

Committee(s): Police Authority Board	Dated: July 2024
Subject: Chair's Update	Public
Report of: Tijs Broeke	For Information

General Election - review of Party Manifestos

The Police Authority Team has been working closely with colleagues in the Corporate Affairs Team to review the content of the published Manifesto commitments, with a particular emphasis on the implications for crime and policing – both at the local and national level. This work continues to develop opportunities for supporting a future Government's work in areas of interest, particularly around the City Police's national roles on economic and cyber crime. I have asked that we spend some time at the September Board meeting looking at the policing landscape which is emerging following the General Election.

Engagement with Police and Crime Commissioners

Work continues to develop a suite of useful documentation and briefings to engage new and re-elected Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) in the fraud agenda. This is of particular importance given the greater prominence given to fraud in the revised Strategic Policing Requirement that PCCs must demonstrate they have had regard to in their local police and crime plans. As part of this engagement, Police and Crime Commissioners are being invited to join the Economic Crime Briefing hosted by the City Police on 10th October. This brings together senior policing leads on economic crime from every force area and region to share updates on policy and significant operational developments.

The Deputy Chair and I will be attending the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) Annual General Meeting on 11/12 July, and the APCC and National Police Chiefs' Council Partnership Summit on 19/20 November. At officer level, the Police Authority Director is attending the Association of Police and Crime Chief Executives (APACE) Annual General Meeting on 1 July. It is being hosted at the Guildhall. It remains vital that the City is, and is seen to be, an engaged partner amongst the wider PCC community.

£1m Home Office 'hotspot policing' funding update

This funding, which commenced in April, is funding increased patrols by several City Police teams to tackle violence and ASB, and an additional analyst and more CCTV monitoring staff. While initiatives are still being mobilised, to date City Police have delivered over 900 additional hours of visible patrols resulting in 56 additional arrests. Operation Vigilant – expanded patrols of specially-trained officers targeting violence against women and girls in the night-time economy – is a major part of the plans and will commence soon.

Local policing successes reported in media

Members should note City Police received widespread positive media coverage in June for two actions: the arrest of three men for criminal damage at Barclays bank branch on Moorgate (one of 20 such incidents conducted by pro-Palestinian activists, and the only one to result in an immediate arrest - [link](#)), and the successful prosecution of a man who used an electric bike to snatch 24 phones in an hour in central London (where City Police used the local CCTV network to catch the offender - [link](#)).

Victims strategy update

The Police Authority and City Police are finalising a draft of their joint Victims Strategy – the City’s first – to be shared with external partners for consultation over the summer. It is scheduled to come to PAB in September - Members who wish to see a draft sooner, or want a background briefing, should contact Charles.smart@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee

I chaired the latest meeting of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee (CDSC) on 11 June, which reviewed progress being made by the City’s Safer City Partnership (SCP) against its strategy and stated priorities (serious violence; anti-social behaviour; reducing reoffending). There are examples of good partnership working happening across these areas. But more can, and should, be done. I have asked for a report on how best to strengthen the SCP, to be produced in time to inform discussions at the next CDSC meeting in October. I am pleased to report Deborah Oliver was elected as the new Chair to take this important work with the SCP and coordination between City of London Police, City Corporation and partners forward.