusive police service in the country. We have a clear strategy to deliver this goal by having a culture of inclusivity, equity, and fairness within the City Police itself and in its service delivery.

The results are clear – particularly the national recognition of the City's initiatives on preventing violence against women and girls. Revitalising our Safer City Partnership has played a big part in this, as has the focus on tackling violent and acquisitive crime. Protective security and counter terrorism remain paramount. We want to ensure that the City remains the safest business district in the world – no matter the crime type. All of this has been supported by increased funding and record number of police officers in recent years.

Economic security is critical to the competitiveness of the UK, London and the City, and I have been pleased with the achievements of the City Police, working with partners in law enforcement and the private sector, to reduce fraud, economic and cyber crime nationally.

Notably, we're building the new national reporting service to replace Action Fraud, due to launch this year, to provide a significantly better service to report, analyse and tackle fraud. And we have fully supported Government's prioritisation of stopping fraud through the roll-out of the National Fraud Squad, the National Economic Crime Victims Care Unit and the National Policing Strategy for Fraud, Economic and Cyber Crime 2023–2028.

Our City Police Estate's Programme has made big strides. Construction is well underway of the new Headquarters at Salisbury Square alongside the new Economic and Cyber Crime Courts at Fleet Street. Planning permission for new police accommodation at Middlesex Street has been secured, facilities for firearms training are well advanced, and plans for new stables for our Mounted Branch are gathering pace.

Having completed my term as Chair of the City of London Police Authority Board, I would like to extend my very sincere gratitude to all the City of London police officers, special constables, staff, volunteers and cadets as well as all members of the Police Authority Board and its Committees, and the Police Authority Team, for their dedication and hard work.

Together, we continue to deliver on our policing priorities: ensuring that the Square Mile remains the safest business district in the world; and protecting our nation's economic security.

James Thomson

Chair, City of London Police Authority Board

Policing Plan Operational Priorities

We set performance measures against our Policing Plan priorities which are monitored by the Police Authority. This year the performance measures related to:

Keep those who live, work and visit the City safe and feeling safe

 <p>Reducing neighbourhood crime and harm</p>	 <p>Protecting the City from terrorism</p>	 <p>Tackling anti-social behaviour and reducing violent crime</p>	 <p>Tackling serious and organised crime</p>
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Protect the UK from the threat of economic and cyber crime

 <p>Working with businesses and communities to protect themselves from economic and cyber crime</p>	 <p>Improving the police response to economic and cyber crime</p>	 <p>Targeting fraud offenders and bringing them to justice</p>	 <p>Disrupting criminal money flows and seizing proceeds of crime</p>
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Put the victim at the heart of everything we do

 <p>Delivering an improved criminal justice service</p>	 <p>Helping victims who report to Action Fraud recover their money</p>	 <p>Safeguarding and supporting vulnerable people</p>	 <p>Improving national fraud & cyber crime reporting services</p>
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Keep those who live, work and visit the City safe and feeling safe

<p>In our 2023 Community Survey, 86% of respondents agreed that the City is a safe place and 78% have confidence in the City of London Police.</p>	<p>Deployed Project Servator teams 1930 times to protect the City from the threat of terrorism.</p>	<p>Deployed Operation Reframe on 11 occasions, leading to 397 licensed premises checks focusing on protecting women and girls in the City at night.</p>	<p>We have seen a 106% increase in disruptions of Organised Crime Group activity across 2023.</p>
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Protect the UK from the threat of economic and cyber crime

<p>Within the last financial year, we held 89 academy courses for 1064 delegates.</p>	<p>Visited all 43 police forces nationally to support and share good practice with fraud and economic crime teams.</p>	<p>Co-ordinated the delivery of operational National Fraud Squad resources nationally and in every region in the UK.</p>	<p>Delivered the National Policing Strategy for Fraud, Economic and Cyber Crime 2023-2028</p>
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Put the victim at the heart of everything we do

<p>The new Victims Strategy written this year will include 12 performance measures to ensure we put the victim at the heart of everything we do.</p>	<p>Service take-up is higher for City victims of higher-harm crime: 19% for Enhanced Priority Referrals, 43% for victims of domestic abuse, and 34% for repeat victims</p>	<p>Huge amounts of work has been undertaken to get ready for the replacement of Action Fraud/NFIB system with the next generation Fraud and Cyber Crime Reporting Analysis Service ready for 2024.</p>	<p>National Economic Crime Victim Care Unit has engaged with and supported 66,509 victims of fraud and cyber crime in the past 12 months.</p>
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Keep those who live, work and visit the City safe and feeling safe

We have undertaken a range of activities to keep the City safe and our communities feeling safe. Some highlights are set out below.

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING AND ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

We launched our new Neighbourhood Policing and Engagement Strategy to provide strategic direction to Neighbourhood Policing officers that will help keep those who live, work and visit the City safe and feeling safe. The strategy sets out CoLP's aims to work closely with our partners and communities to:

- Prevent crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour
- Protect the vulnerable and reduce repeat victimization
- Provide a flow of community intelligence on a range of issues, and
- Promote a culture of trust and confidence.

The launch of the strategy coincided with the 2024 Neighbourhood Policing Week of Action, which highlighted the vital work that neighbourhood officers, police community and support officers (PCSOs) and volunteers do to protect the public.

The strategy will see Neighbourhood Policing officers engage in regular initiatives, establish meaningful connections with residents and forge partnerships with local organisations, businesses and community leaders. It is anticipated that this collaborative and proactive approach will cultivate trust, enhance communications and empower our communities.

REDUCING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) investigative process has been streamlined to improve victim contact and care; allow more accurate data integrity and to record and reduce the number of closure failures that result from ASB reports being incorrectly updated.

The ASB Action Plan commits to tackling ASB across five key themes:

- Stronger punishment
- Making communities safer
- Building local pride, prevention and early intervention
- Improving data, reporting and accountability for action.

OPERATION TINSEL

Our Christmas campaign "Operation Tinsel" ran through our busiest periods of footfall and used statistical analysis of current crime trends to focus resources. The tactic deployed was hotspot-based, and areas were identified through data analysis. Resources remained at these locations and were briefed to deliver engagement messages based on Servator tactics with the aim of increasing the feeling of safety and policing presence to members of the public. This operation focused heavily on partnership work and a welfare hub with medics were deployed throughout the campaign. This reduced the hours officers were held at A&E but also reduced the need for London Ambulance Service to send crews.

Keep those who live, work and visit the City safe and feeling safe

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

In line with the Violence Against Women and Girls Action Plan (VAWG), the monthly partnership Operation Reframe aims to build trust and confidence, relentless perpetrator pursuit, and creating safer spaces, by 'reframing the night'. To assist in evaluating the impact of Operation Reframe, a trust and confidence survey was completed with members of the public:

- 79% said they agree that seeing a police officer in uniform made them feel safer
- 86% said that they agreed that they would be confident to approach and speak to a uniformed officer
- 86% said they agreed that they would be confident in approaching a guardian volunteer.

SERIOUS VIOLENCE DUTY STRATEGY

Our new Serious Violence Duty strategy is defined by three priority areas: the night time economy, sexual and domestic violence, and threats from a changing City. A fourth group of measures on data sharing, analysis, and information-gathering act as enablers of progress across all three priorities.

Our approach does not entail a significant shift in the core operational response of the City Police or the activity of the City Corporation and its statutory public sector partners. Instead, it aims to make incremental improvements by reducing threats of serious violence – through measures that target perpetrators, and vulnerabilities to serious violence – through measures that target potential victims and potential locations of these offences.

CYCLE TEAM

This year, we saw the reintroduction of the Cycle Team to help combat phone snatching, as well as other offences like drug and road crimes. Having officers out on bikes aims to act as a deterrent in hot spot areas and increase our response and interception capability. With the City becoming more pedestrianised and decreasing access for vehicles, taking into account the obvious health and environmental factors, cycling as a policing tactic is definitely one of the best options. We are continuing to work with colleagues in the Metropolitan Police Service's Public Order Team progressing public order tactics some of which are being used for recent demonstrations.



SERIOUS ORGANISED CRIME & INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES

We continue to grow and develop our serious and organised crime capability and have taken a whole system approach across prevention, protection, pursue and prepare. The improvement in performance of SOC disruptions is significant with figures for 2023/24 outstripping previous years by some significant degree. We continue to focus on improving our understanding of threat and harm with a particular focus on drug markets, modern slavery and human trafficking.

Protect the UK from the threat of economic and cyber crime

We have undertaken a range of activities to protect the UK from economic and cyber crime. Some highlights are set out below.

DEVELOPING ECONOMIC AND CYBER CRIME CAPABILITIES

Our Economic and Cyber Crime Academy (ECCA) continues to deliver a range of training courses to police, other law enforcement agencies and international partners, in partnership with the Foreign Commonwealth, Development Office and the National Crime Agency. Over the last financial year, we delivered 89 training courses for 1064 delegates. In addition, we delivered 2 CPD events.

We have made excellent progress in realigning our professional training pathway for fraud and economic crime investigators, and have imbedded over half of our enhanced training course materials within our core courses. Our professional pathway of courses has been devised in consultation with the College of Policing, police forces, regional organised crime units, the Crown Prosecution Service, and other key stakeholders.

NATIONAL LEAD FORCE OPERATIONS

Our Fraud Operations Team are responsible for targeting the complex serious and organised crime groups behind fraud offending, working nationally and internationally. In 23-24 they successfully convicted a multitude of offenders including Operation Vanbrugh, a complex ponzi investment fraud with over 300 victims where the offender was sentenced to 14 years custody; Operation

Curry, an investigation into the sales of a fictitious cryptocurrency where the offenders both received over 6 years custody; Operation Sanguine, an investigation into utilising fake invoices to commit over £1m worth of fraud where the offender was jailed for six years, and Operation Downburst, and investment fraud with over £12m of losses where the main offender was sentenced to just under 6 years in custody.

PROTECTING BUSINESS FROM CYBER CRIME

The City established the National Cyber Resilience Centre group as a vehicle for strategic collaboration between the police, government, industry and academia to strengthen cyber resilience across small and medium sized businesses, the network now comprises of 9 established regional centres across England and Wales. SME membership continues to grow at pace with 11,800 free core members, 75% of which enquire about a technical service during their first year in comparison with Industry average of 22%.

The National Ambassador programme (harnessing the support and expertise of some of our nation's most successful private sector organisations) continues to grow with various stakeholders now supporting this. The globally unique workplace ready talent pipeline, CyberPATH continues to produce the next generation of cyber security experts to reduce the global skills gap - many graduates immediately secured roles within the Cyber Security industry, one of whom won Cyber Student of the year at the National Cyber Awards 2023. Together the centres have delivered guidance and support to thousands of small and medium-sized enterprises across all sectors, helping them to better protect their day-to-day operations from cyber criminals.

Protect the UK from the threat of economic and cyber crime

POLICE CYBERALARM

The Police CyberAlarm member base continues to grow with over 8,600 members. In addition to the monthly threat and vulnerability reports, members and the police network receive regular newsletters and updates. An additional National Coordinator and Intelligence Analyst have been recruited to join the Police CyberAlarm team and will be in post later in 2024. This will increase resources available to continue to increase the PCA member base in addition to identifying patterns and trends within the vast amount of data being shared with law enforcement.

During the past 12 months we have identified:

- ✓ over 3 billion suspicious incidents.
- ✓ over 60,000 vulnerability scans of member websites and public facing IP addresses.
- ✓ 4,133 high-risk, 19,925 medium-risk and 3,115 low-risk vulnerabilities on external networks.

TACKLING FRAUD THROUGH INNOVATIVE PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS –

We are now into the 12th year of the Insurance Fraud Enforcement Department (IFED), our successful partnership with the Association of British Insurers. The unit was created through integration with the insurance industry to tackle the scourge of Insurance Fraud and Economic Crime. Since inception the unit has investigated over £360 million of fraud, arrested and interviewed over 3210 suspects, securing 648 court convictions and over 324 years of prison time for fraudsters.

The DCPCU have partnered with Lloyds Banking Group as part of a pilot scheme using 'frozen

funds' to fund a new specialist team. The team investigates emerging cyber threats and in their first year, they arrested 26 nominals, seized £0.88m and saved the industry an estimated £35.3m

OPERATION HENHOUSE

February 2024 saw the third iteration of Operation Henhouse, a system wide fraud pursue intensification. Funded by the National Economic Crime Centre and coordinated through the City of London Police this year's was the most successful yet drawing in activity across every police force and region in England and Wales as well as Police Scotland, with 364 arrests and 191 voluntary interviews completed, with 243 Cease & Desist notices issued. As part of our commitment to the fraud reform programme, we have established and lead a network of proactive economic crime teams in every region in England & Wales. As of March 2023, the teams were investigating over 400 fraud intelligence packages against some of the most serious fraud offenders.



CRYPTOCURRENCIES

The NPCC Cryptocurrency Programme Team has continued to build and develop capacity across UK policing, to ensure that the network is enabled to meet the continued criminal adoption of cryptocurrency across all SOC types. This includes the delivery of a £1.5 million contract with Chainalysis to provide Forces and ROCUs with cryptocurrency investigative tools that enable the blockchain to be interrogated.

Put the victim at the heart of everything we do

We have undertaken a range of activities to support victims. Some highlights are set out below.

A NEW VICTIMS STRATEGY

This year, working with the City of London Corporation, CoLP has developed a new Victim Strategy. The key objectives of this strategy are:

- To make sure the City is ready to deliver both the specific aims of the Victims Bill and embody its wider goal to put victims firmly at the heart of the criminal justice system
- To detail how we will deliver our local commitment to put victims at the heart of all we do, both in the City Police and with action from the Police Authority and wider Corporation
- To increase trust and confidence in the police by improving services and outcomes for victims.

IMPROVING NATIONAL FRAUD AND CYBER CRIME REPORTING SERVICES

The Fraud and Cyber Crime Reporting and Analysis project replaces Action Fraud in 2024 and has completed some major milestones this year. This enhanced website and reporting service will make it easier for the public and business to report crimes and know what has happened to their report. The replacement service will enable us to stop and block more criminals from victimising people and businesses. A new analytics system will also increase successful identification and pursuit of fraudsters.

PROTECTING VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE

We are achieving positive results for victims of domestic abuse. Domestic abuse offences have reduced slightly in 2023 compared with 2022. This is driven by a reduction in violent offences but offset with an increase in stalking offences.

Working with the City of London Corporation we are aiming to be a 'Beacon' member of the Employers Initiative on Domestic Abuse, ensuring that we are a prominent advocate for the programme, leading culture change among UK employers by influencing and inspiring other employers to make a difference to people's lives by raising awareness of domestic abuse and supporting their employees who are impacted by it.

SUPPORTING VICTIMS OF FRAUD AND CYBER CRIME AND PREVENTING REPEAT VICTIMISATION

Our National Economic Crime Victim Care Unit provides victims who report to Action Fraud with bespoke specialist advice to signpost to support services and help them to protect themselves from falling victim again in the future. Between May to October 2023, the NECVCU supported £60,056 Level 1 (non-vulnerable) victims and 6,453 Level 2 (vulnerable) victims. Prior to NECVCU expansion, many of these individuals would have likely received a 28-day letter, informing them that their crime was not being progressed with little additional contact from Police, unless a significant vulnerability had been identified via other means.



Policing Plan Organisational Priorities



Improving workforce representation to better reflect our communities



Ensuring our people have the skills and equipment they need



Ensuring well-being & engagement of our people



Reducing our environmental impact



Our People, Our Resources Efficiency and Effectiveness

Our organisational priorities focus on building the organisational capabilities that enable us to deliver an efficient and effective service to our communities. Some highlights of this work are set out below.

CORPORATE SERVICES REVIEW

Over the last year, we have completed a Corporate Services Review which aimed to create a unified Corporate Services directorate that enables the delivery of Policing Plan priorities. The restructure will result in improvements to key capabilities including strategic planning, change management, data analysis and digital exploitation.



RETAINING AND SUPPORTING NEW OFFICERS

We have continued our 'buddy scheme' this year which involves a new member of staff being given a more experienced officer as a point of contact to help them settle in throughout their probationary period. We also introduced a 'friendly ear' programme. This is a confidential contact system, where new recruits can discuss things that are causing them anxiety, stress or frustration. Recruits are then signposted to relevant support. By understanding the factors that influence retention, we have introduced programmes that are encouraging new staff to stay.



100th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Ch Supt Rob Atkin MBE and PC Rob Bray recently paid a surprise visit to retired City of London Police Officer Cyril 'John' Breeze on his 100th birthday.

The pair joined celebrations with John's family, friends and neighbours at his home in Norfolk and shared a video message from T/Commissioner Pete O'Doherty wishing him a happy birthday, which John was overwhelmed by!

REDUCING OUR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Our vehicle fleet is now fully ULEZ compliant (excluding horsebox) with over 70 vehicles replaced over 3 years. We have raised awareness of how officers and staff can contribute to environmental targets including reducing energy use, printing and use of disposable cups. Recycling facilities have been introduced across the estate. This has seen a reduction in costs and waste. New LED lighting on sensors installed throughout Bishopsgate which switch off when the area is unoccupied has seen a great reduction in power consumption. All products sold through our catering contract use recyclable plastics only and we are moving towards being single use plastics free. All chemicals used by our cleaning contractor are biodegradable only, ensuring minimal impact on the environment.

Our People, Our Resources Efficiency and Effectiveness

WORKFORCE DIVERSITY

We have been improving the diversity of our workforce through targeted recruitment of women for officers and staff. As of 31 December 2023, 24.3% of the officer workforce were female, a 0.7% increase from 2022. Staff female representation was 60.1%, an increase of 0.7% from 2022.

Our aim is to further increase the diversity of our workforce and our recruitment and attraction strategies are designed to support this. In 2023, 15.2% of officers, staff and specials were recorded as ethnic minorities, a 1.2% increase (+8.6% change) since 2022.

OUR PEOPLE INCLUSIVITY PROGRAMME

We continue to build a positive internal culture and standards by promoting inclusivity, equity and belonging for all employees through the launch of the 'Our People Inclusivity Programme'. This year more than 650 of our people attended an in-person event within six months. Following the success of the event, we introduced a range of inclusivity sessions which allow colleagues to choose from a menu of programmes depending on learning style and knowledge gap. These programmes include sessions which raise awareness of current and historic issues faced by underrepresented groups and relationships with policing, training on how to be an active bystander and effectively challenge microaggressions and other behaviours that are not in line with our values, and a range of other topics which will be rolled out over the course of the year.

POLICE CADET PROGRAMME

Our police cadets volunteered their time over Easter to paint two walls in the custody exercise yard.

Around 30% of detainees who come into custody have a mental health condition and many are vulnerable, so the custody cadre has been working with the cadets to make the exercise yard brighter.



POSITIVE ACTION LEADERSHIP SCHEME

In 2021 we implemented a professional development programme specially designed to give our officers and staff who come from an ethnic minority group tools to progress in their careers, whether for promotion or lateral development. The scheme comprises six modules delivered over a nine-month period, with guest speakers joining each session. The modules focus on presentation skills, networking, building confidence, career planning, mentoring, self-awareness, strategic awareness and project management. In 2023 there was an increase in participation in the scheme and this will be delivered again in 2024.

Introduction

The Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR) sets out the Home Secretary's view of what the current national threats are, and the national policing capabilities needed to counter those threats. The seven threats are Violence Against Women and Girls, Terrorism, Serious and Organised Crime, National Cyber Incident, Child Sexual Abuse, Public Disorder and Civil Emergencies.

The Commissioner is responsible for having due regard to both the Policing Plan and the Strategic Policing Requirement when exercising their functions, and the Police Authority holds the Commissioner accountable for doing so through the governance framework. The City of London Police is complying with the Strategic Policing Requirement.

A revised version of the SPR was published nationally in February 2023, which provided strengthened detail around the action required from policing at the local and regional levels to critical national threats. The identified threats were Serious and Organised Crime (SOC), Terrorism, Cyber, Child Sexual Abuse, Public Disorder and Civil Emergencies. These remain from the 2015 version, with the addition in 2023 of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), reflecting the threat it presents to public safety and confidence. Following publication of the revised Strategic Policing Requirement for 2023, the Police Authority sought assurance that the Force had sufficient capacity and capability to meet the responsibilities outlined in relation to national threats.

The City of London Police has undertaken a multi-stage approach to confirm that we are meeting the capabilities set out in the SPR. The approach includes desktop review, alignment to HMICFRS recommendations, reality testing, linking in with the Force Management Statement, and threat area status rating.

Violence Against Women and Girls

The addition of VAWG was a welcome addition, and is a priority for the City of London Police as set out in other areas of this Annual Report. In line with our Violence Against Women and Girls Action Plan (VAWG), we have focused on key initiatives such as the monthly partnership Operation Reframe aims to build trust and confidence, relentless perpetrator pursuit, and creating safer spaces, by 'reframing the night'.

Terrorism

We have continued to deploy operations such as Project Servator to protect the City from terrorism. We are preparing for a potential increase in demand, the most likely cause of which will be the increase in threat level. We are satisfied that current investigative structures, including the current regional collaboration could meet demand from an increase in threat level and/or demand from terror suspects within the City.

Serious and Organised Crime

We continue to grow and develop our serious and organised crime capability and have taken a whole system approach across prevention, protection, pursue and prepare. The improvement in performance of SOC disruptions is significant with figures for 2023/24 outstripping previous years by some significant degree. We continue to focus on improving our understanding of threat and harm with a particular focus on drug markets, modern slavery and human trafficking, as well as fraud.

National Cyber Incident

Our Economic and Cyber Crime Academy (ECCA) continues to deliver a range of training courses to police, other law enforcement agencies and international partners, in partnership with the Foreign Commonwealth, Development Office and the National Crime Agency. We have made excellent progress in realigning our professional training pathway for fraud and economic crime investigators, and have embedded over half of our enhanced training course materials within our core courses. Our professional pathway of courses has been devised in consultation with the College of Policing, police forces, regional organised crime units, the Crown Prosecution Service, and other key stakeholders.

Child Sexual Abuse

The creation of the vulnerability and child protection team under the new operating model in Public Protection Unit has given clear ownership of high harm investigations such as child sexual exploitation, alongside safeguarding coordination functions.

Public Disorder

Our new Neighbourhood Policing Strategy aims to prevent crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour, and highlights key initiatives and operations within that to ensure we are meeting the threat.

Civil Emergencies

The response to civil emergencies is regularly tested in partnership with City of London Corporation and the wider London Resilience Forum. The greatest threats have not significantly changed: the City Police is not currently responding to any civil emergencies and therefore the demand remains the same:

- Understanding emerging threats and risks
- Testing and exercising to develop plans to respond to civil emergencies and ensure we are suitably prepared for possible incidents.

Crime Statistics

Local data

We monitor criminality within the City, so we can react to emerging trends and patterns to keep residents, workers and visitors safe. The impact of COVID-19 lockdown saw crime reduce in 2020/21. Since then footfall in the City has been gradually returning and is currently around 75% of pre-pandemic levels. This resulted in a 5% rise in criminality in 2023/24 compared with the previous year but is still below pre-pandemic levels of 2019/20 by 7%.

Row Labels	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
THEFT OFFENCES	5465	1926	3229	4571	4915
VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON	1190	491	1115	1166	1211
PUBLIC DISORDER	470	260	528	518	545
DRUG OFFENCES	733	614	670	618	536
CRIMINAL DAMAGE & ARSON	273	179	279	272	310
MISCELLANEOUS CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY	261	227	206	207	181
SEXUAL OFFENCES	94	41	119	132	165
ROBBERY	158	77	111	125	138
POSSESSION OF WEAPONS OFFENCES	78	48	54	57	84
Total	8722	3863	6311	7666	8085

1 year % change	1 year change	5 year % change	5 year change
8%	344	-10%	-550
4%	45	2%	21
5%	27	16%	75
-13%	-82	-27%	-197
14%	38	14%	37
-13%	-26	-31%	-80
25%	33	76%	71
10%	13	-13%	-20
47%	27	8%	6
5%	419	-7%	-637

Theft remains the most prevalent crime type and has seen an 8% increase in the last year, however remains lower than pre-pandemic levels in 2019 by 10%. The largest increase of offences within theft has been within the "other theft" category this usually includes thefts from gyms or licensed premises. There has been a reduction in the slightly higher harm offence of theft from the person which is positive. Violence offences remain the second most prevalent crime type and saw a 4% increase on last year. These violence offences, however, are less harmful with a greater proportion of violence offences resulting in no injury than those with injury. Drug Offences have continued to reduce with a 13% decrease in the last year and 27% decrease compared with 2019/20.

CoLP is monitoring the increases in high harm offences such as sexual offences and robbery to ensure it takes a proactive approach to prevention and investigation however the increase in these crime types is a national trend.

National data

The City has a very different profile of crime compared to the national position, which is not unexpected given its unique demographic and low residential population. It has significantly higher levels of theft offences, at 61% in 2023/24, compared to the national picture at 26%. The national picture has been changing over the last five years, with a 6% reduction in theft offences, whereas the City's proportion of theft offences has remained broadly stable around 60%.

The national picture is also showing a changing picture around violence offences, increasing in proportion by 3% since 2019/20. Again, the City has a very different trend, with broadly similar levels at a much lower proportion of crime (15% City of London Police v 31% National).

Positive Outcome Rate

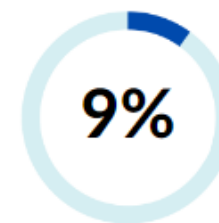
Positive outcomes arise following identification and apprehension of criminals operating in the City. They cover outcomes such as charges, cautions and community resolutions against all crime reports.

Row Labels	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	1 year change	5 year change
CRIMINAL DAMAGE & ARSON	19%	28%	13%	17%	15%	-2%	-4%
DRUG OFFENCES	85%	89%	80%	76%	95%	19%	10%
MISCELLANEOUS CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY	46%	27%	36%	23%	28%	5%	-18%
POSSESSION OF WEAPONS OFFENCES	51%	52%	63%	39%	51%	13%	0%
PUBLIC DISORDER	23%	30%	23%	18%	21%	3%	-2%
ROBBERY	15%	10%	3%	8%	9%	1%	-5%
SEXUAL OFFENCES	18%	24%	4%	11%	16%	6%	-2%
THEFT OFFENCES	11%	17%	11%	8%	11%	2%	0%
VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON	19%	31%	14%	18%	21%	3%	1%
Total	21%	33%	21%	17%	20%	3%	-1%

CoLP positive outcome rate



National positive outcome rate



The positive outcome rate is showing stability for City of London Police, and has increased to previous levels seen in 2019/20 this is in contrast to national levels that have reduced over the same time period. In particular CoLP has seen improvements in achieving positive outcomes for high harm offences such as sexual and violent crimes.

The City's positive outcome rate continues to be significantly higher than the national average in all crime areas as highlighted below.

	CoLP Outcome Rate 2023/24	National Outcome Rate 2023/24	Difference between national and CoLP outcome rates 2023/24
CRIMINAL DAMAGE & ARSON	15%	7%	8%
DRUG OFFENCES	95%	57%	38%
MISCELLANEOUS CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY	28%	12%	16%
POSSESSION OF WEAPONS OFFENCES	51%	35%	16%
PUBLIC DISORDER	21%	9%	12%
ROBBERY	9%	7%	2%
SEXUAL OFFENCES	16%	4%	12%
THEFT OFFENCES	11%	6%	5%
VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON	21%	8%	13%

Crime Statistics continued

We collate crimes into themes to help us to understand the key drivers of demand, develop crime prevention strategies and identify and support vulnerability. The table below provides a thematic overview of reported crimes. The only significant change in theme for 2023/24 is the notable decrease in neighbourhood crimes. This is linked to the reduction in theft from person offences, due to the City's proactivity in this area.

There are some high % changes in the 5year for specific themes, these are due to the very low levels of these crimes where small changes in demand can have significant impact on % changes e.g. with Child Sexual Exploitation.

Crime Themes	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Neighbourhood	1146	452	1017	1626	1352
Neighbourhood % of all Crime	13%	12%	16%	21%	17%
Domestic Abuse	125	80	184	195	174
Domestic Abuse % of all Crime	1%	2%	3%	3%	2%
Violence against Women and Girls	400	202	493	496	535
Violence against Women and Girls % of all crime	5%	5%	8%	6%	7%
NTE	5492	2301	4215	5173	5294
NTE % of all crime	63%	60%	67%	67%	65%
Licensed Premises	1917	241	1216	1689	1700
Licensed Premises % of all crime	22%	6%	19%	22%	21%
CSE	0	0	0	3	12
CSE % of all crime	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CSA	3	7	4	6	21
CSA % of all crime	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Hate Crime	188	84	181	195	259
Hate Crime % of all Crime	2%	2%	3%	3%	3%
Knife Crime	52	29	18	35	62
Knife crime % of all Crime	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%
MSHT	15	8	9	4	4
MSHT % of all crime	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

*CSE - Child Sexual Exploitation

*CSA - Child Sexual Abuse

1yr Change	1yr % change	5yr Change	5yr % change
-274	-17%	206	18%
-21	-11%	49	39%
39	8%	135	34%
121	2%	-198	-4%
11	1%	-217	-11%
9	300%	12	1200%
15	250%	18	600%
64	33%	71	38%
27	77%	10	19%
0	0%	-11	-73%

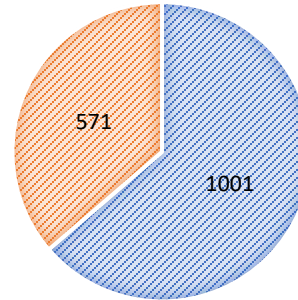


Our Resources

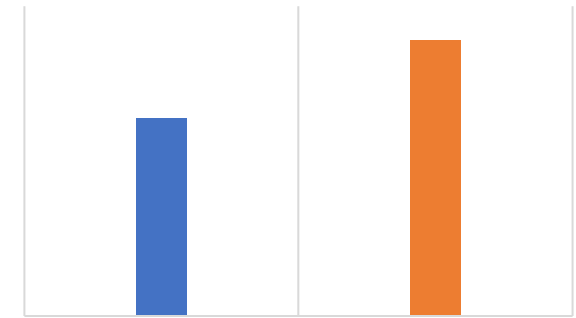
*as at 31.03.24

TOTAL

■ Officers ■ Staff



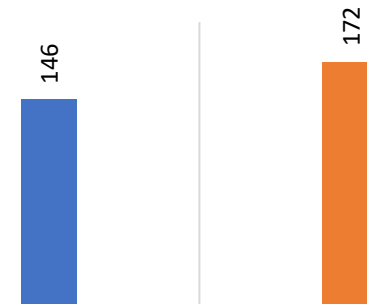
CORPORATE SERVICES



OFFICERS

STAFF

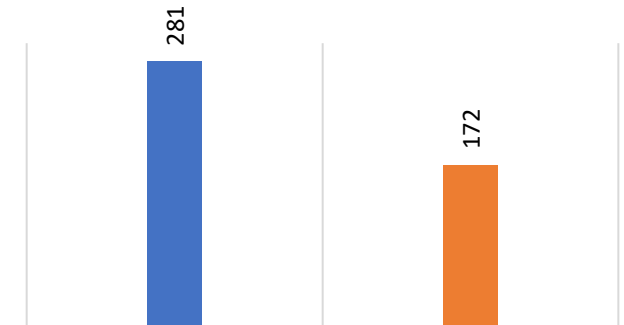
NATIONAL LEAD FORCE



OFFICERS

STAFF

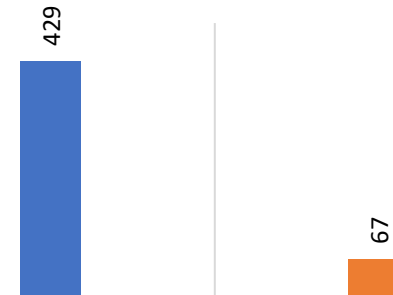
SPECIALIST OPERATIONS



OFFICERS

STAFF

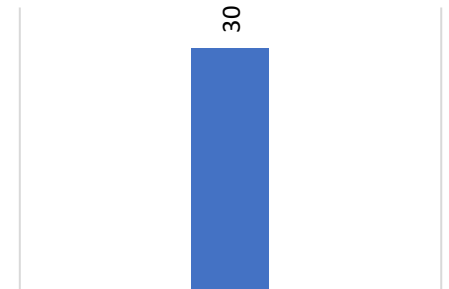
LOCAL POLICING



OFFICERS

STAFF

ROCU



OFFICERS

Our Finances

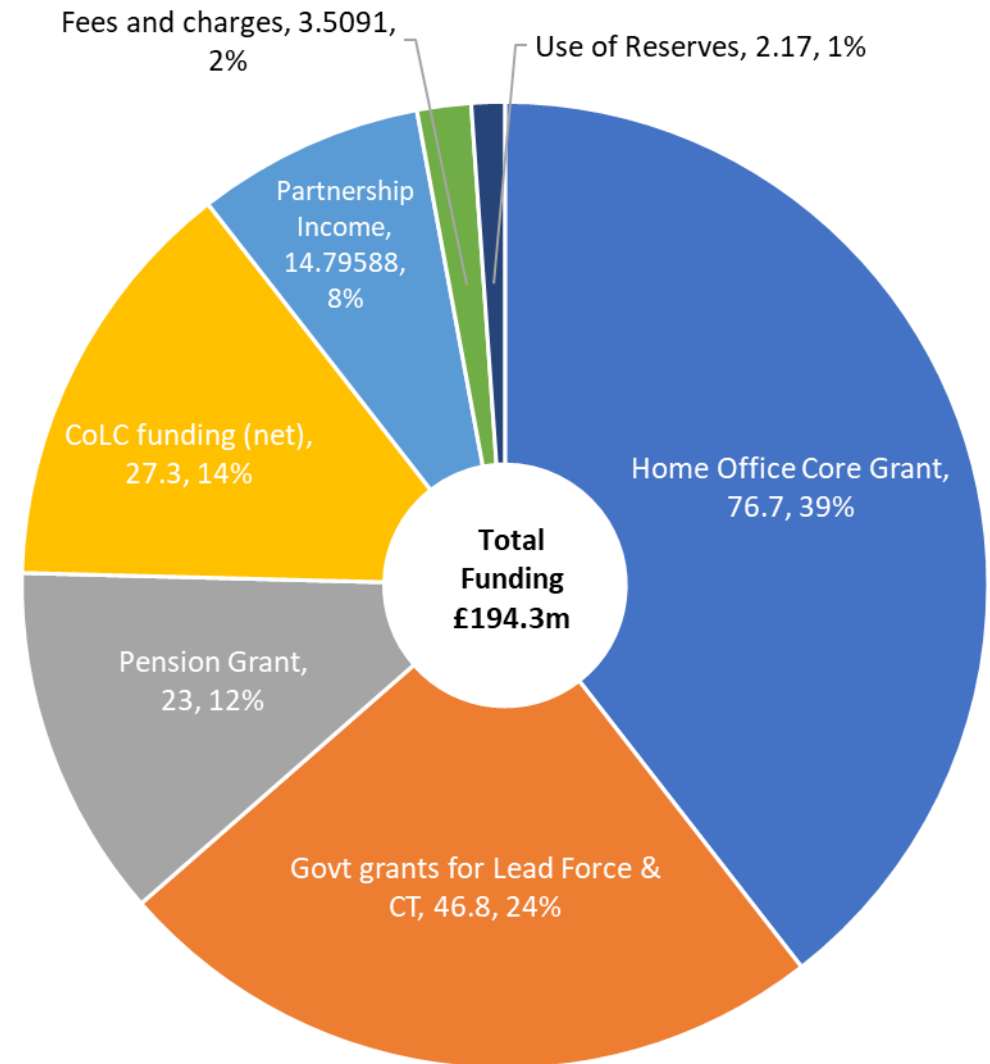
Income & Expenditure		2023/24		2022/23		
Revenue	Latest Approved Budget		Outturn (unaudited)		Outturn	
	£'000	%	£'000	%	£'000	%
EXPENDITURE						
Employee-Related Expenses	131.1	67	129.6	56	120.3	62
Other Expenditure						
Premises Costs	7.3	4	8.0	3	6.1	3
Transport Costs	2.7	1	2.7	1	2.7	1
Supplies & Services / Other	53.3	27	91.2	39	64.0	33
Total Expenditure	194.3	100	231.5	100	193.1	100
Total Income	-194.3		-231.5		-193.1	
(Under) / Over Spend	0.0	100	0.0	100	0.0	100

23/24 outturn includes higher income and expenditure than budget for National Lead Force grants

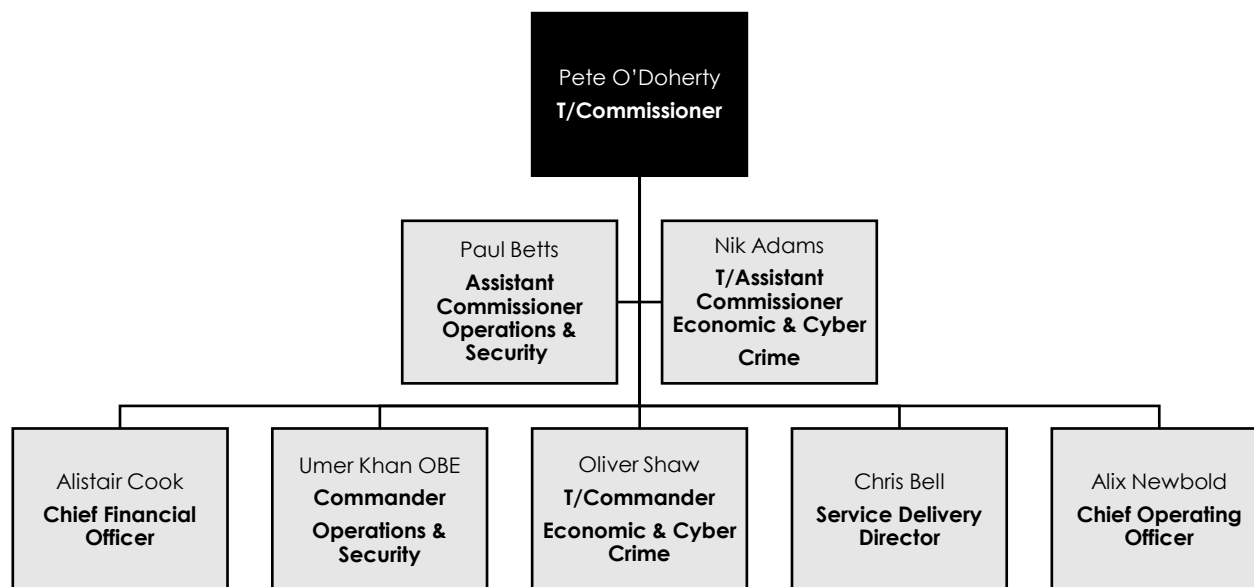
Breakdown of funding:

Core Home Office funding	£76.7m
Business Rates Premium	£31.2m
Pensions Deficit Grant	£23m
National Lead Force for Fraud	£38.7m
CT/Servator	£8.1m
Commercial Partnerships	£14.8m
Fees & Charges	£3.5m
Use of Reserves / Other	£2.2m
Capital Financing	£-3.8m *NB Capital Financing including (Action Fraud loan repayment) is treated as negative funding in City Fund budgeting terms
Total Funding	£194.3m

Funding 2023/24 Budget



Our Chief Officer Team



Our Police Authority 2023-24

The Court of Common Council is the Police Authority for the Square Mile as set out in the City of London Police Act 1839. Under Section 56 of the Act, the Common Council delegated to the Police Board all of its police authority functions (with the exception of the appointment of the Commissioner). The Board's role is to make sure the City of London Police run an effective and efficient service by holding the Commissioner to account; to ensure value for money in the way the police is run, and to set policing priorities considering the views of the community.

Police Authority Board

Deputy James Thomson (Chair)
 Tijs Broeke (Deputy Chair)
 Munsur Ali
 Nicholas Bensted-Smith
 Alderman Professor Emma Edhem
 Helen Fentimen
 Jason Groves
 Alderman Timothy Hailes
 Deborah Oliver
 Deputy Graham Packham
 Dawn Wright
 Melissa Collett (External Member)
 Andrew Lentin (External Member)
 Sir Craig Mackey (External Member)
 Michael Mitchell (External Member)

Resource Risk & Estates Committee

Alderman Timothy Hailes (Chair)
 Tijs Broeke (Deputy Chair)
 Deputy Randall Anderson
 Alderman Professor Emma Edhem
 Helen Fentiman
 Deputy James Thomson
 Dawn Wright
 Andrew Lentin (External Member)
 Michael Landau (External Member)

Economic & Cyber Crime Committee

Deputy James Thomson (Chair)
 Tijs Broeke (Deputy Chair)
 Nick Bensted-Smith
 Alderman Professor Emma Edhem
 Jason Groves
 Deputy Madush Gupta
 Alderman Timothy Hailes
 Deputy Christopher Hayward
 Deputy Graham Packham
 Naresh Hari Sonpar
 James Tumbridge
 Dawn Wright
 Sir Craig Mackey (External Member)
 Andrew Lentin (External Member)
 Michael Landau (External Member)

Professional Standards & Integrity Committee

Michael Mitchell (Chair)
 Alderman Professor Emma Edhem (Deputy Chairman)
 Joanna Abeyie
 Nicholas Bensted-Smith
 Tijs Broeke
 Helen Fentiman
 Jason Groves
 Florence Keelson-Anfu
 Deborah Oliver
 Naresh Hari Sonpar
 Deputy James Thomson

Strategic Planning & Performance Committee

Tijs Broeke (Chair)
 Andrew Lentin (Deputy Chairman)
 Munsur Ali
 Helen Fentimen
 John Griffiths
 Jason Groves
 Alderman Timothy Hailes
 Deborah Oliver
 Deputy James Thomson
 Melissa Collett (External Member)
 Adrian Hanstock (External Member)

Police Pensions Board

Alderman
 Alexander Barr (Chair)
 John Todd (Deputy Chair)
 Deputy Henry Colthurst
 Helen Isaac
 Vacancy
 Ray Eaglesmith