

Increasing crime prevention

Committee(s): Police Authority Board	Dated: 23 July 2025
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 Corp Plan outcomes: Vibrant Thriving Destination- (Community Safety/ CT) Dynamic Economic Growth- (National Lead Force)
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	For Information
Report author: Peter O'Doherty, Commissioner	

Summary

The *public* updates for Local Operations and Security and National Economic and Cyber Crime are attached.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note the report.

Police Authority Board – Commissioner’s Update –

Local Operations and Security

CoLP praised by the Home Office for new initiatives to tackling phone snatching as part of new the policing plan

CoLP have been praised by the Home Office and key partners for the “Look up and Look Out” campaign delivered through Op Swipe, with the formal launch and intensification day on 21st May 2025. CoLP are committed to protecting the public from theft as a priority by pursuing and disrupting Organised Crime Groups who are involved in phone snatching in the city. As part of this initiative to raise crime prevention awareness, CoLP continue to collaborate closely with key partners to share data and best practice, implementing an evidence led approach to enhance the delivery of our service in line with the Home Office objectives. This has seen a 30 % reduction in phone snatching in the city between January to April 2025.

Prolific phone snatcher caught with nine phones sentenced to two years and three months imprisonment

A mobile phone thief who went on a snatching spree and was caught with nine phones on him in one morning has been sentenced at the Old Bailey to two years and three months in prison. The suspect pleaded guilty to two counts of theft, seven counts of handling stolen good, driving with no license, driving with no insurance, breach of his Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO), and found guilty of common assault. The phones stolen in the city have been returned to the victims and the pavement of these three phone snatch locations have been tagged with blue plaques, marking where mobile phones were stolen as part of CoLP’S continued efforts to raise awareness and reduce phone snatching in the city.

Shoplifter sentenced to three months imprisonment and receives 5-year Criminal Behaviour Order

CoLP continues to tackle theft as a priority, working closely with the Corporation and retail businesses to minimise further harm and holding those accountable for their actions. The Proactive Acquisitive Crime Team (PACT) is a dedicated team who focuses on theft of bags, phone snatching and shoplifting to disrupt those involved in serious organised crime. A shoplifter who repeatedly targeted retail premises in the city, has been convicted receiving three months imprisonment and a 5-year Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) banning him from entering the Square Mile for five years, having been caught on camera stealing items.

Thief who spat at police officer sentenced to 24 weeks imprisonment

Violence against CoLP staff and officers will not be tolerated. A thief who spat at a police officer during an arrest and attempted to headbutt another officer, has been sentenced to 24 weeks in prison. The theft was captured on cctv, plain-clothed officers spotted the suspect whilst he was trying to sell a bottle of alcohol with the security tag attached, when officers intervened, he has become aggressive, when searched several items of meat were also recovered.

Drug dealer sentenced to three years imprisonment

Excellent work undertaken from CoLP officers involving the stop and search of the suspects’ vehicle, recovered a quantity of cocaine from the door panels and £330 seized. The investigation completed by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) has resulted in the suspect being sentenced to three years imprisonment, having pleaded guilty to offences of possession with intent to supply Class A Drugs, possession of false ID, driving without third-party insurance and driving whilst disqualified. This is an outstanding example of the ongoing proactive approach CoLP are taking to protect the public, targeting and pursuing offenders involved in drug dealing activity.

CoLP Athletics Club wins Police Sport UK Track and Field Championships 2025

CoLP were represented by a strong team of officers and staff from across the force at the Police Sport UK Track and Field Championships event held in Nuneaton in June. Having topped the Police Sport Uk Championships, several members are now finalising their preparations to compete at the World Police and Fire Games held in July at Birmingham, Alabama USA.

Cycle Team

CoLP Cycle team continue to lead the way Nationally promoting road safety and the seizure of electric cycles being used illegally on roads in the city. Sergeant Ford from the cycle team, recently attended Parliament for a question time concerning laws on e-bikes, where the team’s excellent work has been recognised in Parliament by Lord Hogan-Howe who commended the ongoing work. He used CoLP as an example of a force who “as the smallest force in the country” are tackling the issue with 326 e-bikes seized in 2024, as well as tackling the issue around

cyclists ignoring the laws of the road. The cycle team continue to support the forces response to cycle theft (Op Kirk) and phone snatching (Op Swipe) as well as performing a fundamental role in tackling Anti-Social Behaviour and promoting road safety through their 3 E (Engage, Educate and Enforce) approach.

Please the Cycle Team stats below from April 25 – 18/06/25.

Key Messaging	2382
No. Arrests	38
No. Stop Search	24
No. Positive Outcomes from stop searches	14
No. Cycle FPN	199
Cycle Warnings	405
Seizures	56
No. Process (vehicle)	21
Intel	80
Bike marking	51
Phone marking	41
No. Response Calls	25
Vehicle FPN	32

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National Lead Force

Strategic Leadership and Engagement

On Wednesday 30th April 2025, the City of London Police hosted Baroness Margaret Hodge, the Anti-Corruption Champion. Topics covered included the domestic corruption pilot and our asset recovery work.

On Wednesday 21st May 2025, D/Cmsr Nik Adams was a keynote speaker at the Economic Crime Summit focusing on effective fraud prevention, collaboration and accountability. The session organised by CityForum was hosted at the Old Bailey with senior leaders from across the judiciary and industry.

On Monday 02nd June 2025, D/Cmsr Nik Adams provided the keynote speech at the UK Finance Key Conversations Conference for Fraud. The audience was seniors from the financial industry dedicated to fraud.

On Tuesday 03rd June 2025, D/Cmsr Nik Adams attended the Government Counter Fraud Leadership Strategy Event. The audience included senior leaders from the public sector, regulatory bodies, and law enforcement.

On Thursday 19th June 2025, the Commissioner hosted the Policing Minister, the Rt Hon Dame Diana Johnson DBE MP. She was provided a briefing on the unique role the City of London Police in combatting fraud, economic and cyber crime, an overview of Local Policing achievements, alongside spending time with officers in Castle Baynard.

Operational Highlights

A man who pocketed over £3 million by running three illegal streaming websites has been sentenced at York Crown Court. The defendant sold illegal access to copyrighted content through the websites IPTV Hosting, Helix Hosting and Black and White TV. He used the funds to buy designer clothes and jewellery, holidays and a Jaguar F-Type V8 coupe worth £91,000. PIPCU’s investigators secured an all-assets restraint order against a total of £1.1 million held in 15 bank accounts and 21 cryptocurrency wallets owned by the defendant. A further £144,121 worth of cash, which was seized during the investigation, was also frozen. These funds, in addition to high value jewellery seized by officers, will now be subject to confiscation proceedings.

A father and son have been sentenced for their roles in a fraudulent car insurance scheme, following an investigation led by the City of London Police’s Insurance Fraud Enforcement Department (IFED). The suspects pocketed £61,763 from August 2016 to January 2020 by selling fraudulent insurance policies to the public. CCTV showed that while a search warrant was being executed at suspects home address, a third suspect, removed two computers. The father and son were sentenced to 21 months in prison and 16 weeks imprisonment, suspended for 12 months, respectively. The third suspect who attempted to pervert the course of justice was sentenced to 18 weeks imprisonment, suspended for 12 months, and ordered to complete 120 hours of unpaid work.

National Support & Co-ordination

On Friday 13th June 2025, the City of London Police hosted our National Functions All Staff Engagement Day. The event brought together 275 police officers and staff across fraud, economic and cyber crime. The event focussed heavily on engagement with senior leaders, who sat with teams to discuss future direction, current challenges, and solutions to drive improved outcomes. There was also a specific focus on wellbeing, including practical physical health inputs from CoLP physical training instructors, and mental wellbeing supported by guests from the Samaritans. The interactive nature of the day provided opportunities for learning across all ranks and grades and actions arising will be managed through internal governance. To ensure the event was inclusive, 32 colleagues were able to join online. Feedback being overwhelmingly positive.

On 10th April, the UK’s first INTERPOL Silver Notice was published to help trace and recover the criminal assets of a convicted fraudster thought to have made £8.5 million illegally. The notice circulation is a result of cooperation between the JICC INTERPOL Unit, ERSOU, NECC and CoLP, allowing INTERPOL member countries to share alerts and requests for information worldwide to locate, identify, trace and recover criminally laundered assets such as properties, vehicles, financial accounts, and businesses. CoLP played a crucial role in advancing this pilot. This has been led by Interpol, supported by Interpol’s Assistant Director, a seconded senior CoLP officer.

Media Highlights

CoLP completed a public awareness campaign to warn of the dangers of romance fraud setting up digital messaging boards in Love Lane, Rose Street, Honey Lane and Bank.