



Creating a safer  
**Cambridgeshire**

**To:** Business Coordination Board

**From:** Chief Constable

**Date:** 26 May 2022

## **SAFER STREETS 3 PROJECT REPORT**

### **1. Purpose**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Business Coordination Board (the "Board") on the progress that Cambridgeshire Constabulary (the "Constabulary") has made as part of the Safer Streets 3 project.

### **2. Recommendation**

2.1 The Board is recommended to note the contents of the report.

### **3. Background**

3.1 In July 2021 the force successfully submitted a bid to the Home Office Safer Streets 3 scheme for **£471,314**. This funded the running of projects within the

county aimed at making public spaces safer through projects aimed at tackling the issue of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG).

3.2 The bid had several objectives which included tackling the offences of:

- Street harassment
- Stalking
- Indecent exposure
- Sexual touching/sexual assault
- Up-skirting
- Serious sexual offending
- Sexual coercion

3.3 The successful bid was fully supported by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and received inputs and support from numerous partner agencies including, Cambridgeshire Youth Panel, Cambridge Rape Crisis, Mountain Healthcare (Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) provider), Children's Social Care, Change Grow Live, Safer Relationships for Exploited Children (SAFE) Team, Peterborough City Council, Security Industry Authority, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership and Huntingdonshire District Council.

3.4 Research was conducted which identified Lower Super Output Area's (LSOA's) that had seen a prevalence of offending that included street-based harassment, sexual touching, serious sexual offences including rape and stalking. The identified areas were predominantly in the city centres and are listed below:

- E01015602 Central Ward (Peterborough)
- E01015599 Central Ward (Peterborough)
- E01032797 Market and Castle Wards (Cambridge)

3.5 The proposed plan required the implementation of a project manager and Inspector Ian Lombardo was appointed on secondment until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 to design and coordinate the 3 main strands of the bid, which were:

- 1) A large-scale Media Campaign
- 2) Providing training to Police Officers and Partners

### 3) Operational Police activity

## 4. Outcomes Delivered

4.1 **MEDIA** – Due to the size of the planned media campaign an external company, “Social Change” who specialises in this area of work was awarded the contract to progress the required tasks. Social change has split the progression of the campaign into 3 phases:

4.1.1 **Phase 1 Research** – This includes audience research with Women, girls and also offenders to enable effective targeting of the designed interventions and includes overlaying quantitative data with the results of online surveys and telephone questionnaires.

4.1.2 **Phase 2 Design & Delivery** – Produce and implement products that meet the needs of the public and partners and that complement the required strategies of increasing accountability in the night-time economy setting, encourage changes in the behaviours of perpetrators and bystanders and increase the education and understanding of street-based harassment for all residents.

4.1.3 **Phase 3 Continual evaluation** – Continual evaluation of the campaigns so if required adjustments can be made during each delivery. There will also be a focused evaluation at the end where target audiences will be revisited to provide an understanding of the effectiveness of each campaign to help inform future work.

4.1.4 The overall objectives of the Media campaign are:

- To increase education amongst Cambridgeshire residents on what constitutes street harassment and sexual harassment.
- To support women in Cambridgeshire to feel safer walking at night and being 'out and about' in Cambridgeshire.
- To encourage perpetrators to change their behaviour through not engaging in behaviours that constitute street or sexual harassment.
- To encourage bystanders to change their behaviour through 'calling out' or taking action to challenge, discourage, stop or report behaviours from others that constitute street or sexual harassment.

- To encourage commitment and ownership within the night-time economy in Cambridgeshire to reduce the amount of street and sexual harassment and to increase accountability from the night-time economy for this.
- 4.1.5 At the time of writing this report “Social change” are still operating in Phase 1 which will conclude on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 with a planned commencement of Phase 2 in July 2022 with a rolling delivery of the agreed products.
- 4.2 **TRAINING** – Training packages have been developed for police, partners and also night-time economy staff. The training package for Police and partners consists of a power point presentation and 2 bespoke videos that were designed and developed by Inspector Lombardo and self-employed film maker Mr Tom Woodcock who has designed training videos previously for the Constabulary. These have been delivered to frontline officers during the weekly Tuesday training sessions. The training package for the night-time economy staff (including CCTV operators) consists of a power point presentation which was designed and developed by Inspector Lombardo and PC Nicky Peacock. This package has been delivered to all CCTV operators within Cambridgeshire and approximately 90 other Security Industry Authority (SIA) and bar staff across the county. Further requests for training from licensed premises are being received which we are trying to accommodate.
- 4.3 Peterborough City Council have proposed and are awaiting official sign off to add the predatory behaviour training delivered by the police to mandatory training that taxi drivers are required to undertake when they initially apply for or renew their licenses. The SIA have also requested to be able to add the training package to their website to allow SIA staff to view it at their convenience.
- 4.4 **Operational** – Operation Armour ran over December 2021 in Peterborough and Cambridge City centres. This operation consisted of a dedicated team for each town on each weekend that was staffed with a CCTV operator (who had received the predatory behaviour training), a pair of plain clothes officers and 2 pairs of uniformed officers all working a night shift. The CCTV operator and plain clothes officers would look to identify individual’s displaying predatory behaviour and then call in the uniformed officers who would stop and engages

with the individual. Depending on the results of the checks completed during the interaction officers could decide to either take no further action, give words of advice or utilise dispersal powers to remove that individual from the town centre. Officers were required to complete a simple return form for every interaction that they undertook and an additional intelligence submission for anyone who caused officers concern or was dispersed out of the town centre. These intelligence items were then reviewed by the intelligence team who produced a spread sheet detailing what was known about this person. This spread sheet was reviewed weekly by Inspector Lombardo and Detective Inspector Sylvester to consider if any further action was required. Several follow up visits were undertaken by local neighbourhood teams along with the issuing of 2 community protection warnings. Op Armour patrols were supported by social media posts which received an overwhelmingly positive response from the public.

## **5. Next Steps**

- 5.1 Progression of the media campaign being developed by Social Change.
- 5.2 The project manager's secondment (Inspector Lombardo) was due to conclude in May this year however has now been extended until July. This extension has been agreed to enable the completion of the outstanding Safer Streets 3 project work along with supporting the commencement of work associated with Safer Streets 4. Inspector Lombardo will now report into Supt Hunt and will be seconded to the Partnership and Prevention department thereby ensuring that the correct links are in place between the two projects, ensuring that the full benefits of the safer streets 3 work can be realised.
- 5.3 Dependent on the success of the Safer Streets 4 bid further consideration will then have to be given as to how the Constabulary wishes to coordinate the project.
- 5.4 Embedding Op Armour principles into business as usual.
- 5.5 This has already been supported by Northern and Southern area commanders and Intelligence and Specialist Crime Department (ISCD). All officers will have received the predatory behaviour training, predatory behaviour will be added to the officer briefing at the start of the shift, and ISCD will pick up any

intelligence submitted titled Op Armour, conduct a review and then forward to the local neighbourhood team for progression. Detective Inspector Sylvester has agreed to act as a Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for advice and guidance should any of the neighbourhood officers require it.

- 5.6 A wider dispersal of the training delivered to frontline officers. This is to include other departments such as the demand hub, Joint Protective Services (JPS) and discussions to be held with learning and development to look at the possibility of including the presentation into initial officer training.
- 5.7 Continued delivery of the predatory behaviour training to partners and night-time economy staff. During the project online training session and larger in person events have been held. These have led to requests from licensed premises for the delivery of training to their staff at their establishments prior to the commencement of their shifts. Due to the turnover of staff at this location's consideration is being given to developing a stand-alone presentation that doesn't require police input that can be shown to staff who newly join a licensed premises.

## **6. Benefits Realisation**

- 6.1 Work is ongoing around the legacy of Safer Streets 3 as momentum continues to grow especially around the predatory behaviour training that was developed.
- 6.2 Requests continue to be received from licensed premises, schools and an enquiry has also been received from the organisers of the "We Out Here" festival that is due to take place this summer.
- 6.3 Peterborough City Council are currently in the process of adding the Police developed Predatory behaviour training to the mandatory safeguarding training that Taxi Drivers are required to undertake when they initially apply for or renew their taxi license.
- 6.4 Work is also continuing with the development of an accreditation scheme that licensed premises can join to show that their staff have been trained and will challenge predatory behaviour should it occur within their establishment.

6.5 Corporate Comm’s put out regular social media posts and press releases during operational activity that was positively received from the public. However, as the Comm’s campaign is due to go live in the summer it is too early to ascertain any increase in public confidence or reporting around the issue of VAWG.

**7. Recommendation**

7.1 The Board is recommended to note the contents of the report.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

<b>Source Document(s)</b>	
<b>Contact Officer(s)</b>	Inspector Ian Lombardo, Safer Streets Project Manager, Cambridgeshire Constabulary