

City of London Corporation Committee Report

Committee: Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee	Dated: 6 November 2025
Subject: Safer City Partnership Update	Public report: For Information
This proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• delivers Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes• provides statutory duties	Providing Excellent Services Vibrant Thriving Destination
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	£
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of:	Judith Finlay, Executive Director
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Summary

This report introduces a presentation to the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee, to update on the progress and impact of the work of the Safer City Partnership.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The presentation (Appendix 1) provides an update and overview to the Scrutiny Committee of the work of the Safer City Partnership in delivery of the priorities and actions of its strategy (Appendix 2).

2. The Safe City Partnership is the statutory Community Safety Partnership for the City of London. It brings together statutory agencies, known as the Responsible Authorities, and invited and co-opted participants with the role of keeping the Square Mile safe.
3. The Responsible Authorities (Statutory Members) of the SCP are:
 - The City of London Corporation
 - The City of London Police
 - London Fire Brigade
 - NHS North East London Integrated Care Board
 - The National Probation Service – London
4. Invited and co-opted participants include:
 - City of London Crime Prevention Association
 - Safer Business Network
 - City of London Business Improvement Districts
 - City and Hackney safeguarding Adults
 - City and Hackney safeguarding children
5. The SCP Strategy sets out four priorities:
 - Priority #1 – Safer public spaces / ASB
 - Priority #2 – VAWG
 - Priority #3 – SV
 - Priority #4 – Acquisitive crime
6. The SCP also oversees and participates in wider delivery of statutory work such as the PREVENT programme.
7. The Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee is responsible for the review and scrutiny of decisions and actions taken by the Safer City Partnership in connection with the discharge of it (and its constituent members') crime and disorder functions. It acts as a critical friend to the Partnership, providing constructive analysis and scrutiny of the Partnership's work and suggestions as to how it might function more effectively in future.
8. Every local authority is required to have in place a Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee with power to review and scrutinise, and make reports and recommendations, regarding the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions. The power to scrutinise local Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) is granted through a number of pieces of legislation including: The Police and Justice Act 2006, the Local Government & Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. Most recently however the Crime and Disorder Overview and Scrutiny Regulations 2009 (and statutory guidance) has granted local authorities new powers for the scrutiny of crime and disorder and Councillor Call for Action (CCfA).

Current Position

9. The presentation, which will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee, reflects a new approach to managing the business of the SCP and the Scrutiny Committee – moving away from significant reports, in order to focus on key areas of progress and challenge.

10. The presentation highlights key areas of progress including:

Safer Public Spaces

- **Encampments:**

- Formation of a Joint Working Group and monthly multi-agency Days of Action, resulting in 16 notices served and 14 tents removed to date.
- Development of a register for rough sleepers and a live Teams channel for immediate issue resolution.
- 173 Streetlink referrals and 298 outreach contacts (June–August 2025).
- Standardised protocols and legal processes for enforcement, with White Lion Court progressing to civil action.

- **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB):**

- Launch of a data sharing project between City Corporation and City Police to improve ASB analysis.
- Staff training initiatives, including Level 2 Diploma and MARAC Chair training.

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

- **Strategic Progress:**

- Quarterly Delivery Group established with new Terms of Reference and strategic/action plans.
- Commissioned Domestic Abuse intervention service trial, with 4 successful interventions (April–June 2025).
- “16 Days of Activism” campaign scheduled for late November to early December 2025.
- Hotel Toolkit under review for improved safeguarding.

- **Police Statistics & Hotspots:**

- 34% increase in VAWG incidents between June and July; Bishopsgate identified as a persistent hotspot.
- Shifts in peak days/hours for incidents; no reports of rape in August.
- National trends: 10% increase in sexual offences on railways since 2022, with London Bridge as a major hotspot.
- Government announced £20m funding boost for survivor support.

Serious Violence & Acquisitive Crime

- **Strategy Delivery:**

- Improved sharing of ambulance and hospital data (now available via GLA Safestats).
- Review of uniformed presence and hotspot response in the night-time economy.
- Commissioning of research on licensing and multiagency approaches.
- Analysis of lighting and CCTV coverage in crime hotspots.
- Funding and implementation of the Circles programme for behavioural change in sexual offenders.

- Ongoing review of domestic abuse screening in healthcare settings.
- Assessment of threats from increased footfall under the Destination City programme, with recommendations for pedestrian route safety.
- Risk assessment for violence affecting homeless and rough sleeper communities.
- **Current Overview:**
 - 12-month rolling increase in serious violence (+14.5%), but recent months show better control.
 - Key times for violence: Thursday–Sunday nights; December and November are peak months.
 - Increase partly attributed to changes in robbery recording, not underlying volume.
- **Detailed Insights:**
 - Positive outcomes for serious violence cases overall (19.2%).
 - Night-time economy accounts for 73.6% of violence.
 - Homelessness linked to 5% of serious violence.
 - Sexual violence: 21% of cases, mostly stranger-related.
 - 34 repeat victims and 12 outstanding suspects identified.
- **Acquisitive Crime (Snatch):**
 - Fleet Street Cluster remains the primary hotspot.
 - Seasonal patterns observed, with increases in spring and autumn.
 - Anticipated rise in snatch offences from August 2025 onwards.

Prevent

- Ongoing review of statutory duties with Police and Home Office.
- Channel panel co-location with Westminster Council from November.
- Rollout of staff statutory training platform.

11. The action reflects an strengthened approach to Multi-agency collaboration, and data-driven approaches are yielding tangible reductions in rough sleeping and improved ASB management; Targeted interventions for VAWG and serious violence are backed by strategic planning, new funding, and enhanced data sharing; and proactive risk assessments and strategic reviews are helping the City prepare for future challenges, especially with increased footfall and changing urban dynamics.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

12. Financial implications: None.

13. Resource implications: None.

14. Legal implications: the City Corporation's Legal team have advised and guided actions taken in delivery of responses to ASB.

15. Risk implications: None.

16. Equalities implications: an Equalities Impact Assessments has been undertaken in relation to enforcement options to tackle ASB.

17. Climate implications: None.

18. Security implications: the work of the SCP provides for a safer City of London.

Conclusion

19. The work of the Safer City Partnership continues to deliver meaningful progress across its priority areas, supported by strong multi-agency collaboration. Ongoing initiatives are helping to reduce, and improve responses to, anti-social behaviour, and address violence and acquisitive crime. These efforts ensure the City remains a safe, vibrant, and inclusive destination for all.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Presentation
- Appendix 2 – Safer City Partnership Strategy

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