

The report collates information from a range of agencies and services involved in the managed approach to street based sex-working.

The aims of the managed approach are to:

- Reduce the prevalence of street sex working
- Better engage with street sex workers to improve their safety and health
- Reduce the problems caused by street prostitution to residents and businesses

Four dedicated police officers work alongside the existing police liaison officer and officers from the local Neighbourhood Policing Team to;

- Provide a faster response to calls made through the dedicated phone line;
- Help build positive relationships with sex workers to support greater confidence in reporting concerns or where they have been a victim of crime and signposting them to specialist support services;
- Act on intelligence provided by a range of partners, including local people, to increase presence and patrols in areas flagged for concern; as well as ensuring appropriate investigation and enforcement of any offences or abusive behaviour towards sex workers or members of the public
- Use proactive enforcement measures to tackle a variety of issues and target those not abiding by the rules; including soliciting and kerb crawling in residential areas which is not tolerated;
- Get to know local residents, community representatives and businesses to understand their concerns and feed them back to influence operational and strategic management of the initiative.

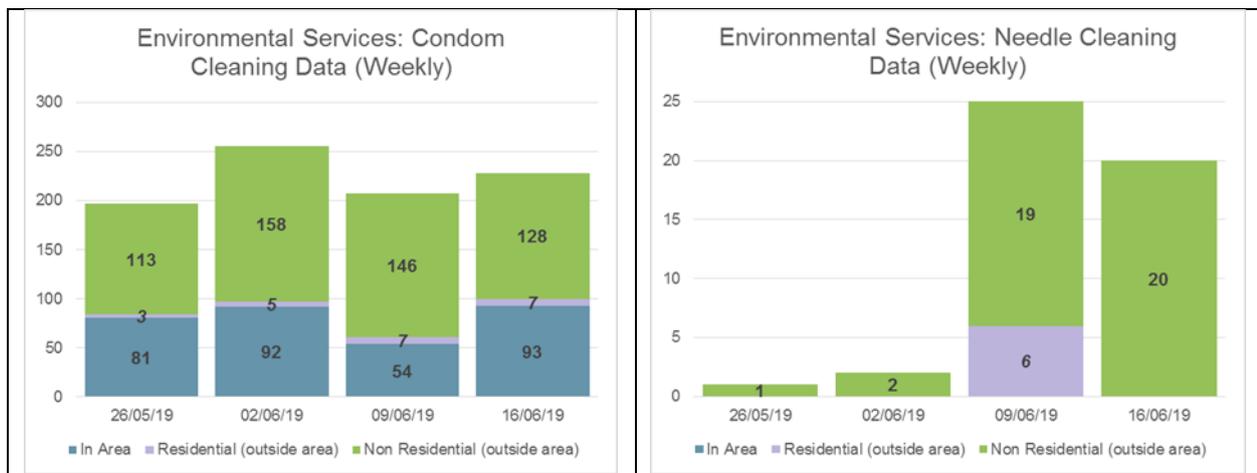
During the 4 week period 22.05.19 – 18.06.19 the team have reported:

- Recorded 98 contacts to the dedicated mobile number:
  - 33 occasions officers deployed found no sex work related issues
  - 26 calls resulted in sex-workers being identified on attendance:
    1. 17 spoken to and reminded of rules of the managed approach/ moved on
    2. 3 arrested and 6 given official warnings
  - 11 calls from services concerned about welfare of a sex-worker
  - 2 reporting abusive behaviour towards a sex-worker
  - 14 could not be responded to immediately due to officers attending to other duties/ previous calls, or calls outside monitored time for the phone; of these 8 passed to NPT for action
  - 2 reported apparent suspicious activity resulting in a group of males being moved on from the area
  - 10 were not related to sex-working
- Contact with 84 sex workers. These include welfare checks and building relationships to effectively safeguard individuals as well as enforcement activity.
- Given 12 official warnings and 5 Home Office Cautions to sex workers, and arrested 2 for non sex-working related offences.
- Arrested 11 male purchasers for not complying with the rules of the managed approach. Of these all have attended Liaison and Diversion assessments and interviews as conditions of their arrests.
- Identified and arrested 2 males involved in anti-social and criminal behaviour in the locality, each male receiving custodial sentences for different offences.

Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Teams and Leeds Watch have been working in and around the wider area to reduce the impact and effect of nuisance and anti-social activities and improve the safeguarding of street sex workers.

- There have been 3 house closures in operation and work with 2 landlords/ agencies to safeguard and protect vulnerable individuals or respond to significant anti-social behaviour relating to drug use/ sex-working from addresses.
- 2 individuals with history of violent and anti-social behaviours have been issued behaviour orders not to be seen in the area

Dedicated teams from the council work in the area to minimise any impact on the local environment. The graphs below show the weekly recorded volumes of condoms (used and unused) and needles picked up by these teams.



Locations where condoms/ needles have been found are classified to identify if they are within the managed approach designated area or outside in residential or non-residential areas.

- A small number of locations, all non-residential, account for the majority of condoms.
- The high number of needle finds during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week (ending 09/06/19) is due to a large find by Parks services in a location where no subsequent needles have been found, suggesting that these had been “dumped”.
- The increased levels in the 4<sup>th</sup> week (ending 16/06/19) was due to 2 large finds by the cleansing team; again these areas have seen no subsequent needle finds.

Bespoke engagement and support to help sex-workers keep safe, address contributing factors for women selling sex on street, and enabling women to exit sex working continue. This engagement work is ongoing and long term, due to the multiple and complex nature of the issues. Women are offered support on the streets through evening and overnight outreach by Joanna Project and BASIS. Both also provide daytime drop-in facilities where women can access support with housing, health, drug treatment, and emotional and practical needs.

Street outreach have regular contacts with on-street sex-workers each evening, relating to support and engagement of individuals; some individuals having several contacts with a range of services to develop confidence and rapport.

Currently, between 65 and 80 sex-workers are regularly engaged each month through evening outreach work.

**Note: Every effort is being made to ensure accuracy of the reporting information. The operational nature of this work and variety of stakeholders/services involved means this report is as accurate an assessment of the current situation as can be produced.**