

ECONOMIC CRIME BOARD OF THE POLICE COMMITTEE
Friday, 7 June 2013

Minutes of the meeting of the Economic Crime Board of the Police Committee held
at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Friday, 7 June 2013 at
2.30 pm

Present

Members:

Simon Duckworth (Chairman)
Mark Boleat
Brian Harris
Helen Marshall
Deputy Richard Regan

Officers:

Alex Orme - Town Clerk's Department
Xanthe Couture - Town Clerk's Department

City of London Police:

Hayley Williams - Chief of Staff
Stephen Head - Commander, Economic Crime
Adrian Leppard - Police Commissioner

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Alderman Neil Redcliffe.

2. **MEMBER'S DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the inquorate meeting held on 6 February 2013 be agreed as an accurate record.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2012 be agreed as an accurate record.

4. **FRAUD TRAINING ACADEMY: PROGRESS REPORT**

The Sub Committee received a report of the Commissioner outlining the progress of the Economic Crime & Fraud Training Academy.

The Commissioner explained that Academy continues to build on its excellence to develop a national, international and global brand. Members were informed that the next meeting of the Gold Group will discuss a market testing paper covering costing, pricing and programme content options for the Fraud Academy. It was stated that the Chamberlain's Department had been attending the meetings of the Gold Group and it was hoped that interested Members

would also attend future meetings. The Force would be sending out an invite for Members to attend future meetings.

Members were informed about the proposed Academy training package being delivered to specialist fraud officers in Nigeria. The potential profit generated from providing the training was discussed and it was agreed that a cost/revenue/profit analysis would be produced and would be included in the Academy Business Plan for 2014/15-2016/17. The Business Plan was provisionally agreed to be brought forward to Members at the next meeting.

Members expressed some concerns over the reputational risk of training police forces where corruption is endemic. The Commander of Economic Crime reassured Members that the Force was working in consultation with the UK Trade and Investment (UKTI) and had given the Force their full support. In addition, a risk assessment framework was being developed to include in the Academy Business Plan.

The Chairman sought assurance that all courses delivered by the Fraud Academy would be properly resourced in order to maximise the benefits to the clients and to maintain service quality.

The Commissioner added that further items to be included in the Academy Business Plan include a summary of where the current operations of the Academy stand along with costs, a strategy for return on investment and a national marketing plan.

The Commissioner advised that Members could attend future events of the British Standards Institution (BSi). The Force and Town Clerk undertook to provide details of future events to Members.

RESOLVED – That the Fraud Academy Business Plan be produced for the next meeting of the Sub Committee.

5. **ECONOMIC CRIME UPDATE - NATIONAL CAPABILITY PROGRAMME**

The Sub Committee received a report of the Commissioner updating on the progress to date and planned strategies to develop a Regional Fraud Team (RFT) capability and secure future funding as part of the National Capability Programme.

The Commander of Economic Crime explained that the numbers of reported fraud, reported through Action Fraud, are increasing and expected to increase more. A Member expressed concern over the fact that only around 10% of the 25% of reported crime allocated back to forces for investigation based on current case acceptance criteria were actually being investigated. It was suggested that the low levels of investigation could result in a significant increase in complaints from unsatisfied victims over time. This would have implications for the City of London Police as many of the complaints will be logged as the Force's through Action Fraud. It was agreed that more information on this area of concern would be brought to the Sub Committee at a future meeting.

RECEIVED.

6. NATIONAL LEAD FORCE: YEARLY PERFORMANCE REPORT 2012/13

The Sub Committee received a report of the Commissioner updating on the final performance report summarising the 2012/13 annual achievement of National Lead Force (NLF) against its agreed Key Performance Areas (KPA) and Key Performance Indicators (KPI).

The Commissioner advised that the CoLP/Crown Prosecution Services Central Fraud Division (CFD) joint initiative to measure the quality of NLF investigations will be implemented in the first quarter of 2013-14. The Commander of Economic Crime added that discussions had been held with the Crown Prosecution Services (CPS) around establishing targets related to the quality of cases presented. A Member raised a question in regards to the value of fraud (KPI 3.1) and the Commander of Economic Crime stated that the value of fraud can vary, and as a result there is now a focus in case criteria to focus more on damage caused by fraud rather than on the value of the fraud committed.

RECEIVED.

7. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

The Chairman raised the issue with Members on the timings of the Sub Committee meetings to ensure quorum, as this occurrence continued to be a concern. Members and officers agreed that the meetings should take place to coincide with Police Committee meeting dates, except when preceded by meetings of another Police Sub Committee.

The Chairman stated he would be in contact with Members to ensure that the meeting times were suitable for them to attend. The Town Clerk undertook to amend all future 2013 and 2014 meeting dates of the Sub Committee.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no items of urgent business.

9. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED - That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item No.

Exempt Paragraph(s)

10

3

10. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2012 were considered.

11. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

There were no questions.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

There were no items of urgent business.

The meeting ended at 3.43 pm

Chairman

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