

City of London Preventing Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2025-2029

This Strategy forms part of the wider Safer City Partnership Strategy 2025–2029 which focuses on four top priorities: preventing violence against women and girls, safer public spaces, serious violence and acquisitive crime.

The Safer City Partnership Board oversees the strategy. It brings together people from the City of London Police, City of London Corporation, Health Services, local business and community organisations. This joined-up approach is essential—no single organisation can do it alone. By working in partnership, we can share knowledge, coordinate our efforts, and make a bigger impact with the objective to make the City of London a safer and more welcoming place for everyone who lives, works, or spends time here.

The aim of the Preventing Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy is to create a safer, inclusive space where women and girls are free from violence, abuse, and exploitation, supported by strong partnerships, evidence-led action, and prevention-focused interventions.

This Strategy is underpinned by the three Safer City Partnership Principles – effective and accountable partnerships, evidence and intelligence-led action, and prevention focused interventions. All operational delivery will be underpinned by these Principles as outlined below.

1. Effective and Accountable Partnerships

We will:

- Establish multi-agency governance and accountability structures.
- Embed public and business engagement to strengthen community resilience.
- Drive organisational culture change through internal networks and training.
- Move towards DAHA accreditation to ensure best practice in housing and safeguarding.

2. Evidence and Intelligence-Led Action

We will:

- Develop a centralised data repository for VAWG-related incidents.
- Enhance data-sharing agreements across agencies.
- Invest in analytical capacity to identify trends and hotspots.
- Use insights to shape prevention and enforcement strategies.

3. Prevention-Focused Interventions

We will:

- Deliver behaviour-change campaigns
- Expand Safe Havens and situational crime prevention measures (CCTV, lighting).
- Strengthen Night-Time Economy safety through training and hotel engagement.
- Promote pathways for victims and vulnerable individuals to access support.
- Increase public awareness and community engagement

Governance and Implementation

The City of London VAWG Delivery Group is responsible for implementing and translating the strategic aims of this plan into detailed operational plans.

These plans will:

- Identify specific actions from this strategy relevant to their focus area.
- Set clear milestones, outputs, and outcome measures.
- Apply the principles of partnership, prevention, and intelligence-led action.
- Outline how performance will be monitored and reported to the SCP Board.

The City of London Community Safety Team will provide a quarterly progress update which will be presented at the Safer City Partnership board for scrutiny and oversight.

Delivering the Strategy: Key Initiatives

- Quarterly VAWG Delivery Group meetings and Women's Action Group.
- Public Campaigns: 16 Days of Activism and misogyny campaigns
- Training & Awareness: WAVE/Ask for Angela training, The promotion of City and Hackney Safeguarding Children's Partnership (CHSCP) events and awareness raising of Domestic Abuse services.
- Hotels: Safeguarding information and training toolkit
- Safe Spaces: Expand Safe Havens across the Square Mile
- Data & Insight: Recruit analyst, adopt a 'hotspot' led approach to preventing VAWG with data
- Policy: Review existing domestic abuse policies in conjunction with EIDA (The Employers Initiative Against Domestic Abuse), strengthen existing Sanctuary Scheme Policy and move towards DAHA accreditation.

Measuring Success

- Reduction in VAWG-related incidents and repeat victimisation
- Increased uptake of Safe Havens and reporting pathways.
- Growth in business engagement and staff training completion rates
- Positive community engagement on safety and awareness campaigns.