

ECONOMIC CRIME BOARD OF THE POLICE COMMITTEE
Wednesday, 15 July 2015

Minutes of the meeting of the Economic Crime Board of the Police Committee held
at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Wednesday, 15 July 2015
at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Nicholas Bensted-Smith
Mark Boleat (in the Chair)
Lucy Frew
Helen Marshall
Deputy Richard Regan
Simon Duckworth (from Item 10)

Officers:

Alistair MacLellan	Town Clerk's Department
Alex Orme	Town Clerk's Department
Stephen Head	Commander, Economic Crime
David Drane	City of London Police

In Attendance:

Chris Greany	Metropolitan Police
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1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Simon Duckworth, Deputy Doug Barrow and Deputy Henry Pollard.

Mark Boleat took the Chair.

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

There were no declarations.

3. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 May 2015 were approved as a correct record.

4. **NATIONAL LEAD FORCE UPDATE**

The Board considered a National Lead Force update report of the Commissioner of Police.

Crime Statistics Returns to National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB)

The Commander noted that all police forces in England and Wales had provided returns to the NFIB which would allow an overall fraud crime figure for a 24-month period to be produced. He cautioned that the time to conduct an investigation from a reported crime to an outcome meant that quarterly crime figures should be interpreted with caution.

Economic Crime Prevention Centre

In response to a question from a member, the Commander replied that a typical problem facing small and medium enterprises was that they lacked software security and were not receiving advice from the Federation of Small Businesses - therefore advice on fraud prevention needed to be disseminated further.

Volume Fraud Task Force

The Commander noted that the inclusion of fraud in the Crime Survey of England and Wales from 2015 would likely raise the number of fraud crimes to 3m. This would produce a problem of a perception that fraud was increasing whereas what has happened was improved reporting of fraud.–

In response to a question from the Chairman, the Commander confirmed that the NFIB was co-operating well with partners such as the Metropolitan Police, Mayor's Office of Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and the National Crime Agency.

RESOLVED, that

- A commentary on Crime Statistics Returns to the NFIB be reported to a future meeting;
- An update on economic crime affecting SMEs be submitted to a future meeting.

5. NATIONAL LEAD FORCE: FIRST QUARTER PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Board received a report of the Commissioner of Police on the National Lead Force First Quarter Performance.

In response to a question, the Commander replied that the 23k outcomes to 248k reported crimes was better understood in the context of many of the crimes being uninvestigable or perpetrated from overseas. He confirmed that each crime reported would be pursued until there was a defined outcome. The Chairman requested commentary on such similar reports in future.

The Chairman noted concern that the routine collection and analysis of statistics had the potential to drive down performance – proper consideration should be given to qualitative outcomes too.

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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 was no other business.

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 of business on the grounds they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

9. **ECONOMIC CRIME ACADEMY**

The Town Clerk noted that this item was now for information only ahead of submission to the Police Committee and requested members provide comments ahead of its submission.

10. **ACTION AND KNOW FRAUD PROCUREMENT**

The Board considered a report of the City of London Police Commissioner regarding Action and Know Fraud procurement.

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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 was no other business.

The meeting ended at 3.00 pm

Chairman

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