

# **Force Delivery of National Priorities for Policing**

## **First Quarterly Statement - Up to July 2021**

### **Background**

The update provides a quarterly statement on the contribution the City of London Police is making in achieving improvements against the national priorities for policing. These priorities are as follows:

- a) reduce murder and other homicide
- b) reduce serious violence
- c) disrupt drugs supply and county lines
- d) reduce neighbourhood crime
- e) tackle cyber crime
- f) and improve satisfaction among victims with a particular focus on victims of domestic abuse.

Each force has a key role in supporting the delivery of these priorities, so the Home Office will be able to see the collective real improvement in outcomes over the four years from the baseline of June 2019.

### **Overview of Force performance to date (up to end of July 2021)**

The City of London Police is making real progress in delivery of the national policing priorities and where, there is a potential reduction in performance the Force has robust arrangements in place for taking remedial action to rectify the position.

The commentary below provides an overview of how the Force is working to reduce or manage harm within the six priority areas and drive Force performance and improvement.

### **Reduce Murder and Other Homicide**

#### **National Metrics**

**Homicides** - CoLP Homicides = x2 reports in November 2019 [Fishmongers Hall attack].

#### **The current position (as at the end of July 2021) and the steps being taken to reduce or manage harm and maintain and drive performance:**

The above represents the totality of homicides in the City of London since November 2019. The two homicides were terrorism related and the force (through the Major Crime Team) continues to work hard to continually strengthen our protect and prepare plans.

There is a multi-agency approach with close partnership working with the Corporation, focusing particularly on reducing violence occurrences in the night time economy and preventing domestic violence. These mechanisms are highly responsive,

and resources can be flexed to challenge rises in certain crime types, including trends of violence or disorder. This works to prevent crime and therefore reduce the likelihood of a homicide in the City.

In terms of London as a whole, the City of London Police works in partnership with the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) in reducing serious violence through the coordination of assets (e.g. working with the Violent Crime Task Force) targeting known offenders on our borders.

## **Reduce serious violence**

### **National Metrics**

**Hospital admissions of under 25s for assault with a sharp object** – CoLP incidents where a hospital admission of an u25s for assault with a sharp object = 2 (last 12 months).

**Offences involving discharge of a firearm** - CoLP Offences involving discharge of a firearm = Nil.

### **The current position (as at the end of July 2021) and the steps being taken to reduce or manage harm and maintain and drive performance**

Historically the City of London Police (COLP) has had very few serious violence incidents that fit these criteria. Most serious assaults are the result of physical altercations or violent disorder without weapons, usually linked to the night-time economy. The City of London have very low occurrences of serious youth violence.

The City has a well-established community safety plan, preventative programs being run in schools and cross border work with the MPS and British Transport Police (BTP) – with joint operations to reduce and tackle violence and combat criminality. This includes work to combat and cross border gang activity and targeted and intelligence led use of stop and search specifically relating to weapon carriage.

There is extensive partnership work with licensees and the Corporation of London to ensure problem locations & offenders are managed coupled with priority patrolling of areas linked to higher violence.

The City of London Police Firearms Unit routinely patrol in high footfall, iconic sites and other priority locations to prevent and deter. Project Servator has also been highly successful in deterring firearms and serious violence in the force area.

Community policing work with the local community to provide reassurance and monitor any community tension/gang violence/escalation.

As a result, when a serious violence offence occurs, the force can respond effectively to secure positive outcomes.

## **Disrupt drugs supply and county lines**

### **National Metrics**

**Drug-related homicide** - CoLP Drug-related homicide = Nil

**Police referrals into drug treatment** - CoLP Police referrals into drug treatment = 17 persons from Oct 2020-July 2021

### **The current position (as at the end of July 2021) and the steps being taken to reduce or manage harm and maintain and drive performance**

Drugs are seen currently as a moderate threat by the Force and therefore, an area that requires *'a focus on enforcement with an element of intervention'*. CoLP was subject of the National County Lines Coordination Centre peer review in November 2019. The review concluded that the force's response is good and acknowledged that the force does not suffer from county lines in the way other forces do, seeing this area as more of an 'importer of drugs' rather than an exporter.

It is acknowledged that there could be a transient element to this kind of issue in the City with individuals passing through alongside a vulnerability element for people being coerced into this type of behaviour. As a result, in 2020 CoLP submitted 33 Section 45 defences under the national referral mechanism (12 adults and 21 children). A majority of these related to criminal exploitation, either through the raising of a Section 45 defence or the circumstances identified following an arrest.

The CoLP has multiple strands of work tackling drug crime in the City and further afield, including County Lines and Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking (MSHT). A reconfigured 'Drugs Squad' is working with City & regional partners to disrupt the illegal drug supply network, deter & dissuade Organised Crime Groups operating within the City and significantly reduce the supply of illegal drugs within the City of London

They take a coordinated approach to enforcement that further connects pan-London and UK wide to tackle County lines drug supply. The Drugs Squad reactively investigate all drugs trafficking offences (possession with intent to supply) with support from CID where necessary.

The CoLP activity participates in Modern Slavery and County Lines intensification activity identifying potential victims of slavery and sexual exploitation (that are linked to drug abuse and county lines). This is through Operation Aidant - a multi-agency operation to tackle modern slavery and human trafficking led by the National Crime Agency with targeted partnership working with BTP at our transport hubs.

The CoLP work with a range of partners to ensure those with drug related offending are offered the appropriate referral with our partners to reduce / stop offending.

## **Reduce Neighbourhood Crime**

### **National Metrics**

**Burglary, robbery, theft of and from a vehicle, theft from a person** – the tables show the crime figures from the baseline (June 2019) and for the year 2018/2019 compared to 2020/21

### **Reduce Neighbourhood Crime - Summary Table June 2019 (Baseline) to June 2021:**

	Jun-19	Jun-21	Change Monthly	Direction
Burglary	26	10	-102%	ê
Robbery	22	10	-99%	ê
Theft of MV	4	3	-103%	ê
Theft from MV	11	16	-103%	ê
Theft Person	75	35	-101%	ê

### **Reduce Neighbourhood Crime Summary Table FYTD 2018/19 to 2020/21.**

	July 18 - June 19	July 20- June 21	Change Yearly	Direction
Burglary	311	126	-59%	ê
Robbery	86	108*	26%	é
Theft of MV	46	40	-13%	ê
Theft from MV	149	93	-38%	ê
Theft Person	676	393	-42%	ê

\*Approximately 25% of robberies over the past 12 months have involved suspects on pedal cycles.

### **The current position (as at the end of July 2021) and the steps being taken to reduce or manage harm and maintain and drive performance**

Neighbourhood crime has seen significant reductions when comparing 18/19 to 20/21. Even when considering COVID, the force is performing extremely well. There has been a slight increase in robbery offences with a yearly change compared to 18/19 of an additional 22 offences which are mainly snatches with suspect on bikes targeting mobile phones.

The Force has a comprehensive plan in place to target offenders and support victims of this type of crime and have worked effectively with Operation Venice over the past year (the MPS operation targeting moped/bicycle enabled crime focusing on link series phone snatch/robberies). Actions taken by the Force to address the recent spike in robbery include increased resources both uniform and plain clothes deployments to provide reassurance/deterrence/high visibility and extensive work with the MPS on our borders sharing intelligence, joint operations and relentlessly

targeting known offenders. This has resulted in several arrests of offender in the process of committing crime.

The Force links in with surrounding Met Police Boroughs to identify and prosecute Organised Crime Groups working within the City's licenced venues.

### **Tackle Cyber-Crime**

#### **National Metrics =**

**Confidence in the law enforcement response to cyber crime-** The City Cyber Crime Unit (CCU) consistently meets the National KPI of investigating 100% of reported Cyber Crime.

**Percentage of businesses experiencing a cyber breach or attack –** the CoLP does not have information on this that would be robust or meaningful.

#### **The current position (as at the end of July 2021) and the steps being taken to reduce or manage harm and maintain and drive performance**

The City Cyber Crime Unit (CCU) consistently meets the National KPI of investigating 100% of reported Cyber Crime. Our CCU works closely with the national programme to develop resilience, capability and expertise in this specialist area of investigation.

The Unit is a nationally recognised Centre of Excellence via Cyber Griffin - a community-focused programme which has ensured that engagements continued during the national lockdowns to help businesses in the Square Mile tackle cyber criminality. The Cyber Griffin programme was created in 2018 with the aim of protecting the Square Mile from cyber criminality by training a specialist team of police advisors and offering services which small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) through to multinational organisations would find valuable.

It is recognised across policing that cybercrime is a significant threat to the UK as a whole and that policing is struggling to keep pace with the increase in demand and complexity of cybercrime. The City of London Police is an integral part of the TeamCyber UK model and is working closer than ever with Regional and National Partners. The CoLP operate to a regional partnership model in London with the Metropolitan Police and the British Transport Police. This continues to develop and grow collaboratively.

### **Improve satisfaction among victims with a particular focus on victims of domestic abuse**

#### **National Metrics**

**Satisfaction with the police among victims of domestic abuse –** The surveys of DA victims went on hold during both lockdowns due to the increased safety risk related to contacting victims (this was in line with national guidance).

**Victim satisfaction with the police – see the table below**

Treatment 76% Satisfied	Follow up 63% Satisfied
Overall service satisfied 60%	Would recommend in future 66%

**The current position (as at the end of July 2021) and the steps being taken to reduce or manage harm and maintain and drive performance**

The above results were from a very small sample size (67) representing a 10% response rate. Work is ongoing to improve this by looking at a range of different ways to survey victims of crime to get a better response and then use that information to improve our services.

Whilst COVID-19 saw a reduction in the number of reported domestic abuse crimes during lockdown, the COLP has developed a number of initiatives including a 'Spotting the Signs' toolkit for employers and a 'Hidden Harms' Campaign to maintain engagement with the community, encourage reporting and ensure support is accessible. There is ongoing joint engagement work within City businesses to encourage reporting and raise awareness with employers. PPU have published a digital newsletter for hotels which will focus on all the vulnerability strands, the first edition was about Domestic Abuse and how staff can protect customers and what to look out for when hotels reopen to the public, however this also links to sexual violence / VAWG. The newsletter will continue and the VAWG strand is likely to run throughout each edition.