

Committee(s): Police Authority Board	Dated: 4 th September 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 Corporate Plan outcomes: Diverse Engaged Communities, Vibrant Thriving Destination, Dynamic Economic Growth, Providing Excellent Services
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 49-22	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 –
Operations and Security**

PAB Updates

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Strategy launch

The City of London Police are committed to being one of the most inclusive police services in the country and to rebuild trust and confidence in our service. To help achieve our ambitions through our people, partners, public and policies, and build on the achievements of Our People Inclusivity Programme, the new Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy 2024 – 2027 was launched. A launch event of the Strategy was hosted by T/Commissioner Peter O’Doherty in July and held at the prestigious Gherkin building; several guest speakers attended where they shared their journey and explained how we can all work together to shape the future.

Being Outstanding Presentations – “Going the extra mile in the Square Mile”

To build on the good work already undertaken and to direct us moving forward in the future in being an outstanding force, Assistant Commissioner Paul Betts continues to deliver a number of presentations to police officers, staff and special constables. The presentation underpins the key operational and organisational priorities of the Policing Plan, outlining the high standards expected, being a victim focussed public service and delivering people focussed leadership. This provides a clear vision of the Chief Officer team’s ambitions and expectations in how we can work together to deliver an outstanding service for our communities and victims.

Theft conviction

Tackling retail theft continues to be a priority. Officers apprehended a suspect committing thefts and acting aggressively towards retail staff. Officers from the Volume Crime Unit (VCU) conducted a diligent and thorough investigation recognising the impact such crimes have on our retail community. Convictions were secured for offences of theft, assault, and Section 4 Public Order – using threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour with intent to cause immediate fear of violence.

Criminal Damage arrests

There was excellent collaborative work between the Intelligence Support Team (IST) and Investigation Team, identifying 3 suspects who had targeted banks in the City to cause criminal damage. The suspects had planned to target premises across the UK. Through the quick intervention, the City of London Police were able to disrupt the suspects activity, minimise further offences and safeguard businesses throughout the UK.

Cycle Team

The Cycle Team continue to play a crucial role in keeping those who live, work and visit the City safe by providing high visibility to prevent crime, securing evidence and apprehending offenders. During June and July, 119 fixed penalty notices have been issued with 32 illegal e-bikes/scooter seized.

CoLP’s women’s team wins Police Sport UK Snowdonia Seven event in Snowdonia

The team won, what is considered to be one of the most challenging events in the police sporting calendar – travelling 22 miles, over seven peaks (with a total ascent of almost 8,000 feet), they finished in an amazing 8 hours and 38 minutes. Many congratulations to them.

National Lead Force

Strategic Leadership and Engagement

Elections

The City of London Police took a leading role in the recent general election. AC Adams was responsible for the NPCC Elections Portfolio, which co-ordinated the strategic policing response to electoral crime. A significant amount of planning took place, involving training of a national SPOC network, dedicated analytical resources, producing national policing guidance, a jointly produced video with Counter Terrorism Policing to all UK Police Officers about election crime and threats, and regular meetings with key stakeholders. CoLP additionally co-ordinated and analysed the national statistics collections for all electoral crime across the UK during the election period. This supported the Joint Election Intelligence Cell, local responses to crime and tensions, and Ministerial briefings. Positive feedback was received in relation to the NPCC electoral crime portfolio.

Overall, pockets of issues occurred at a constituency level and mainly focused on misinformation, intimidation of candidates and hostile environments. Following the election, the Deputy Prime Minister, Home Secretary & Security Minister convened a roundtable to give MPs and candidates the opportunity to talk to officials, including law enforcement, about their experiences. AC Adams was in attendance. As part of the ongoing work of the NPCC elections portfolio, we are reviewing all reports, actions taken and outcomes, to identify best practice and opportunities to make further improvements to policy or training.

Economic and Cyber Crime Academy

In July the Economic Crime Academy (ECCA) hosted a delegation of high potential / fast track Italian Police officers from the Guardia Di Finanza. This will further cement our positive working relationships.

Operational activity highlights

Operation Neogammy was an investigation led by the NCA that looked at a criminal service called "Russian Coms". It was a major caller ID spoofing platform used by hundreds of criminals to make over 1.8 million scam calls. Their targets included people from over 107 countries, including the United Kingdom, the United States, New Zealand, Norway, and France. It is estimated that there were 170,000 victims across the UK with the average loss reported to Action Fraud just over £9,400. The City of London Police assisted in analysing 100,000 entities of identifiable information to support the development and dissemination of intelligence packages to forces through our Lead Force Ops Room. Operational activity is continuing throughout April.

National Support & Co-ordination

As part of our ambition to better enable our people, the City of London Police has begun trialling an auto redaction tool to assist with disclosure of evidence. On every investigation there is a significant amount of officer time spent redacting personal information from documents that need to be shared with the prosecution, defence and court. The auto redaction tool automates this process, driving accuracy, efficiency and consistency. Early results have been very positive, and it is anticipated this will be rolled out force-wide in the coming weeks.

In August, the City of London Police hosted a delegation of senior Nigerian law enforcement officials. This directly supports the Government strategy to strengthen engagement and operational collaboration with foreign law enforcement. This followed a visit that AC Adams made to Nigeria in late 2023. Discussions focussed on bilateral working, strengthening partnerships and developing senior relationships to combat economic & cyber crime.

Media

Action Fraud ran a campaign in June to highlight the Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS). Over 32 million phishing emails have been reported to SERS since its inception, with more than a third reported in the last year. The reports have led to more than 329,000 websites being removed by the National Cyber Security Centre.

Action Fraud, the national fraud and cyber crime reporting service, launched a national phishing awareness campaign on 24 June, as reporting reached its highest level since SERS launched. New data shows a rise of 44 per cent year-on-year, with almost 11.6 million reports made to SERS in 2023, up from 8.07 million reports in 2022. This underpins the take-down activity and analysis will be used to encourage activity across the tech sector as part of their response to the Online Fraud Charter and Online Safety Act.

