

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 24.04.19 – 21.05.19 the team have reported:

- Recorded 70 contacts to the dedicated mobile number:
 - 21 calls resulted in sex-workers being identified on attendance:
 - 17 spoken to and reminded of rules of the managed approach/ moved on
 - 1 arrested for non-sex working offence and 2 given official warnings
 - On 1 occasion the sex-worker ran away when police attended
 - 32 occasions officers deployed found no sex work related issues
 - 3 calls from services concerned about welfare of a sex-worker
 - 6 were not responded to due to bank-holidays or officers were involved in arrest at time of call
 - 6 were reporting incidents that happened some time prior to the call
 - 1 reported apparent soliciting of a female non-sex worker by a male
 - 1 was not related to sex-working
- Contact with 69 sex workers. These include welfare checks and building relationships to effectively safeguard individuals as well as enforcement activity.
- Given 11 official warnings and 5 Home Office Cautions to sex workers, and arrested 7 for non sex-working related offences.
- Arrested 7 male purchasers for not complying with the rules of the managed approach.

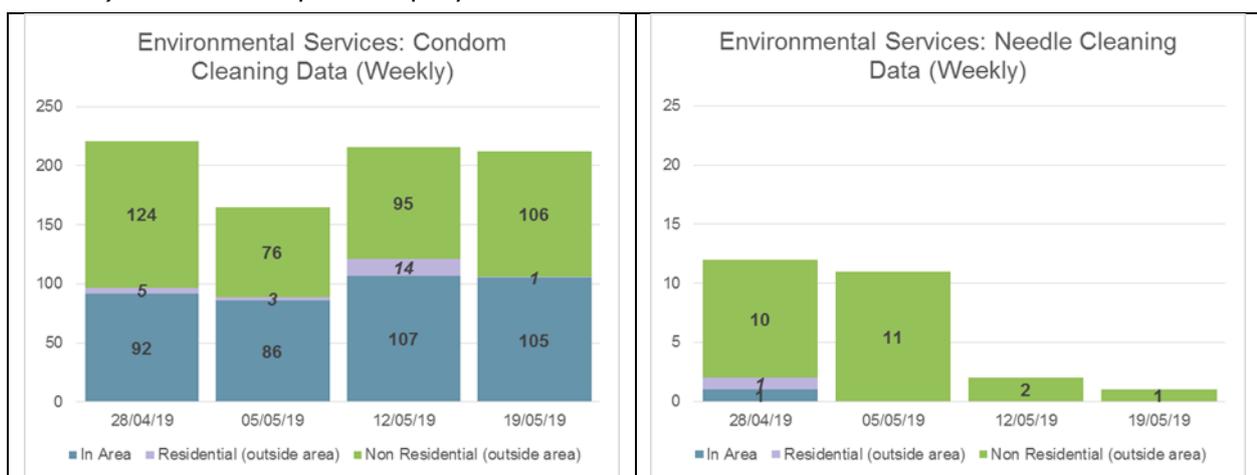
What happens to male purchasers (often referred to as 'kerb crawlers') who are caught breaking the rules?

- Any male purchaser who is caught by the police breaking the rules of the managed approach will be interviewed by the police and receive a conditional caution if it is the first time they have been caught doing this. A conditional caution means that they must take specific action or they will be prosecuted. In this case, the specific action is to make and attend an appointment with the West Yorkshire Liaison and Diversion service within 5 working days of receiving the conditional caution. At this 1.5 hour appointment community impact statements will be used to demonstrate the impact that their behaviour has on the local community and sex workers. Men are also assessed to determine their level of risk and any vulnerabilities they may have. Following this they may be signposted to other support e.g. mental health support.
- Using Liaison and Diversion (L&D) is fairly new to the managed approach enforcement process. However, between its start date of 1st December 2018 and 1st April 2019, 19 men received conditional cautions requiring them to contact L&D and all 19 have attended their appointment. Of these, 15 have never been in the criminal justice system before. A copy of the map and rules was offered to all 19. However, none took them, stating that they will not be going back into the area again. So far, none of these men have been caught breaking the rules of the MA again. If they are, they will be prosecuted.

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.

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.
- Needle finds tend to be low numbers at any one locality.

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.

Over the last 3 month period:

- Between 65 and 80 sex-workers have been engaged each month through evening outreach work.
- 55 women have been supported through casework with dedicated support workers to address needs and support reductions in sex-working or transitioning out of sex-working.
- Commonly supported needs have been around housing and finance, physical and mental health, substance misuse, and emotional support.

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.
