

Committee(s):	Date:
Licensing Committee	26 th October 2016
Safer City Partnership Strategy Group	14 th November 2016
Subject: Interim report on police spend of Late Night Levy funds	Public
Report of: Commissioner of Police	For Information
Report authors: Supt Helen Isaac	

Summary

Funding from the Late Night Levy (LNL) has dramatically changed the way the City of London Police resource policing of the Night Time Economy (NTE). In the last year £389,000 has been agreed by the Force Tasking meeting to enhance the resources deployed, in response to information and intelligence-led bids for LNL funding. A new forum, the Late Night Levy Planning Meeting, will meet on 17th October to plan spend for the next levy year, with quarterly meetings taking place thereafter to regularly plan and monitor spend against the available funds.

Background

At the Licensing Committee on 11th July 2016, the Committee asked for clarity from the City of London Police (CoLP) as to how their portion of the Late Night Levy funds is being spent, the governance process around this and whether Licensing Police Officers have any influence over where the money is spent. An interim written report addressing these questions was requested and is thereby produced for this meeting for information.

City of London Police LNL Governance

All requested spend using funds from the Late Night Levy is presented as a case to the CoLP Force Tasking meeting as information and intelligence-led activity. This meeting is chaired by either the Commander of Operations or Chief Superintendent of Intelligence and Information. Bids are normally made either by the CoLP Licensing Team Inspector or by the two Uniformed Policing Directorate Chief Inspectors with the Licensing Team's knowledge and support. A new forum, the Late Night Levy Planning Meeting, has been convened to meet quarterly to agree, plan and track Levy spend prior to bids being made, consisting of officers from the CoLP and Corporation Licensing Teams, the Chair of the Violent Crime problem solving group and Finance. The Chair will be the Communities and Partnerships Superintendent, with the first meeting due to take place on 17th October.

Agreed spend against the Levy from 1st October 2015

- **£55,000** is spent each year on an additional PC to be attached to the CoLP Licensing Team. This officer enhances intelligence development and dissemination and carries out promoted event risk assessments and open source research work relevant to the NTE.
- **£95,000** was spent on Operation Tinsel, the Force's Christmas campaign in December 2015. This sum was spent on providing very significantly enhanced uniformed resources, specialist uniformed support and crime investigation expertise.
- **£2000** was spent on twenty four 'alcoblow' devices. These devices were delivered in time for Operation Tinsel. These provide the busiest premises with a device for use at the door to accurately inform staff judgement as to an individual's level of intoxication on entry.
- **£60,000** was agreed via tasking at the beginning of 2016 to fund monthly 'alcohol action' deployments. These deployments take place at least on a monthly basis, usually around the City payday. The deployments comprise an enhanced Licensing Team who patrol premises and conduct detailed premises visits, promoting good governance throughout the NTE. This unit of both uniformed police officers and specialist Licensing Officers also responds to incidents at premises, resulting in detailed scrutiny of what may have gone wrong. These deployments are supported by Project Servator officers, who are trained in advanced behaviour detection techniques. Project Servator's support to licensing deployments in the past twelve months has resulted in fifty arrests for possession with intent to supply cocaine, the seizure of twenty nine vehicles, £21,000 in cash and £33,000 of class A drugs (street value).
- **£21,000** was agreed in February 2016 for an operation relating to evidence gathering and policing/control measures, with a particular focus on gang related activity.
- **£9000** was spent on additional police resources, to cover the period of 'bankers' bonuses' announcements. This period had been identified by the Force Intelligence Bureau as producing a spike of activity and issues previously because of the celebrations and increased trade at late night venues.
- **£6,000** was agreed and spent on reassurance patrols and enhanced policing around the LBGT venues within the City following the Orlando nightclub attack in June.
- **£6000** was spent on two deployments of public order officers to provide additional police resources for the NTE over the two May bank holiday weekends.
- **£135, 000** has been agreed by Force Tasking to provide a very comprehensive policing plan, Operation Present, the Christmas Campaign for 2016. This plan commences late November and will see a variety of uniformed police resources and uniformed specialists deployed, (such as dog

handlers and firearms officers) providing very significant enhanced policing of the NTE. These officers will be supported by additional crime investigation, intelligence and custody assets to ensure a continued presence on the street.

Total agreed CoLP LNL spend: **£ 389,000**

A bid for a CCTV vehicle to both deter crime and anti-social behaviour stemming from the NTE and gather evidence following any incidents was also submitted for consideration by Force Tasking. A decision was postponed due to further information being requested by the Chair and the bid will be resubmitted in the 2016/17 Levy year. Therefore the estimated £40,000 cost of this vehicle will be carried over into this year. Spend on the additional custody provision for some Friday and Saturday nights incurred specifically as a result of policing the NTE is currently being calculated and this will be included in the annual report to this Committee in February 2017.

Conclusion

It is estimated that the force will receive around £290,000 from the LNL for 2015/16 once all funds are collected, slightly less than the previous year. In addition, £100,000 was carried over from 2014/15 as reported to this Committee in February 2016, providing an estimated £390,000 to spend on policing the NTE. Whilst the Christmas Campaign for 2016 falls within the next Levy year, funding was agreed by Force Tasking based on the funds currently available to commit. With planning due to start for this current year at the new Late Night Levy Planning Meeting on 17th October, the Force is confident that funds will continue to be used and monitored effectively in 2016/17.

Recommendations

Members are asked to note this report.