

<b>Committee(s):</b> Police Authority Board	<b>Dated:</b> May 2025
<b>Subject:</b> Chair's Update	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Tijs Broeke	<b>For Information</b>

## **New City of London Policing Plan 2025-28**

The Court of Common Council's new Policing Plan for the City was published on 2 April 2025. It sets out the priorities for the City Police for the next three years, reflecting its local and national responsibilities. The overall vision is for the City of London Police to be a trusted and inclusive police service, keeping the City of London safe and transforming the national policing response to fraud, economic and cyber crime.

The Plan is one of continuity and change. The operational priorities of the City Police remain unchanged: keeping people in the City safe and feeling safe; putting victims at the heart of everything the police does; and improving the national response to fraud, economic and cyber crime. But the Plan sets out ambitious objectives for the City Police itself – to become one of the most inclusive and trusted police services in the country; to be an employer of choice; and to become more productive.

The City having its own dedicated police service remains a real USP for the Square Mile. The City Police plays a key role in achieving the City of London Corporation's Corporate Plan outcomes of Diverse Engaged Communities, Dynamic Economic Growth and ensuring the Square Mile is a Vibrant and Thriving Destination. The new Policing Plan will be central to the Police Authority Board's support and scrutiny role – to ensure that the City, and the nation, receive the best possible service from the City Police.

I am grateful to Members who contributed thoughts, and to the constructive engagement which took place with the City Police on the development of the new Plan.

## **External engagement**

The Policy Authority has continued with its programme of engagement supporting the City of London Police's (COLP) national responsibilities. In February, the Deputy Chair joined the Deputy Commissioner in welcoming the Solicitor General, Lucy Rigby KC MP, to COLP to learn about its key roles tackling fraud and economic crime. Her office produced a [summary video](#) highlighting her visit and the critical work undertaken by COLP.

In March, at the request of the Home Office, the Police Authority Team organised a Retail Fraud Roundtable with representatives from across the industry and law enforcement to feed into the development of the Government's next Fraud Strategy. Later that month I also opened the launch of the Financial Action Taskforce's report on Illicit Finance and tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), which summarised

the pioneering work undertaken between Australia and UK to use intelligence on illicit finance flows to pursue criminal networks at the heart of established CSE rings. Emma Reynolds MP, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, was the keynote speaker for the event.

In April, the Commissioner and I hosted the Home Office Security Minister, Dan Jarvis MP, as he was briefed on the latest developments on crypto seizures, progress on the replacement for Action Fraud and protective security in the City. The City also hosted Baroness Hodge, the Prime Minister's Anti-Corruption Champion, at the end of April to learn more about the Domestic Corruption Pilot that the COLP is running to improve the intelligence picture of bribery and corruption in the UK and explore what an improved policing response should look like.

### **Public launch of City Victims Strategy**

The City's first victims strategy, produced jointly by the City Police and Police Authority team, was publicly released on 14 February (available [here](#)). The strategy was launched internally in December 2024 and delivery is well underway, regular reporting on progress will commence from the September committee round onward. Delivering this strategy is now one of the key components of the 2025-28 Policing Plan priority to "*put victims at the heart of all we do*".

### **Annual re-fresh of Serious Violence Duty strategy**

The Police Authority will shortly be publishing an 'annual refresh' of the City's 2024 Serious Violence Duty strategy, as required by legislation. This updates the analysis on serious violence in the City and sets out additional 'partnership' measures to address it - the strategy is owned by the Safer City Partnership, with the Policing Plan containing separate 'policing only' measures on serious violence. As for the initial strategy, the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee will scrutinise implementation and will receive a report on the new strategy at its next meeting on 29 May.

Please contact [Charles.smart@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:Charles.smart@cityoflondon.gov.uk) if you wish to receive a link to the strategy when published.

### **Hotspot response grant funding in 2025/26**

As in 2024/25, the City of London will receive £1 million additional grant funding this year from the Home Office to deliver hotspot policing initiatives targeting serious violence and anti-social behaviour. The City has proposed to move to a 'problem-oriented' approach targeting violence in the night-time economy, sexual offending, rough-sleeping-and-begging-related ASB, robbery of personal property, and retail-related ASB and robbery. Initiatives will focus on top violence and ASB hotspots in wards of Bishopsgate, Tower, Castle Baynard, Farringdon Within, Portsoken, Bread, and Cheap. If agreed by the Home Office, this new approach will commence from July. Progress updates will form part of local policing reporting to SPPC.