

ECONOMIC CRIME BOARD OF THE POLICE COMMITTEE
Friday, 22 July 2016

Minutes of the meeting of the Economic Crime Board of the Police Committee held
at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Friday, 22 July 2016 at
12.00 pm

Present

Members:

Simon Duckworth (Chairman)
Deputy Douglas Barrow (Ex-Officio Member)
Helen Marshall
Deputy Henry Pollard (Ex-Officio Member)

Officers:

Commander Chris Greany	- Commander, Economic Crime
Alix Newbold	- City of London Police
Tony Macklin	- Assistant Director, (Public Protection)
Steve Playle	- Trading Standards Manager
Damilola Balogun	- Commercial Services Support Assistant
Craig Spencer	- Town Clerk's Department
Angela Roach	- Principal Committee and Members Services Manager

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Nicholas Bensted-Smith, Lucy Frew and Tom Sleigh.

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

The public minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2016 were approved.

4. INVESTIGATORY POWERS BILL

The Board considered a report of the Remembrancer concerning the provisions of the Investigatory Powers Bill.

In response to a query on why the City of London Police (CoLP) was not included amongst the bodies able to apply for a warrant such as the National Crime Agency (NCA) and the Metropolitan Police, the Commander explained that the cost of intercepting information prohibited the CoLP from acting independently. However, it worked closely with the NCA and would work with the Agency on matters such as this.

RESOLVED – That the content of the report be noted.

5. **NATIONAL LEAD FORCE Q4 PERFORMANCE**

The Board considered a report of the Commissioner of the City of London Police summarising the quantitative and qualitative performance of the Force as the National Lead Force for Fraud for the fourth quarter of 2015/16 and for 2015/16 overall.

The Commander was heard in support of the report and proceeded to take Members through the various elements of the paper. Detailed discussion ensued during which a number of comments were made. This included the following:-

Whilst the customer satisfaction figures had reduced since last year, they were dependent on people being willing to complete a survey after each case. People were becoming more survey weary and as a consequence the level of participation had fallen making it more difficult to capture relevant information.

Reference was made to the reduction of crime reports and the Board noted that this had occurred as a result of a gap in the service caused by BSS going into administration. It was of the view that the paragraph would have benefitted from the inclusion of a footnote, particularly as monitoring reports such this were also perused by HMIC.

The Chairman of the Police Committee referred to the use of social media and it becoming a more effective way of disseminating information and messages. He felt that the use of social media was now so main stream more effort should be made with regard to its use. In addition, the merits and benefits it could make nationally should be communicated to the HMIC and the Home Office in due course. Members supported his sentiments and noted that Action Fraud attracted nearly 25,000 followers on twitter whereas a survey attracted far less participants. It was agreed that the Police Committee should be asked to consider whether more resources and emphasis should be placed on the use of social media.

The Chairman commended the creation of the Economic Crime Academy and highlighted the significant increase in the number of delegates attending it. He also questioned the disseminations and outcomes appendix. There were a lot of figures with no explanation of the reason for collating the information. Members supported his sentiments commenting that the data should be produced in a more meaningful way.

RESOLVED – That the content of the report be noted and that the Police Committee be requested to consider whether more resources and emphasis should be placed on the use of social media.

6. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

7. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

There were no urgent items.

8. **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 I of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item Nos.

Paragraph(s) in Schedule 12A

9 - 12

3 and 7

Part 2 – Non-Public Agenda

9. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2016 were approved.

Matters Arising - Fact Sheet

A Member questioned whether the fact sheet referred to at the February meeting had been circulated. The Commander confirmed that it had been circulated shortly after the last meeting.

10. **OPERATION BROADWAY - BEYOND MARCH 2016 AND BEYOND THE CITY OF LONDON**

The Board considered and agreed a report of the Director of Markets and Consumer Protection, proposing the recruitment of an additional Trading Standards Officer to assist with the development of Operation Broadway across Greater London for a fixed period of time.

11. **ECONOMIC CRIME ACADEMY UPDATE**

The Board considered and noted the content of a report of the Commissioner of Police concerning the progress of the Economic Crime Academy.

12. **RESTRICTED ACTIVITY UPDATE**

The Board considered and noted the content of a report of the Commissioner of Police, updating it on the activities of the City of London Police in its capacity a National Lead Force.

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

There were no questions.

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

There were no urgent items.

The meeting ended at 1.05pm

Chairman

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