

Report of Director of Environment and Housing

Report to Environment & Housing Scrutiny Board

Date: 16th February 2017

Subject: Community Safety Theme

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

This report provides a brief update on the four community safety related themes/ services, previously presented to the Board on the 24th November 2017, plus an overview of Pub Watch, as requested. For ease of reference the report updates are highlighted at the end of each section.

- I. Addressing anti-social behaviour
- II. Addressing youth offending
- III. Tackling begging across the city
- IV. The future provision of CCTV
- V. Pub Watch

Recommendations

Scrutiny Board are asked to note the content of this report and following discussions identify any specific areas for further information and/ or investigation.

1. Purpose of this report

The report covers areas related to community safety as requested by the Board and sets out the context/ current position, key issues/ challenges and plans/ next steps.

The report is intended to provide a strategic overview of the pertinent issues to aid and prompt discussions.

2. Main Issues

Summaries are shown in Appendix 1.

3. Corporate Considerations

Consultation and Engagement

Consultation and engagement is embedded within the individual policy / areas of activity.

Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

An equality impact assessment is not required at this stage as this report is primarily an information report.

Council policies and Best Council Plan

As the city's Community Safety Partnership, the Safer Leeds Executive has a statutory requirement to prepare and implement a local Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy, referred to locally as the 'Safer Leeds Strategy'. This strategy also forms part of the council's budget and policy framework.

Resources and value for money

Individual evaluations are undertaken within the individual policy / areas of activity

Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

This report does not contain any exempt or confidential information

Risk Management

Risk management is embedded within the individual policy / areas of activity.

4. Conclusions

Members are asked to consider the summaries of the issues raised in the report and to aid discussions.

5. Recommendations

Scrutiny Board are asked to note the content of this report and following discussions identify any specific areas for further information and/ or investigation.

6. Background documents¹

None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.

I Addressing anti-social behaviour

1. Context/ Current Position

Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT) currently has 80 members of staff. The multi-agency teams are co-located and work across three operational areas (16 staff in the East, 13 staff in the South, 15 staff in the West with an additional 5 staff covering the Out of Hours Noise Service (OOHNS) and a central core team. Each area team is supported by 2 ASB police link Officers, 1 Victim Support outreach worker and 1 youth offending service outreach worker. The core team includes 3 staff that work in partnership with 2 police sergeants managing the 6 ASB police link officers, 3 HRA police officers and 5 police researchers.

Each Team comprises of a team leader, case supervisors and case officers whose primary functions are to respond to requests for service to resolve reported anti-social behaviour issues within communities and between individuals. Case officers are able to use a variety of preventative and enforcement tools to resolve cases, as well as mediation and restorative practices. OOHNS response officers respond to incidents as they are happening to abate noise nuisance and provide the daytime case officers with evidence to support their on-going case work.

Due to the diverse and complex cases, all Officers are trained in and aware of safeguarding and vulnerability issues and are able to make appropriate referrals as required.

The table provides a count of the reports to the service and cases taken on:

Enquiries	April to December 2015	April to December 2016	Change
ASB Reports	4702	4840	+2.93%

Noise Nuisance (currently accounts for almost 60% of new reports)

Cases	April to December 2015	April to December 2016	Change
New Cases	1254	1198	-4.47%

Noise Nuisance (which accounts for almost 60% of new reports)

LASBT also supports a diverse range of local partnership initiatives including;

- LASBT East is working in partnership with community leaders in Chapeltown & Harehills to develop a partnership approach to groups of individuals who associate together when participating in criminal activity.
- LASBT West is working with partners to address issues with emerging groups in New Wortley, Armley, Bramley and in Hawksworth/West Park
- LASBT Core and West Yorkshire Police Safer Schools Officers are working with schools to deliver on the first part of the Governments revised Hate Crime action plan - to encourage schools to report and in turn provide bespoke preventative workshops within schools

The HRA High Rise Initiative, is a relatively new approach to deal with problems in high-rise buildings, including high numbers of tenancy breaches, residents' concerns over overt drug dealing, noise nuisance and both youth and adult ASB. The 3 Police Link Officers are working collaboratively with services and residents to tackle such issues including removal of graffiti, waste/ litter, needles/ syringes and building relationships with tenants to resolve issues without the need for eviction. The team is now deployed on a responsive basis working in 'hotspot' areas.

Recent survey results show that:

- 73.4% of the 96 state that ASB has improved in the last three months

LASBT officers were the first in West Yorkshire to use the new injunctions for under 18's and have already secured a number of closure orders and continue to work proactively to with partners to prevent emerging issues where possible.

2. Key Issues/ Challenges

Public awareness of the role of LASBT has increased leading to more interaction and higher contact levels with the general public and other services. LASBT are also engaging with more victims and perpetrators who have complex needs, including mental health. Often these individuals do not meet the threshold to access traditional support services and generally such cases tend to be difficult to resolve and extend over a longer period of time.

Noise nuisance is still the biggest issue for LASBT, often because these cases involve a number of perpetrators and/ or can be hard to gather evidence to be able to take action. Cases opened related to noise have increased by just under 30% in the past 12 months.

There is scope to work more closely with Members and locality leaders, increasing communication and holding more regular briefings on local challenges and priorities.

Over recent months there have been concerns raised by members of the public and services about the rising levels of anti-social behaviour in a number of localities. This is an issue that impacts on a range of inter-related services, in the public, voluntary and community sector. There is recognition that generally services can deal effectively with the 'here and now' ASB issues but with finite resources, the challenge being able to draw on a range of services to address some of the underlying factors.

3. Plans/ Next Steps

LASBT continues to develop and improve in its core functions and plans are progressing to:

- Extend the Out Of Hours service to a 24 hour provision
- Increase the use of restorative practice methodologies to resolve cases
- Review current working practices for example, implementing case prioritisation

LASBT has recently appointed a case officer to look at specific legislative requirements around reviewing existing Designated Public Places Orders (DPPO's) as these will need to be replaced with the new Public Space Protection Orders before the DPPO's statutorily expire in October 2017. This officer is also conducting a review of our existing Alleygating

provision to reduce the risk of on-going costs of maintaining these schemes to ensure value for money.

Significant activity is being undertaken to strengthen responses to hate incidents in Leeds, including:

- Establishing a Hate Crime Strategic Board to provide leadership, governance and accountability to all partners
- A full review of the current Hate Crime strategy for Leeds to ensure it reflects current priorities and the Governments revised Hate Crime Action Plan.
- Guidance for schools around the HIRC has been updated and refreshed in partnership with Children's services and further training is being planned with schools to encourage reporting.
- Linking plans and delivery to the wider community cohesion Breakthrough Project.

Significant activity is being undertaken to strengthen responses to hate incidents in Leeds, including:

- A full review of the current Hate Crime strategy for Leeds to ensure it reflects current priorities and the Governments revised Hate Crime Action Plan.
- Work is progressing on establishing a Hate Crime Strategic Board to provide leadership, governance and accountability to all partners
- Linking plans and delivery to the wider community cohesion Breakthrough Project

Update as of the end of January 2017

- LASBT East have been working in partnership with partners to allay concerns about travellers who have now moved out of Seacroft and onto private land in East (Cross Green).
- LASBT Core is working with West Yorkshire Police to coordinate its responses to reported hate crime in accordance with the priority actions outlined within the Governments revised Hate Crime action plan.
- LASBT South continue to be a key member of the Leeds Begging Strategic Group, working closely with partners to ensure there is a joined-up approach to tackle begging in the city. We have reviewed our enforcement strategies, and have explored the approaches taken by other authorities to tackle the problem.

LASBT and West Yorkshire Police have recently secured an injunction to prevent anti-social motorcycling in Leeds, following the unauthorised 'ride out' through the streets of Leeds that occurred at Halloween last year.

The injunction secured on 10th January 2017 replaces the earlier interim injunction secured on 9th December 2016 and will be in place for 5 years, covering the whole of the Leeds City Council area. It prohibits anti-social driving (as defined in the order) by anyone after service of the order on them. Officers from LASBT are working closely with police colleagues to identify specific individuals who are being served with copies of the injunction to warn them of the consequences of a repeat of the events of 31st October 2016, described by the presiding Judge as being 'highly dangerous to the riders themselves and members of the public'.

II Addressing Youth Offending

1. Context/ Current Position

There continues to be a Council, Police and partnership focus on youth offending and listed below are some key developments in the last 12 months:

- Creation of the Leeds Youth Panel in May 2016. The Panel comprises of Youth Offending Service (YOS), Police and Community volunteers and seeks to:
 - encourage joint decision making on 'out of court' disposals
 - promote positive outcomes
 - provide safeguards against unnecessary entrance into the criminal justice system
 - enable restorative approaches with victims
 - Divert young people into services that seek to address the cause of their offending behaviour

- Training of all Safer Leeds Police Officers, predominantly working in schools, in restorative practice, supported and funded through the LCC Innovation Programme. The expertise of our city's schools liaison officers in restorative justice has been cited in a recent regional academic report.

- Creation of a partnership working group to focus on child friendly custody arrangements at Elland Road police station. The group has implemented and developed good working practices such as child-only holding areas, separate booking-in areas for children which are quiet and private, and improving child friendly treatment, such as age appropriate reading material.

- Expansion of the transfer of young people from police custody into local authority accommodation (commonly known as 'PACE beds'). Leeds is the first area in the country to pilot the scheme for a wider category of detention types, therefore exceeding our legal obligations and maximising child friendly alternatives to police custody.

- The YOS Police Liaison Team continue to work within the Elland Road custody area, providing support to children and young people detained in police custody and working in partnership with investigating officers to achieve the right outcomes and interventions.
- The gap between arrest rates and voluntary attendance continues to narrow, with more focus than ever on dealing with young people who have offended outside of the police custody and wider criminal justice system. The number of young people detained in police cells overnight also continues to fall significantly.
- A series of scaled opportunities were presented to the LSCB on child friendly custody arrangements. The group welcomed the ambition for Leeds to develop our arrangements and recommended that all the opportunities presented were scoped out further.

2. Key Issues/ Existing Challenges

In line with the Leeds Reducing Offending Strategic Plan (Sept 2016), there are some critical issues and real challenges ahead, these include:

Challenging/ changing existing and new offending behaviours.

- Often individuals' introduction to anti-social behaviours and acquisitive crimes can escalate as offenders seek greater thrill or financial gains.
- Opportunistic stealing and disposal of stolen goods can result in localised offending.
- Changing criminality, especially the growth of the internet and social media, has resulted in new and problematic offending.

Responding to Complex Needs.

- Substance misuse, mental health and lack of engagement are often identified among prolific offenders. Alcohol appears to be a key factor in a range of violence and nuisance related issues and drug dealing is a major concern in many inner city areas.
- Individuals may be coerced or forced into offending by peer or family groups through threats, expectations or lack of opportunities.
- A young person is more likely to suffer mental health problems and offend than their peers, if their parent has been in prison.

Supporting Vulnerable Victims

- Highly visible offences and ASB can have a disproportionate large impact on communities and feelings of safety.
- Offending behaviours and lack of victim empathy can lead to individuals, families or communities being repeatedly victimised.
- Targeting of specific groups can have significant negative impact on wider communities.

There is a strong, national focus on restorative, child friendly approaches to youth offending. The All Parliamentary Group for Children has made some key recommendations and the Home Office is shortly to publish the concordat on children in custody aimed at preventing the detention of children in Police custody following charge.

The Howard League for Penal Reform has been critical of national police practice in respect of children detained in police cells, particularly overnight. The recently published review by Lord Laming ('Keeping Children in Care out of Trouble') included a key recommendation: Children's Services and the Police should develop a protocol to minimise formal police involvement with children in care.

In 2015/16, 999 individual children were arrested and detained in a police cell in Leeds; many of those were arrested several times over. Police custody can be a particularly distressing experience for young people. Data analysis also shows that demands on the police and criminal justice system will increase significantly over coming years without new and innovative approaches.

A significant proportion of children and young people entering police custody have additional support needs around mental health, wellbeing, communication, learning and maturity and many are subject of social work intervention. Most come from the city's deprived areas. In the majority of instances, police custody is the only 'safe' place available 24/7 to receive young people who offend at a crisis point. It is also the only setting currently available to receive young people who pose a risk to public safety and/ or need to be held in a safe and secure environment during vital stages of a criminal investigation.

3. Planned Next Steps

The approach to these issues includes developing plans to:

- Address offending behaviour by providing seamless support to those who want help to change, through a restorative approach
- Placing increased emphasis on early intervention, prevention and deterring individuals from being involved in crime, particularly children and young people at risk of offending
- Actively communicating and promoting victim empathy and awareness, working with individuals, families and communities to break the cycles of reoffending
- Ensuring victims and witnesses are at the centre through our approach to engagement

In 2015, the Government commissioned a substantial review of the Youth Justice system and it is expecting that the report will be published in the Winter of 2016. The recommendation from this review will undoubtedly have implications locally for both YOS and the Police. The interim report published earlier this year had a strong focus on reducing the use of custody.

The vision in Leeds is to transform our response to children who offend, by finding alternatives to the traditional police custody approach as part of a broader ambition to provide effective adolescent services. It is expected that a partnership working group will be formed to further scope out the alternatives for our city.

Update as of the end of January 2017

The Leeds Youth Panel continues to meet weekly to discuss on average 10 cases/ week. The discussion is based around partnership assessments of the offender, the victim's views and community impact. Of particular significance, since the Panel commenced in May 2016 there have been no looked after children entering the criminal justice system for the first time ('FTEs'). An annual review of the Youth Panel is planned for the summer.

In January 2017, Safer Leeds, supported by the University of Leeds, commenced evaluation of the use of restorative interventions by Safer Schools Police Officers. Evaluation work will continue until March, and includes:

- Additional training
- One to one interviews with key people involved in restorative work, including SSPOs, schools staff and YOTs
- Focus groups with officers around their role and the challenges involved
- Examination of data collated during the time period
- Observation in schools by the University research team

The police working practices identified as part of the child friendly custody arrangements are all successfully in place. The working group met in January to agree the next steps with improvements at the Elland Road custody suite, focussing on accountability in decision making regarding the arrest and detention of children and young people.

The PACE bed working group is further exploring the wider use of PACE beds as 'custody respite beds' This would provide the police with an alternative to custody for lower level, emergency cases such as a young person causing a breach of the peace at home, where secure detention is neither necessary nor proportionate to the risk.

A West Yorkshire Protocol for accessing secure beds (for example at Adel Beck Secure Children's Home) is also being progressed and co-ordinated from Leeds. This arrangement will provide an alternative to police custody for children charged and detained for court, who cannot be transferred to non-secure accommodation

In December 2016, Charlie Taylor published the review of the Youth Justice system in England and Wales. The review included diversion, the improvement in treatment of children in police custody, reducing the criminalisation of looked after children, and reforming the criminal records system for children. Progress is underway to form a partnership working group to develop this vision and the wider recommendations of the Taylor report

From April 2017, the YOS will second staff to the new NHS England Liaison and Diversion team at Elland Road. The purpose of Liaison and Diversion is to identify, assess and refer people of all ages with a wide range of mental health, learning disability, substance misuse and social vulnerabilities when they first come into contact with the criminal justice system.

In relation to strengthen links with employers in supporting young offenders into work, it is recognised there is more to do on this and would welcome support. Leeds YOS hopes to further develop the Skill Mill programme in Leeds, providing training, support and

employment for young offenders in Leeds. <http://theskillmill.org/leeds-2/> Leeds has 'forged' a successful partnership with a local building firm CEG at the Kirkstall Forge development in Leeds and aspires to create similar partnerships with other organisations over the year. Plans are being progressed to create a new Leeds Skill Mill Community Interest Company in the near future. Details of the partnership with CEG are here: <http://www.thebusinessdesk.com/yorkshire/news/744780-developer-re-commits-to-skill-mill-at-400m-kirkstall-forge-scheme.html>

III Tackling begging across the city

1. Context/ Current Position

Like the majority of prosperous big cities, Leeds has issues with people who beg and who approach members of the public asking for money, in both a passive and aggressive manner. Safer Leeds, the community safety partnership for the city is committed to helping people stop begging on the streets and receive the right support they need.

We work very closely with our partners including West Yorkshire Police (WYP), the wider Council and a number of organisations and charities such as St Georges Crypt, The Big Issue in the North, St. Anne's Resource Centre, Grow.Live.Change (CGL), Simon on the Streets, housing and drug and alcohol services, and BACIL (Businesses Against Crime in Leeds).

In September 2016, the refreshed 'Responding to Begging Strategic Plan' was approved by Safer Leeds Executive. The approach is based on high challenge to those begging and high support for those with particular needs and work is focussed around three strands:

- Communications & Engagement (focus on increasing awareness & understanding amongst city centre visitors, workers and businesses)
- Support Management (focus on direct interventions and restorative support packages for individuals ~ outreach & case conferencing)
- Offender Management (focus on direct operational activity, tactical and strategic enforcement of individuals and groups)

The outreach team undertake daily "partnership patrols" in the city centre area to offer support and advice. It is estimated on an average day (24 hour period) there are around 25-35 individual active beggars in Leeds. A three month 'snapshot' count earlier in the year recorded over 60 contacts a month (c. 10 new to the outreach service).

Key activity

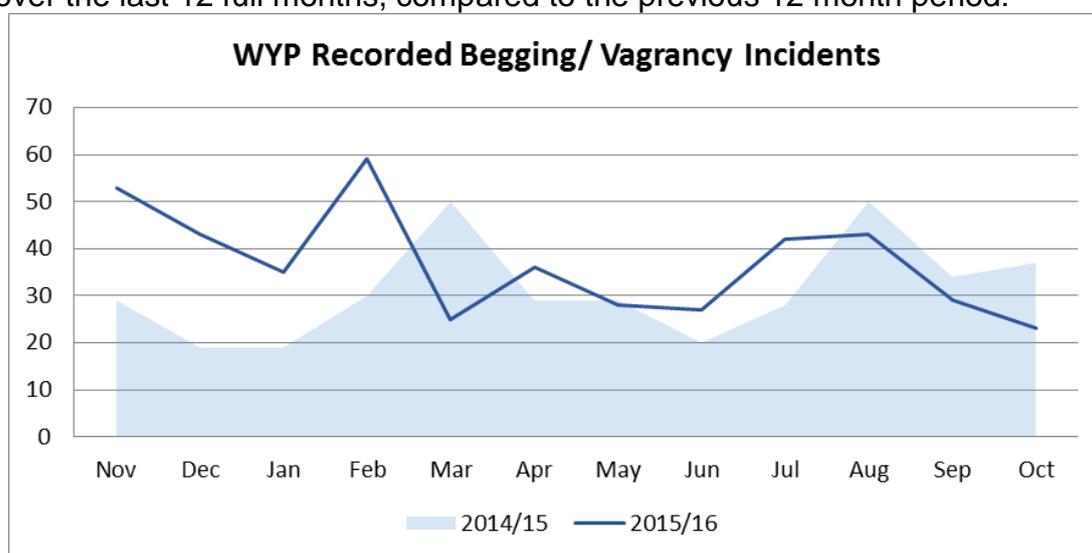
- In partnership with Leeds Street Outreach and other local charities we try to persuade those found begging to take up the offers of help and signpost them into relevant support services. Those who refuse initial support are then discussed at a multi-agency case conference to facilitate robust managed intervention plans. Cases are monitored closely to ensure that support offered is proportionate and relevant to the needs of the individual.
- There is daily Outreach work with staff offering support to individuals, and joint LCC and WYP patrols. Forward Leeds now attended case conferences and Mental Health services do more joint up outreach work with a dedicated GP from York Street Practice.
- Project Verto uses a football style 'yellow' and 'red' card warning notice system; these can be issued to a person committing or likely to commit anti-social behaviour that is seen to be causing harassment, alarm or distress. Initially a person begging

is offered a warning explaining where and how they can get help support, help with accommodation, free food, shower facilities, dry clothing, help with benefit claims and health support for drug or alcohol issues. If the same person is sighted begging again then further action is considered which may require that person to leave the City Centre for 48 hours. If an individual again breached the terms of the order then it's likely they would be dealt with more formally, arrested and legal action taken.

Project Verto (last 12 months)

- 85 people begging identified
- 270+ police dispersal notices have been issued to people found begging
- 2 aggressive beggars were issued with Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBO's)

The below graph shows the levels of recorded begging/ vagrancy incidents recorded by WYP over the last 12 full months, compared to the previous 12 month period:



Although this is a measure of incidents rather than individuals involved, it can be assumed that significant increases/ decreases are representative of changes in the overall numbers of individuals (although not on a “1-to-1” basis).

The trends show that there was an increase in the levels of recorded incidents from August 2015 to Jan/ Feb 2016. There has been a lower volume in incidents following this peak, with a slight rise over the recent summer months that has decreased in September and October.

2. Key Issues/ Existing Challenges

Many people who beg are vulnerable individuals, affected by their life experiences and/ or circumstances. The reasons why they beg are often very complex, and can be compounded by a range of mental and physical ill health issues, all of which can be real barriers to engaging with services and changing behaviours.

- Common recorded linked offences to problematic beggars have been theft (especially shop theft for alcohol or food) and violence (most commonly physical assaults).

- Individuals with a history of drugs and alcoholism appear more frequently to have linked violent offences or demonstrate aggression towards officers and staff monitoring the streets and businesses.
- Substance misuse, mental health, and violence are commonly identified issues among problematic beggars. The most common substance misuse issues identified are alcoholism, heroin, cocaine, and non-psychoactive substances often with associated long term health problems.
- Mental health issues, including a high prevalence of self-harm and general poor health is evident. The most common specifically identified mental health issues are depression and schizophrenia; other concerns are mainly anxiety disorders, bi-polar or personality disorders

Unfortunately begging on the streets of Leeds occurs daily, money given by caring members of the public, to people that beg, is invariably spent on a drugs and alcohol addiction. Because somebody is begging it does not always mean that they have nowhere to live, in fact in Leeds only very few people found begging have no form of accommodation or a place to stay.

We do not seek to criminalise everyone found begging and have steered away from arresting people for begging as the first choice of action, preferring to engage, offer support and warn individuals where appropriate. However, begging is a crime and intimidating; aggressive and persistent behaviour is anti-social will not be tolerated and has to be addressed.

We do get a number of complaints about people begging from residents, commuters, shops & businesses and people who socialise in the city centre, but who don't want to be constantly asked for money as they go about their way. We deal with these complaints about begging because we are confident we have the support services available to help these individuals. Money given by caring members of the public, to people that beg, may often be spent on a drugs and alcohol addiction. Public perception is that if somebody is begging or rough sleeping that person is homeless, or has been given no accommodation offers; events like 'Tent City' (October 2016) re-inforce this misunderstanding.

3. Planned Next Steps

The refreshed strategy provides an opportunity to move into the next phase of delivery and built on existing work. Examples of work that will be progressed include:

- Expand the use and effectiveness of Criminal Behaviour Orders and other ASB tools, including Public Space Protection Orders ~ taking action against those whose begging behaviour is intimidating and aggressive, by disruption and displacement using all tactical options
- Explore the feasibility of enhancing Project Verto, by having a 'dedicated slot' for hearings at court for persistent and aggressive beggars
- Work with housing providers to use Acceptable Behaviour Contracts & Agreements, and utilise housing related enforcement alternatives to manage problematic tenants who are known to beg
- Review critical 'pathway models', testing effectiveness from the point of entry through to conclusion from a service users perspective
- Explore the opportunity to enhance street triage and direct links mental health provision

- Collaborate with all emergency services to share information and intelligence to inform and direct a co-ordinated response

West Yorkshire Police and the LASBT are currently pursuing enforcement action via a Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) for 3 individuals, where all other approaches have been exhausted.

Phase 2 of the communication and engagement plans are being developed, including a greater emphasis on tackling misconceptions and raising awareness with the public and as part of the Think Before You Give (TYBG) campaign.

Update as of the end of January 2017

Work has progressed around enforcement action, including seeking **Criminal Behaviour Orders** (CBO's) when people begging repeatedly ignore the offers of support that are available from a number of partner agencies.

In November 2016, a man described by as “the most prolific beggar in Leeds” was given an order banning him from begging in the city centre. He was made the subject of a CBO at Leeds Magistrates Court when he appeared charged with failing to comply with a police dispersal order in relation to begging. This individual is not homeless and receives housing benefit and has been begging in the city centre for some considerable time, often taking a taxi home at the end of the day. Any breach of the order (which is in place for 3 years) is a criminal offence for which he can be arrested and face prosecution. This case, which has been the subject of a multi-agency conference, is an example of how we will make full use of the available legislation to address the unacceptable behaviour of others. It is also hoped that CBOs for those who do not engage will be a robust tool requiring those with addiction issues to get help and support. A further 3 applications for CBO's are being pursued in early 2017.

We have recently had the opportunity to meet with the CPS to discuss the proposed wording of CBOs and scope of prohibitions for begging offences and are now in a position to move forward with a number of applications to curtail the activity of our persistent offenders.

The following types of support are available to people who beg:

- **Outreach:** speaking to people on the street to understand how and why they are begging and explain what support is available, e.g. CRI Leeds Outreach Team
- **Specialist services:** to support with mental health issues, drug or drink addictions, e.g. St Anne's Community Services, BARCA Leeds, Leeds Housing Options. Those who refuse initial support are then discussed at a multi-agency case conference to facilitate robust managed intervention plans.
- **Drop in facilities, shelters and supported accommodation:** help people to maintain or find accommodation, e.g. St George's Crypt who provide meals, support and emergency accommodation, St Vincent's Support Centre who provide advocate and support network help, and The Big Issue in the North who offer homeless people the opportunity to earn an income and providing support and advice.

Cases are monitored closely to ensure that support offered is proportionate and relevant

to the needs of the individual.

All partners were involved in securing Purple Flag status for the city. This was the primary focus October - December. Following the success of the initiative, a workshop was held in January, focusing on the night time economy. At this meeting, partners agreed to enhance the operational capital and give commitment to support this initiative.

In addition, a wider communications and engagement framework will be developed focusing on community safety related issues for the city centre, with Leeds City Council, West Yorkshire Police and Leeds BID forming a core group to progress this work.

Within this framework, there will be a focus on begging. Think Before You Give (TYBG) is our key communication approach and this year the campaign will be refreshed and re-focused to raise awareness and tackling misconceptions rather than demonising beggars or those that give to them. Through this campaign we will advertise how the general public can support people begging in alternative ways, i.e. offering food instead of money and supporting local charities and organisations, along with a clearly publicised contact number will be available for people to use if they are concerned about the welfare or behaviour of someone begging in the city.

IV The future provision of CCTV

1. Context/ Current Position

Leedswatch is a Leeds City Council service, providing CCTV in public spaces to deter, detect, and prevent crime and disorder. The service operates 24/7; 365 days a year and currently offers the following:

- Monitoring of 300+ street cameras, 203 West Yorkshire Metro bus station cameras at 26 Metro bus stations, 500 East North East Tower Blocks and 500 proposed for West North West Tower Blocks and 20 on industrial estates (mainly Cross Green)
- Welfare checks for guards in Bus Stations, booking guards on/off, monitoring of Help Points
- Download footage for Police and other agencies
- Undertake monitoring roles delegated from Police Special Operations
- Actively monitor Police Airwaves radio and BACIL radio (Business against crime in Leeds)
- Support other LCC services to keep the city safe
- Play an active part in locating missing persons
- Support LCC special events e.g. Carnival, Concerts in Millennium Square
- Supporting specific overt and covert WYP Operations

The CCTV Control Room is staffed by 5 teams of multi-skilled staff operating a 24/7 shift pattern over 5 weeks. Each team consists of one Team Leader, one Senior Control Room Officer and eight Control Room Officers. In addition to this there are Safer Leeds Officers and Parkswatch Officers on each shift that are predominantly field based. This structure equates to 71 posts.

The management, support and engineering structure consists of 10 staff. The Engineering element is responsible for the Public Space surveillance systems; installation, maintenance and repair of CCTV and Tower Block cameras, design, quotes, installation and maintenance of Bus Lane enforcement cameras, maintenance of WYP ANPR cameras and also support the technical functions in the LeedsWatch Control Room. The service also provides consultancy advice for external clients and other LCC internal departments and also focusses on income generation opportunities.

Officers are in regular radio contact with West Yorkshire Police, and have a link to the Police Area Control Room. Officers are also in regular radio contact with BACIL (Business against Crime in Leeds) and the City Ambassadors to ensure their Health and Safety is protected.

CCTV Operators are trained to look for suspicious behaviour and to observe escalating situations, to enable services to respond accordingly. Since April 2016, a total of 8687 incidents have been logged on the CCTV system. An incident is classed as an observation on CCTV which an Officer feels is of significance. Examples of the types of observations are listed below:

Types of CCTV Incidents:	April to October 2016
Public order	1652
Anti-Social Behaviour	1527
Missing people	421
Suspicious event	359
Sexual offence	34

The CCTV element of LeedsWatch is a Delegated Function to the 10 Community Committees. Committees can make requests for new CCTV cameras to be installed, this is subject to a crime analysis being completed to demonstrate the need and funding being provided by the committee and/or other local partners. The funding is required to cover the camera installation costs and ongoing revenue costs for the running, monitoring and maintenance of the camera for a minimum of 5 years.

Performance information reports are under development to enable members and partners to receive relevant information on a regular basis regarding incidents observed in their area.

2. Key Issues/ Existing Challenges

LeedsWatch has grown in size over the years and a restructure in 2015 has enabled a more aligned, flexible and responsive operational structure, capable of better meeting existing and new operational demands. The ongoing challenge is to further develop and modernise the service as well as exploit opportunities to generate new income activity.

The CCTV monitoring service provided by LeedsWatch is dependent on a 3rd party fibre optic transmission network. The costs to run the transmission network are inconsistent across the localities as the fibre service charge rate levied by the service provider is proportionate with a cameras geographical distance from the Control Room. This places wards in outlying areas at a disadvantage where service charges are comparably higher from the inner city. Some Community Committees considered these charges excessive

and are seeking evidence that the community safety impact of their installations justify the associated running costs.

The fibre optic transmission network is currently under contract until April 2018. In anticipation of the contract expiry LeedsWatch and PPPU are developing a strategy to digitise the CCTV network and decommission the current analogue infrastructure. The benefits will be two fold; firstly this will enable the reduction of charges by rationalising fibre services and introducing competition from alternative service providers. Secondly, there will be a significant improvement in image quality and increased effectiveness of cameras.

3. Plans/ Next Steps

Significant progress has been made in the following area:

- In order to evaluate the digitisation of the fibre service a soft market test has been undertaken to appraise suppliers and solutions within the sector. Once all the submissions from the suppliers have been collected and reviewed, an upgrade methodology will be formulated and a rationalisation exercise will commence, to maximise the cost saving potential.
- The current CCTV network to Housing Leeds multi-storey blocks has potential for consolidation into the LeedsWatch network. A survey and appraisal of multi-storey blocks is currently being progressed to ascertain where the integration of networks can create economies of scale and promote a rationalisation exercise, bringing cost reductions to new installations.
- Stake holders are seeking a low cost camera that can be rapidly deployed to address immediate issues. In response, LeedsWatch have developed a solution and are currently testing a mobile camera to tackle anti-social behaviour in inner North West Leeds. The issues localities face are often short term and sporadic, where this is the case the cost and timescales of a standard public space camera installation can be prohibitive. If the Mobile camera proves successful the technology will be offered as an alternative using mobile phone technology to stream images to the Control Room.
- Furthermore, a review of existing camera locations is being undertaken to ensure that cameras are in the right place. Where it is identified that cameras are no longer fulfilling their operational requirement they will be de-commissioned, following consultation with key stakeholders.
- LeedsWatch has identified the cameras which are furthest away from the Control Room (Middleton) these are the most costly and will be addressed as a priority.
- The rationalisation and decommission of circuits will enable LeedsWatch and localities to maximise the saving potential.
- Substantial work has taken place to ensure the LeedsWatch control room is now equipped for the development of the digital technology
- The rolling programme for CCTV installation in WNW tower blocks is underway and a concierge system is being explored. The digital cameras have improved the quality of the images from the Tower Blocks through to LeedsWatch.
- Leeds are leading on the Police and Crime Commissioner Innovation study looking at the feasibility of procuring a facial recognition platform across West Yorkshire to enable the search for missing people. The project aims to work with a wide range of partner organisations within West Yorkshire towards establishing a CCTV infrastructure which can be shared and improve inter-operability, using newer technology.

High Level Project Timeline

Task	Completed by:
Stage 1 - Feasibility and Scoping	
Soft Market Test	09/09/2016
Update and review Business Case	02/12/2016
E&H Director Approval	12/12/2016
Stage 2 - Delivery	
Prepare market tender documents	Feb-17
Go out to market	Mar-17
Score suppliers	May-17
Secure/Award new supplier	Jul-17
Current contract end date	Apr-18
Upgrade of fibre lines to digital	Apr-18
Upgrade of cameras to digital	Dec-18

Update as of the end of January 2017

The service is currently exploring the market to find the best available options for LeedsWatch to build and redesign a network which is up-to-date, utilises new technology, is cost effective and follows best industry practice.

The current CCTV technology works on a model of one fibre service to one CCTV camera which has cost implications. It is anticipated that the future model will use a range of technology as a solution that will support a modern digital platform using innovative mobile technology such as radio, Wi-Fi and 3/4G. This will allow the council to be flexible and more responsive going forward, especially when deployable cameras are required in high crime areas. The new 'blended' technology approach will enable mobile cameras to be utilised for periods of time in high crime/ASB areas.

Work is underway to collate information around how many CCTV incidents have been logged on each camera over the past 12 months, and Safer Leeds are analysing the numbers of crimes reported within the area of a CCTV camera. This will help identify where there is a need for cameras to be de-commissioned, re-located or installed where there are 'gaps' in coverage and CCTV would be of a benefit to the Community. Once this information is available, LeedsWatch will bring this to the Community Committee for discussion and agreement.

The installation of CCTV within multi-storey blocks provides significant opportunity to maximise savings, and a project is currently underway with Housing Leeds to move this forward. By utilising the transmission network created through the project, LeedsWatch will be able to decommission some fibres and reduce costs. Where the housing blocks present a clear line of sight to areas that require new cameras there will be opportunities to use a radio network link which will eliminate the need for as many fibres. LeedsWatch are currently determining the number of fibres which can be decommissioned by adopting this model. A new blended approach will be procured and LeedsWatch will engage with the

successful supplier to move the technology platform forward.

Performance reports are currently being cascaded to Community Committees for Q3.

Leedswatch are currently visiting other Local Authorities to look at their CCTV infrastructures as part of the service improvement agenda.

V Leeds Pub Watch

1. Context/ Current Position

Leeds Pub Watch has been established in its current form for a number of years.

To work effectively any Pub Watch scheme must work closely with the Police, licensing authority and other agencies. The key aim of the scheme is a safe, sensible and social drinking environment in all licensed premises to reduce alcohol-related crime.

The basic working principle underpinning a Pub Watch scheme is that the licensees of premises involved agree on a number of policies to counter individuals who threaten damage, disorder, violence, or the use or dealing of drugs in their premises. Action predominately includes agreeing to refuse to serve individuals that cause, or are known to have caused these types of behaviour. This approach has proven to be effective in reducing anti-social behaviour.

The challenges and demands on the licensed trade and other night-time businesses have never been greater. By playing an active role in Leeds Pub Watch licensed operators can stay up to date with licensing and Police issues, and have the ability to actively contribute to discussions with other businesses and a whole range of agencies. There are currently 16 Pub Watch schemes active across the Leeds district, including the city centre. The meetings, attended by licensees within the local area, are chaired by licensees and supported by agencies, primarily the Police and the Licensing Authority. Pub Watch meetings are held on a regular basis.

One of the biggest advantages is that all the schemes in the Leeds district share information. An individual who causes issues for licensed premises in one area could find themselves barred from licensed premises in that local area or more wider across the district. By joining together in this way it increases the chances of formal and legal sanctions, such as a Pub Watch ban to be brought against the worst offenders to back up the action of individual licensed premises and Pub Watch schemes.

Leeds City Council, West Yorkshire Police and a great number of Leeds licensed premises have worked hard together in making the Pub Watch schemes even more effective. This makes sure that every Pub Watch scheme in the district receives the same levels of support from the police and local authority and works to the same high standards. To develop further Leeds Pub Watch, in 2012 the Licensing Authority funded the development of a bespoke Leeds Pub Watch website for use by its members (licensed operators) to facilitate the sharing of information and for publishing topical news items. In addition, the Licensing Authority provided day-to-day website administrator support. In 2016 the Leeds Pub Watch website ceased to exist with the website function, at no financial cost to its

members, migrating to the Business Against Crime In Leeds (BACIL) website, a superior website. BACIL is an established, highly regarded Leeds crime-reduction partnership working with Leeds City Council, West Yorkshire Police, Safer Leeds and other bodies across the city to actively reduce crime, as such it was a natural move bringing together daytime and night-time economy partnerships. As far as Leeds Pub Watch members are concerned it is business as usual and the day-to-day website administrator support provided by the Licensing Authority continues. Although Leeds Pub Watch is now hosted on the BACIL website it still remains a separate autonomous body. The web address for the BACIL Leeds Pub Watch website is <http://www.bacil.org/pub-watch/>

The licensing authority and police strongly recommend every licensed venue to be actively involved in their local Pub Watch scheme, and view full engagement with Pub Watch as a clear indicator of due diligence in maintaining high standards.

BACIL and Leeds Pub Watch continue to receive regular positive feedback. Recently counter-terrorism information was quickly and efficiently disseminated to daytime and night-time members across the Leeds district on behalf of the Regional Counter Terrorism Unit, who were complimentary about the response provided by Leeds Pub Watch and BACIL which set the standard for others to follow in respect of partnership working.

2. Key Issues/ Existing Challenges

Currently website administrator support is provided by the Licensing Authority at no cost to Pub Watch a member that is primarily to encourage and support the licensed trade in being actively involved with the Leeds Pub Watch schemes across the city. The support provided by the Licensing Authority could reduce or cease altogether subject to resource pressures in the future, which could ultimately see the demise of the Leeds Pub Watch website.

The Licensing Authority and the police are significantly involved with supporting the many regular Pub Watch forums across the city, including attendance by officers. This support, provided by partner agencies could reduce or cease altogether subject to resource pressures in the future, which could ultimately see the demise or reduction of Leeds Pub Watch.

Success of Leeds Pub Watch depends very much on active engagement by Leeds licensed operators. However, the licensed trade typically sees a high turnover of staff which can adversely affect continuity of engagement with Leeds Pub Watch.

3. Plans/ Next Steps

Leeds Pub Watch continues to be a valuable platform for the sharing of information between licensed operators in promoting a safe environment for staff and customers. It is hoped Leeds Pub Watch will continue to grow, especially now the new relationship it enjoys with the highly regarded and effective BACIL partnership, both covering the Leeds daytime and night-time economies.