

Appendix 3: City of London Police - Late Night Levy spend to date

1) Allocation of Funds

Between 1st October 2014 and 30th September 2015, the City of London Police received a total of £294,000 from the Late Night Levy. Use of this funding is considered at the monthly tasking meeting, chaired by the Commander of Operations, to ensure it meets the levy criteria and that funding is allocated appropriately against threat, harm and risk.

2) Spend to date

a) Additional Licensing Officer

The levy has funded an additional officer on attachment throughout the year for the police licensing team, at a cost of £51,000. This officer provides on-going resilience for the small team and is responsible for gathering and checking risk assessments for promoted events against intelligence systems, both in the City Police and the Metropolitan Police Service.

As a result, licensees are provided with the best information available for their events and can be warned about any particular issues identified in advance. Likewise, the force can ensure resources on duty are commensurate with any potential risks identified and are able to respond to issues connected with promoted events, where hundreds of people can be in attendance at one premise.

b) Christmas Campaign and New Year's Eve

Experience and analysis show that December is the busiest period of the year for calls for police assistance to late night, alcohol related incidents. Licensees expect to experience a significant increase in footfall and trading during the lead up to Christmas and in support of this, the force ran a dedicated Christmas Campaign in December 2014, focused on preventing violent and acquisitive crime in and around licensed premises.

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights of the three weekends proceeding Christmas, additional resources from across the force were allocated at a cost of £76,000. This provided extra public order trained officers, licensing, investigative, response and patrol capacity, to cater for the expected increase in demand. These

shifts were extremely busy throughout the night, with significantly increased calls for assistance in and around licensed premises, to deal with offences and issues connected with late night revelling and alcohol consumption. The additional resources on duty ensured the force was able to respond to the increased demand and provide an increased preventative presence in and around licensed premises.

Enhanced officer numbers were on duty for New Year's Eve 2014 as part of a joint operation with the Metropolitan Police. Officers stood down from the pan-London event after midnight were retained on duty as an additional resource, to assist with the volume of people in attendance at licensed premises and the increased calls for police assistance. This additional resource was funded at a cost of £9,000.

c) Licensing Operations

Dedicated licensing operations throughout the year have been funded by the levy, with scrutiny of each funding bid provided by the Force Tasking meeting. £45,000 has been spent on late night licensing operations and of particular note are the results from additional night shifts worked by the behavioural detection specialist Project Servator team.

The late night levy has provided funding for officers to work additional shifts to both deter and detect offences connected with the night time economy, with a total in excess of £25,000 worth of drugs (principally cocaine) seized as a direct result of these operations and £15,600 in cash also recovered. Thirty arrests have been made by the team and twenty vehicles suspected of being connected with drug dealing in the City have been seized. Results from drug testing in custody of those arrested for violent offences committed during night time economy hours show that drug use can be a contributing factor.

Analysis shows that the final Friday of each month is busier in terms of calls for police assistance to incidents connected with late night licensing than others, possibly as a result of this being pay day for many City workers. The licensing team, with enhanced officer numbers, worked additional night shifts on the final Friday of each month to visit premises during the night, gather information and identify and respond to issues.

3) Plan for future spend

The City of London Police have found funding from the levy a crucial factor in delivering these activities throughout the year and use of the fund for the year from October 2015 is planned as follows, although this will be subject to any changes in demand and approval by Force Tasking;

- Continuation of licensing operations and increased resources at peak times and in response to any late night issues arising.
- Continued funding of an additional licensing officer.
- Use of Project Servator officers to support late night licensing operations.
- Purchase of alcometer tubes for late night licensed premises to assist their conditions of entry.
- Delivery of a comprehensive Christmas Campaign in December 2015.
- Additional resources in the early hours of New Year's Day 2016.
- Enhanced resources for Easter 2016 to meet an expected increase in demand, due to promoted events held over the Easter bank holiday weekend.