

Serious violence sub-group and hotspot response 2025/26 update

May 2025

Summary

- **Serious Violence Duty 2024/25** – our initial strategy is (more or less) complete
- **Serious Violence Duty 2025/26** – we have completed and published an annual ‘refresh’ with updated analysis and more actions
- **Hotspot response grant 2025/26** - we have again received £1 million grant funding for this, and are now transitioning (over Apr-Jun) to a new ‘problem-oriented’ approach

2024/25 SV Duty strategy summary

- Published January 2024
- Three priorities agreed from initial strategic needs assessment:
 - a) Reduce violence in night-time economy (NTE)
 - b) Reduce sexual and domestic violence
 - c) Proactively identify and mitigate threats and risks from a changing City (plus enabling measures on data sharing, analysis, information gathering)
- **21** measures, of which **16** delivered, **1** in progress, **3** deferred or discontinued, **2** are ongoing work delivered by others – *see next slide*

2024/25 SV Duty strategy – delivery overview

- **Delivered** measures include a new **Taxi Marshalling** scheme, expanded use of ‘**Touch DNA**’ to better identify perpetrators, Corporation becoming a ‘**Beacon**’ member of **Employers Initiative on Domestic Abuse**, and a **review of drink-spiking** in the City
- **In progress** measure is establishing a ‘**future demand group**’ to identify upcoming threats and issues – this has now met for first time with plan to meet every several months
- **Deferred or discontinued** measures – improved **sharing of health data** and an assessment of **uniformed presence in NTE** are now in 2025/26 refresh, while exploring implementation of ‘**PIPA**’ **behavioural change programme** for domestic abuse perpetrators has been discontinued (and, partly, superseded by new partnership with Hackney Domestic Abuse Intervention service)
- **Ongoing work by others** are City Police’s **implementation of the national Op Soteria programme** to improve investigation of rape and sexual assault offences (progressing in line with nationally-set timescales) and **review of Violence Against Women and Girls capabilities** (awaiting response to submission to national policing inspector HMICFRS)

NB – a detailed summary of delivery to date for every measure has been published as an annex to 2025/26 strategy refresh

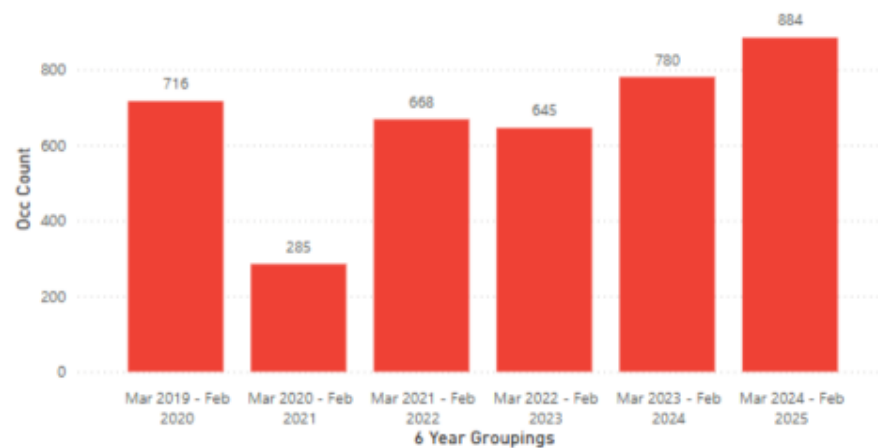
2025/26 SV Duty strategy summary

- Published May 2025
- Updated analysis – *see next slide* – confirms the three priorities of initial strategy remain right
- **9** new actions, with a more explicit focus on *partnership* activity (i.e. joint delivery)
- Also, no ‘policing-only’ actions this time – these are in 2025-28 Policing Plan
- No change to governance and oversight – monthly meetings of SV sub-group chaired by police authority and City Police leads, reporting to Safer City Partnership

2025/26 SV Duty strategy updated analysis

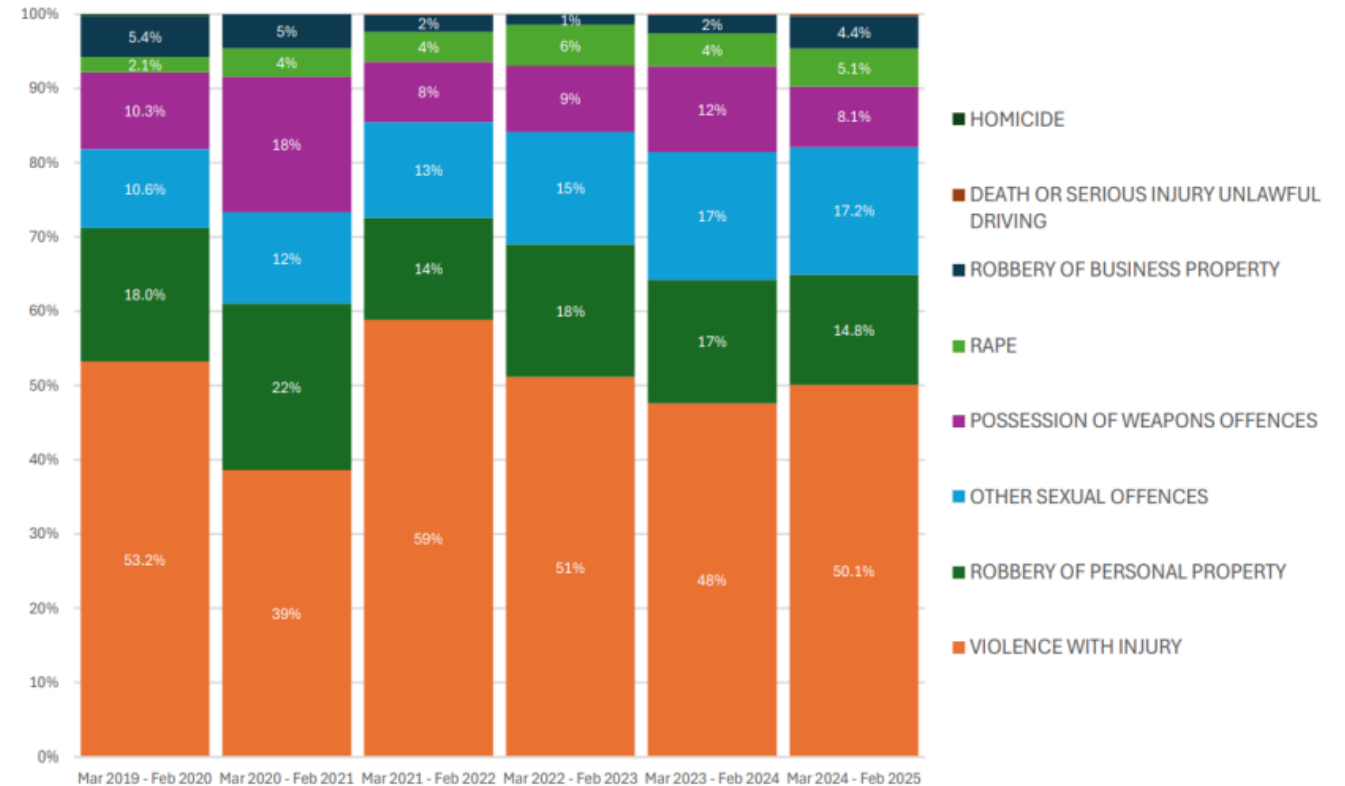
Figure 1 – Serious violence volumes by year – March 2019 to February 2025

Occ Count by 6 Year Groupings



In very brief summary = Serious violence is rising but remains low in volume and as a proportion of crime. The types of serious violence are largely unchanged (mainly violence with injury) but sexual offending continues to rise and business robberies have risen too. Serious violence occurs largely in night-time-economy hours and locations. Positive outcome rates (i.e. conviction or other 'disposal') for many types of serious violence have improved significantly year-on-year.

Figure 3 – Shares of serious violence by offence category – March 2019 to February 2025



2025/26 SV Duty new measures

Enabling measures	Seek to improve sharing of ambulance callout and hospital admissions data
Reduce violence in NTE	Review uniformed presence in City's NTE and evaluate 2024/25 hotspot policing impacts
	Commission updated research on City's licensing landscape
	Analyse lighting and CCTV coverage in violent crime hotspots
Reduce sexual and domestic violence	Aim to fund a trial of <i>Circles</i> behavioural change programme for sexual offenders
	Review coverage of domestic abuse screening in City healthcare settings
Threats from changing City	Make detailed assessment of threats and mitigations of higher footfall under Destination City programme
	Deliver specific recommendations on designing pedestrian walkways to reduce violence to DC programme
	Conduct brief risk & threat assessment of serious violence affecting homeless and rough-sleeping communities

Hotspot response grant 2025/26 – new approach

<i>We will target these problems...</i>	<i>...in these (ward) hotspots</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Violence in the NTE• Sexual offending• Rough-sleeping-and-begging-related crime and ASB• Robbery of personal property including snatch thefts• Retail-related ASB and business robbery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bishopsgate• Tower• Castle Baynard• Farringdon Within• Portsoken• Bread• Cheap

- £810k will fund multiple initiatives and activities targeting the above problems – mainly City Police, but with continued funding for Parkguard community safety patrolling too
- £190k will fund project analytical activity (dedicated analyst support, training, and new tools)
- At present (Apr-Jun) we are in ‘transition’ from 2024/25 to 2025/26 initiatives and approach – so above will be operational from 1 July

Hotspot response 2025/26 – more on new approach

- Officers receiving new problem-solving training have been assigned to each 'problem' to analyse it in detail – this can unlock more ways to use grant funding
- New tech will, in time, automatically track patrol activity in hotspots
- Provisionally, a new 0.5 FTE officer will provide dedicated oversight and project management
- Governance will be reviewed – may no longer be done jointly with SV Duty delivery