

SAFER CITY PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY GROUP

Wednesday, 27 November 2019

Minutes of the meeting of the Safer City Partnership Strategy Group held at the Guildhall EC2 at 1.45 pm

Present

Attendees:

Douglas Barrow (Chairman)
Peter Lisley (Deputy Chairman)
Gavin Stedman, Port Health and Public
Protection Director
David Bulbrook, London Fire Brigade

Bob Benton, Business Representative
Tijs Broeke, Homelessness and Rough
Sleeping Sub-committee
Alex Wrigley, Guinness Trust
Patrick Brooks, Stakeholder Engagement
Manager, London Ambulance Service

Alex Orme	- Police Authority Board
David MacKintosh	- Head of Community Safety
Chris Pelham	- Community and Children's Services
Peter Davenport	- Markets & Consumer Protection Department
Lee Fitzjohn	- Town Clerk's Department
Claire Giraude	- Department of Community & Children's Services
Rachel Pye	- Markets & Consumer Protection Department
Oliver Shaw	- City of London Police
Alistair Sutherland	- Assistant Commissioner, City of London Police
Jess Wynne	- City of London Police
Jillian Reid	- Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy Officer

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Stuart Webber, Don Randall, James Thomson and Sophie Fernandes.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

Resolved, that the minutes of the meeting on Monday 23rd September 2019 be approved as an accurate record.

4. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

The Group received a report of the Town Clerk providing Members with a summary of the outstanding actions from previous meetings. Updates were provided as follows:

SOS Bus – Commissioner agree to report back at Safer City Partnership meeting on 12th February following the scoping exercise.

Hotel Toolkit – Remains a work in progress.

Independent Advisory Group – New Chair due to be elected and should be ready to attend SCP in February, subject to availability.

The Group noted that all other actions had been dealt with or were included on the agenda at this meeting.

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5. TRANSFORM

The Assistant Commissioner provided a high-level overview of the Transform Programme design and talked through how the programme linked to the work of the Safer City Partnership Group. The Assistant Commissioner also explained how, collectively, more can be done to assist on crime prevention.

The Assistant Commissioner talked through key areas of focus for the City of London Police, the level of resources currently invested for crime prevention, progress to date with the Transform Programme, the local policing model and spread of responsibility across the Force, as well as the high-level design principles of the Transform Programme and links through to the Safer City Partnership Group.

The Assistant Commissioner emphasised how basic measures can have an impact on crime prevention across the year; low cost, high impact measures impacting on crime prevention.

The Chairman stressed the important role partners can play in helping the City of London Police to reduce crime. All partners have a part to play and the Chairman asked all on the Group to consider signing up to the programme and to begin to engage.

Resolved, that the update be noted.

6. PARTNERSHIP DATA REVIEW

The Town Clerk presented to the Group explaining how a strategic assessment of activities across the partnership would lead to an evidence-based approach when determining priorities.

An evidence led approach would allow the Partnership to understand where to focus its resources and investment, identify and agree priorities and ensure the most effective deployment of its resources.

It was confirmed that a detailed process plan, scope and provisional timescales for the strategic assessment needed agreeing. It was proposed forming a multi-agency analyst network with relevant people in one room to ensure data was being made available and capacity was in place to tease out priorities for the City. The strategic assessment would become a live document assessing emerging trends across the partnership.

The Chairman welcomed the proposal for a multi-agency group and challenged the Town Clerk on how quickly he would be able to get this moving. The

Chairman proposed convening a multi-agency working group meeting in January to analyse data before reporting back to Safer City Partnership in February⁽⁴⁾. The Chairman suggested that Police Authority Board be kept informed of work in this area.

Resolved, that the update be noted and that a report updating on progress in developing a multi-agency strategic assessment come to the next meeting of Safer City Partnership in February.

7. RESPONSES TO ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN THE CITY OF LONDON

The Group received a report of the Community Safety Team providing a review of anti-social behaviour (ASB) issues across the City Corporation.

The Group noted the report was being presented for information and not decision as had been shown on the report. The Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy Officer remarked that the anti-social behaviour item followed on perfectly from the Commissioner's earlier Transform presentation in highlighting the important role partners can play in providing crucial support to the City Corporation and City of London Police.

The Strategy Officer explained that partners were being asked to support improvements to how the City of London prevented and responded to anti-social behaviour.

The Deputy Chairman added that anti-social behaviour had become an increasingly important issue. It was accepted that thresholds for anti-social behaviour in the City would be different to other areas. The City Corporation needed to be realistic and ensure care was taken when categorising incidents as anti-social behaviour. It was acknowledged that the City Corporation had previously been reluctant to pursue legal action available to it, but that a Public Spaces Protection Order was currently being pursued in relation to the London Marathon that would prove an interesting test case.

The Commissioner commented on how a joined-up approach across the partnership could work towards achieving a visible presence in the City. There was an opportunity to achieve some low-cost actions fairly quickly. The Chairman stated a need to find a way within this forum for all partners to participate in achieving a safer City.

It was suggested an overview of responsibilities would be needed when looking to move from assessment to resolution. Clarity was needed on how responding to anti-social behaviour could be structured as part of both the Governance Review and Fundamental Review. The Deputy Chairman acknowledged that the Fundamental Review would impact on where the totality of the response would sit and the reporting lines, with this likely to be subject to a new target operating model.

The Assistant Commissioner highlighted work that can be undertaken as part of the Community Action Plan without impacting on the Fundamental Review e.g. joint tasking and co-location in certain areas. It was also suggested better use

of existing systems e.g. E-sins would help when looking to build a robust evidence base.

A Member proposed writing to the Town Clerk (5) to highlight the importance of tackling anti-social behaviour and to ensure this important area of work remains high on the City Corporation's agenda. The Chairman agreed with this proposal. The Chairman proposed City of London Police start to bring an action plan together and start moving things forward.

Resolved, that the update be noted.

8. **LONDON AMBULANCE SERVICE (LAS) PERFORMANCE**

The Group received a report of the Stakeholder Management Manager, London Ambulance Service, providing City of London Performance Metrics for London Ambulance Service NHS Trust April – October 2019.

The Stakeholder Engagement Manager explained how LAS provided a pan-London service. Within the City of London patients had been served very well with all targets having been achieved.

The group were briefing on a number of key areas including London Ambulance Service being in the top two services nationally; use of push bikes proving effective in built up areas; the City being out of kilter with London Boroughs owing to its night-time economy; alcohol related incidents and falls going hand in hand and a need to look further into this; LAS now running 111 calls allowing a level of co-ordination.

The Stakeholder Engagement Manager explained how London Ambulance Service attended the City and Hackney Unplanned Care Board looking at how to tackle the entire system of health. Key pieces of work included bringing in specialism to tackle certain issues e.g. mental health, managing conveyance of patients through an Alternative Care Pathway, tackling frequent users of the service that may be known to police, General Practitioners and hospitals.

Work also continued on public education with partners looking at prevention work in tackling key areas e.g. knife and gun crime, road safety, drugs, gang related activity and working in schools.

The Chairman thanked the Stakeholder Engagement Manager for his comprehensive briefing providing the Group with a good understanding of the range of work of the London Ambulance Service.

Resolved, that the update be noted.

9. **MAPPING AND ASSESSING THE CITY'S NIGHT-TIME ECONOMY - THE WAY FORWARD**

The Group received a report of the Director of Markets and Consumer Protection outlining proposed actions to be taken by the Licensing Team to address recommendations of the Night-Time Economy report.

The Director of Markets and Consumer Protection explained how the report was the result of a mapping and analysis exercise that had identified a number of actions. Actions centred around areas of cumulative impact and work was taking place looking at Establishing a 'Stress Area' as opposed to a Cumulative Impact Area (CIA). A stress area was, essentially, an informal CIA and had no legal standing. It was explained how the work would feed into Safer City Partnership Community Action Plan.

The Chairman welcomed Licensing Committee's approval of the recommendations and asked that Safer City Partnership Group to be kept informed of progress.

Resolved, that the update be noted.

10. OPERATION LUSCOMBE REVIEW

The Group received a report of the Commissioner that provided an update in relation to Operation Luscombe that looked at the issue of begging in the City.

The Commissioner explained how Operation Luscombe had proved successful to date in reducing begging across the City. Begging had not been eradicated completely so there was a need to continue with the operation and the successful intervention programme through providing intervention hubs. It was explained how the scheme had recently been presented to 43 forces, with 12 having already adopted the scheme and others looking to role it out. It was also confirmed that Operation Luscombe had become a national standard for all forces to adopt in their approach to tackling begging and other instances of anti-social behaviour.

The Commissioner responded to the Chairman and explained the hub needed all partners involved and was currently running only once a month, with options for running every two weeks being looked at.

Resolved, that the update be noted.

11. CITY OF LONDON POLICE UPDATE

The Group received a report of the Commissioner providing partners with an update on the activity of City of London Police since the last meeting. Updates were provided on various elements including: -

- Crime levels being consistently above the five-year average, suggesting a sustained performance change was taking place. It was confirmed robust plans were in place to deal with the increase.
- Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) was another area of intervention that allowed the banning of repeat offenders from coming back into the City; individuals can be followed and monitored through CCTV and this was proving to be very effective once issued to an individual.

Resolved, that the updated be noted.

12. COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES UPDATE

The Group received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services providing an update on relevant activity from the Community and Children's Services Department.

The Head of Community Safety referred to work linked to suicide that had been presented to the Crime Prevention Group, with this also having been well received and supported by the business community.

Resolved, that the update be noted.

13. COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM UPDATE

The Group received a report of the Head of Community Safety providing an update on activity of the Community Safety Team.

The Head of Community Safety referred to a Proceed of Crime Act bid of £5k to provide additional park guard controls in the Middlesex Street area looking to tackle anti-social behaviour. It was noted the Director of Community and Children's Services was supportive of the bid given the issues in this area.

The Chairman offered his support to the bid but stressed a need to be able to measure success. If the bid were to come back next year evidence would be needed to show if the initiative had been effective. The Commissioner and Head of Community and Safety agreed to discuss and agree how to monitor success (6).

The Deputy Chairman suggested the Parkguard controls would prove an interesting test, with public re-assurance not always needing to be provided by the police.

The Head of Community Safety encouraged partners to bid to the POCA fund. The Chairman questioned whether unused POCA funding should be returned to the City of London Police. Following discussion, it was agreed to leave POCA funding at the moment; there was work in the pipeline that could potentially be suitable for funding.

The Head of Community Safety referred to other areas including a Public Spaces Protection Order for the London Marathon and a Christmas toolkit focussed campaign with the Greater London Authority. It was agreed the toolkit would be circulated to the Group for information (7)

The Deputy Chairman questioned if advertising took place on Facebook and the Head of Community Safety confirmed targeted advertising campaigns ran with key messaging pitched in specific areas at certain times.

Resolved, that the update be noted.

14. PUBLIC PROTECTION SERVICE (ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, LICENSING AND TRADING STANDARDS) UPDATE

The Group received a report of the Director of Consumer Protection and Market Operations providing an update on activities that contributed to the work of the Safer City Partnership.

The Port Health & Public Protection Director confirmed illegal street trading had ceased owing to the work of the team. The Director stressed there was a need to ensure the right resources were in place to keep up the excellent work of the team.

The Director referred to 72 city premises having been recognised as part of the Safety Thirst Scheme. The Chairman commented that he had not received an invitation to a Safety Thirst event and suggested this was important to emphasise the importance of good partnership working.

Resolved, that the update be noted.

15. DOMESTIC ABUSE, VULNERABILITY AND RISK POLICY UPDATE

The Group received a report of the Head of Community Safety providing an update on the City of London's commitment to the Mayor of London's Women's Night Safety Charter.

The Group noted a #ReframeTheNight campaign had been part funded by the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) and Late-Night Levy. It was confirmed a campaign was running at the moment with training due to be held in the new year. It was stressed the initiative was a good example of partnership working with Hackney Council.

Resolved, that the update be noted.

16. SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME BOARD - ANNUAL REVIEW

The Group received a report of the Head of Community Safety providing a synopsis of the work of the Serious and Organised Crime Board over the past year.

The Head of Community Safety explained the report had been presented to the Group to keep them up to date with the work of the Board. The Head of Community Safety conveyed his thanks to the new Chair, City of London Borough Commander, London Fire Brigade

It was suggested the Board was in a good place, but that there was a need to maintain momentum with a continued focus on specific areas of work.

Resolved, that the update be noted.

17. LONDON FIRE BRIGADE UPDATE

The Borough Commander provided partners with an update on activity since the last meeting and included the following: -

- London Safety Plan target of first fire engine reaching an incident within six minutes being achieved across London, with 4-minute response time being achieved in the City.
- Grenfell Inquiry taken up significant amount of time; London Fire Brigade would be happy to answer any questions on how the built environment was being managed in the City.
- Special High-Rise Task Force had inspected high rise premises and action plans put in place for these premises.
- City does not have any housing stock on the high-risk buildings.
- Operational exercise planned next year looking to protect important heritage sites in the City and work was ongoing in this area.

The Chairman noted London Fire Brigade were able to achieve a quicker response rate to incidents than the London Ambulance Service. The Stakeholder Engagement Manager explained this was primarily a result of the number of incidents being attended, resources being stretched and waiting times at hospitals. It was confirmed LAS was looking at improving blue light response times.

18. **QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE GROUP**

Defibrillators

The Deputy Chairman referred to the big push on defibrillators in the City and questioned if there were any statistics on how successful these had been in the City. The Stakeholder Engagement Manager stressed defibrillators can be valuable in a time of need.

The Chairman suggested detailed evidence would be beneficial for any future appeal for funding. The Stakeholder Engagement Manager agreed to ask for evidence from the Public Defibrillator Team and bring this back to the Group (8).

The Chairman confirmed this would be very useful information.

19. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Chairman concluded the meeting and thanked all for their engagement.

The meeting closed at 3.35pm

Chairman

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