

POLICE COMMITTEE

Thursday, 25 January 2018

Minutes of the meeting of the Police Committee held at the Guildhall EC2 at 11.00 am

Present

Members:

Deputy Douglas Barrow (Chairman)	Emma Edhem
Deputy James Thomson (Deputy Chairman)	Alderman Alison Gowman
Nicholas Bensted-Smith	Christopher Hayward
Deputy Keith Bottomley	Alderman Ian Luder
Simon Duckworth	Lucy Sandford (External Member)

Officers:

George Fraser	-	Town Clerk's Department
Carl Locsin	-	Town Clerk's Department
Alex Orme	-	Town Clerk's Department
Peter Kane	-	Chamberlain
Christopher Bell	-	Chamberlain's Department
Philip Gregory	-	Chamberlain's Department
Ian Dyson	-	Commissioner, CoLP
David Clark	-	Commander of Economic Crime, CoLP
Martin O'Regan	-	CoLP
Pauline Weaver	-	Head of Change Portfolio Office, CoLP
Hayley Williams	-	CoLP
Simon Rilot	-	City Surveyor's Department
Philip Saunders	-	Remembrancer's Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Andrew Lentin and Deputy Henry Pollard.

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

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

a) Police Committee - 15 Dec 2017

The Committee considered the minutes from the last meeting, held on 15 December 2017.

RESOLVED – That the minutes be approved.

b) **Performance and Resource Management Sub-Committee - 30 Nov 2017**

The Committee received the minutes from the last meeting of the Performance and Resource Management Sub-Committee, held on 30 November 2017.

With regards to GDPR compliance, as referenced by *Item 7 – HMICFRS Inspection Update*, the Chairman noted that the website was on track.

RESOLVED – That the minutes be received.

c) **Professional Standards & Integrity Sub-Committee - 1 Dec 2017**

The Committee received the minutes from the last meeting of the Professional Standards & Integrity Sub-Committee, held on 1 December 2017.

RESOLVED – That the minutes be received.

4. **OUTSTANDING REFERENCES**

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk which set out the outstanding actions from previous meetings of the Committee.

OR1 – Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP)

The Chairman asked why the Medium Term Financial Plan had not been submitted to the January meeting as promised. The Chamberlain explained that the MTFP was usually submitted to the Police Committee in draft form, and that this fed into the Revenue and Capital Budgets report at the beginning of the new year, as reflected at item 5 on the agenda. (1)

RESOLVED – That the report be received.

5. **REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS 2018-19**

The Committee considered a joint report of the Chamberlain and the Commissioner of Police that sought Members' approval of the latest revenue budget for 2017-18 and the provisional revenue budget for 2018-19, for subsequent submission to the Finance Committee.

The Chairman noted that, in reference to paragraph 4, that the report did not mention that the Court of Common Council had agreed for additional reserve to be provided by the City Fund to cover any additional revenue shortfall. He asked that this be recorded for the record.

The Commissioner explained that, although the CoLP were still awaiting the final grant settlement, they were confident of their position which was marginally better than had been predicted. He explained that the core grant provided an increase of £700,000 (1.2%) over the sum outlined within MTFP assumptions.

The Commissioner explained that the CoLP hoped to finish 2018 in a stronger position than they did 2017.

The Commissioner explained to Members that the Reserves were split into two separate funds, the General Reserves (£3.5m) and POCA Reserves (£3.6m). In reference to the table following paragraph 6 of the report, the Commissioner clarified that the £1.5m in funds budgeted from the Reserves for 2017-18 were actually from the POCA Reserves, leaving £3.5m remaining in the General Reserves as budgeted for draw down in 2018-19.

The Chamberlain agreed that the current position was better than had been predicted and suggested that there may even be an underspend in the final quarter. He explained that this would provide a robust Reserves starting position for the following year, though it could not be predicted at this stage.

The Chamberlain explained, however, that the budget had been balanced predominantly through a process of cost savings rather than efficiencies, and was therefore not sustainable. He explained that there was still a need to optimise. The Chamberlain explained that £1.2m in efficiencies had been built in to the budget this year, and the plan was to build on this figure next year, alongside increased grant funding.

The Chairman noted that the Premium income (Business Rate) figure remained the same year on year, and asked whether we should seek to increase this going forward. The Chamberlain agreed, explaining that small growth of this figure would usually be expected. The Chairman explained that he feared the CoLP would convey a negative impression by seeking increases out of synchronisation with other forces that seek them incrementally on an annual basis. A Member stated his agreement with the suggestion to seek an increase, and stated that it would be ludicrous for it not to be considered as an option. Another Member stated their support of the Business Rate increase, and explained that they felt exasperated by the constant demands for policing to cut costs. They suggested that it was the appropriate time to stand up for the Police by countering these demands. A fourth Member suggested that one year's notice of a Business Rate increase could be given at the annual meeting, preparing them for a rise in 2020. The Chamberlain confirmed that this meeting was scheduled to take place in February.

A Member explained the importance of representing Police staff numbers in two categories, so that front line and back office distinguished. They noted that some who might appear to be 'non-crucial', were in fact working on the front line, such as those working on Economic Crime.

A Member asked if a breakdown of POCA Reserve funds was available, the Commissioner confirmed that it was and agreed to circulate to Members. (2)

The Commissioner explained that the POCA Reserves fund had benefitted from a lucrative operation that had been running until recently, but which was no longer available to the Force. This change had a significant effect on the POCA income, though following the Criminal Finances Act 2017, a new opportunity for seizures of unlawful funds has become available. The Commissioner explained that the CoLP are currently awaiting the code of practice before actioning the plan to take advantage of this. The Commissioner

explained that beyond 2020, the Reserves will have funding issues that will need to be addressed.

The Chairman proposed that the Police Committee send a resolution to the Policy & Resources Committee to propose a rise in the Business Rates Premium in 2019-20, and contact businesses to inform them of the planned changes. Members all agreed. (3)

The Chamberlain explained that the Demand and Value for Money Review identified up to £15m of efficiencies available, and that the Force's commitment to these should not be overlooked. This, alongside increased grants income, would ensure that officer numbers could be protected. The Chairman agreed.

A Member agreed with the proposal to raise the Premium, but explained that the narrative needed to be secured so that the proposal is positioned with little room for debate. The Chairman explained that a robust background to the argument was first needed but that now was the correct time to do this.

RESOLVED – That Members agreed to:

- i. Note the latest forecast outturn for 2017/18 revenue budget of a balanced financial position.
- ii. Review the provisional 2018/19 revenue budget, which is balanced by a draw down on reserves to ensure it reflects the Committee's objectives and, if so, approve the budget for submission to the Finance Committee.
- iii. Review and approve the draft capital and supplementary revenue budget.
- iv. Note that a further report will be submitted to committee in March on the plans to achieve the proposed cashable transformation savings of £1.2m for 2018/19.
- v. Note the budget mitigation contained within the report which will help to manage risks in 2018/19 and addressed the underlying deficit.
- vi. Authorise the Chamberlain to revise these budgets for the re-phasing of the Action Fraud cash flow advance and repayments, the revenue implications of the Police Accommodation Strategy, and funding of the capital budget.
- vii. Send a note to the Policy & Resources Committee proposing an increase in the Business Rates Premium for 2019-2020, supported by background evidence from the CoLP STRA process.

6. DATA PROTECTION BILL 2017

The Committee received a report of the Remembrancer that provided Members with an overview of the provisions in the Data Protection Bill 2017.

The Commissioner explained that it was important to note that the City of London Corporation and the City of London Police have separately nominated officers acting in the role of Data Protection Officer.

RESOLVED – That the report be received and the steps taken to ensure compliance with the provisions in the Data Protection Bill 2017 be noted.

7. **QUARTERLY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE**

The Committee received a report of the Commissioner of Police that provided an update on engagement activities across five main areas:

1. Counter Terrorism and Communications
2. Safeguarding and Vulnerable
3. PREVENTion of Fraud
4. Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
5. Policing the Roads

The Commissioner clarified for Members the role of the Mental Health Street Triage, as referenced within the report. He explained that it avoided the use of Police powers for individuals to be detained under Section 136 of the Mental Health Act (s136) by a qualified Mental Health Professional. The Commissioner explained that they were pleased that the total number of s136's issued whilst the Street Triage was on duty for the period from 31 May to 31 August 2017 had been reduced to just 8.

The Commissioner explained that a trial operation involving collaborative working between CoLP officers and London Ambulance Service (LAS) cycle paramedics over the Christmas period had dealt with numerous incidents which had resulted in a reduction in the number of ambulances required to attend. It was noted that this had relieved the burden on the LAS at a time when their resources are also stretched to the limit. A Member stated that they thought these incidents were worthy of recognition, and perhaps even funding, from the NHS. The Commissioner confirmed that there was no additional funding from the NHS/London Ambulance Service (LAS) for this work, though he had met with the Chief Executive of the LAS the previous week and work was underway to continue the initiative.

A Member noted the detailed mention of PREVENT internal engagement in the report, but queried the lack of mention of external work on the ground. The Commissioner confirmed that there was in fact significant engagement within the community currently but that it was important to note that the City of London Corporation was the lead for PREVENT as local authorities had been given this responsibility. He confirmed that CoLP would contribute to any report that the CoL might prepare on this activity to the Safer City Partnership Strategy Group.

A Member noted that Taxi and Private Hire vehicles that were not road-worthy were being taken off the road, and queried whether there was a penalty for repeated offenders. The Commissioner explained that, although he was unable to confirm this, the CoLP do report cases to Transport for London. The Member noted that the high percentage of offending vehicles [33%] was

worrying. The Commissioner explained that some of these vehicles may be from outside London, and include those not deemed to be serious breaches.

RESOLVED – That the report be received.

8. **HANDCUFFING OF JUVENILE STATISTICS**

The Committee received a report of the Commissioner of Police that aimed to address Members' concerns raised following the submission of a previous report submitted to the September 2017 meetings of Police Committee and Safeguarding Sub-Committee that contained a misleading comparison regarding the 'use of force' on juveniles in custody with the Metropolitan Police Service and Cambridgeshire Constabulary [*Item 5 - Annual Update on the Custody of Vulnerable People*, Police Committee, 21 September 2017].

The Chairman noted that this report highlighted a case in which lessons needed to be learned regarding the presentation of data. He also explained that a year-on-year comparison table with the Metropolitan Police Service would have been beneficial. The Commissioner explained that it was not yet possible to provide trend data on this as the data had only been collected by forces since 2016 as mandated by HMICFRS, though it would be possible to measure trends going forward once a baseline had been established.

The Chairman noted that the percentage of those over 65/66 within the table that had been subject to the use of force was surprisingly high. The Commissioner explained that it was likely a number of these could be attributed to individuals with mental health issues, and a number to repeat offenders. He also reiterated that the sample size was significantly smaller (approximately 30 individuals in total) than those of the Metropolitan Police for example.

RESOLVED – That the report be received.

9. **SPECIAL INTEREST AREA UPDATES**

a) **Safeguarding and Public Protection, ICV Scheme**

The Committee heard a verbal update on Safeguarding and Public Protection and the Independent Custody Visitor Scheme from the SIA lead.

The lead explained that the CoLP had rolled out a 'sexual consent' awareness campaign with the assistance of Victim Support in August 2017. The campaign, primarily centred around social media through the use of *#Haveyougotthegreenlight*, focused on raising awareness of this issue within the City, particularly amongst those likely to use licensed premises. The SIA lead explained that the campaign had received excellent feedback from the public, and was incorporated into the Christmas Campaign in December 2017.

The SIA lead explained that joint funding between Police, DCCS and CST had been agreed for a domestic abuse/VAWG coordinator to replace the previous temporary role.

The SIA lead explained that, following the HMIC report 'in Harm's Way', significant work has been done to consider safeguarding and support of youths and vulnerable people in custody. This included the development of a support booklet currently awaiting print for those exiting custody. He also explained that a survey was now offered to juveniles on leaving custody to gather their feedback on the experience. The SIA Lead explained that the Duty Superintendent is now notified of all juveniles or vulnerable people in custody, and consideration is given for an independent visit to ascertain any issues relating to welfare.

The SIA Lead explained that the recent transfers to the NICHE system has enabled CoLP to reduce the volume of paper risk assessments and inefficient processes, resulting in the introduction of Public Protection Notices (PPNs) that simplify and formalise pathways for those identified at vulnerable people.

The SIA Lead also informed Members that the Independent Custody Visitor (ICV) Scheme has elected a new Chairman, Godfrey Baillon-Bending. The Deputy Chairman was due to be elected in the week commencing 29 January 2017. The panel was also now at full strength with 12 members, following the recent appointment of a new volunteer.

The SIA lead explained that the ICV Panel Chairman and he regularly attend the Custody Management Group meetings at the CoLP to ensure any urgent feedback is responded to immediately. An example of this was an investigation into the use of protection for officers as a replacement for controversial spithoods designed for use on detainees which were not in use by CoLP.

The SIA Lead explained that discussions had taken place at the panel over potential use of the NICHE system to record report, allowing electronic records and immediate notification of issues.

The SIA Lead explained that two ICVs were attending the Use of Force training in March to gain an understanding of how officers use restraint on detainees.

The SIA Lead also confirmed, in the light of recent national attention over sanitary protection for female detainees, that the CoLP already met the national standards outlined by the ICVA.

RESOLVED – That the SIA Lead be heard.

b) **Accommodation and Infrastructure**

This item was moved to the non-public session, following item 15.

10. **APCC UPDATE**

This item was moved to the non-public session, following item 15.

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

The Committee received a question from a Member requesting consideration be given to the procurement of kneepads for firearms officers. The Member explained that due to the heavy lifting and kneeling involved in operation, the use of knee pads would likely reduce the risk of injury and prove to be a cost-effective purchase.

The Commissioner explained that as part of the National Uniform Managed Service items would be assigned to specific officer role profiles and supplied directly by the main supplier from May 2018. This request, alongside all other operational requirements, will be considered by the Operational Uniform Committee for adding to the role profile of appropriate officers. The Commissioner agreed to provide a detailed response to the Member on the matter via email. (4)

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no items of urgent business.

13. 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 Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

14. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

a) **Police Committee - 15 Dec 2017**

The Committee considered the non-public minutes from the last meeting, held on 15 December 2017.

b) **Performance and Resource Management Sub-Committee - 30 Nov 2017**

The Committee received the non-public minutes from the last meeting of the Performance and Resource Management Sub (Police) Committee, held on 30 November 2017.

15. NON-PUBLIC OUTSTANDING REFERENCES

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk that summarised the outstanding actions from previous meetings.

16. SECURE CITY PROGRAMME UPDATE AND RESOURCING

The Committee received a report of the Commissioner of Police that related to the Secure City Programme.

17. EMERGENCY SERVICES MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAMME (ESMCP)

The Committee considered a report of the Commissioner of Police regarding the Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme (ESMCP).

18. **PROVISION OF A UNIFORM MANAGED SERVICE (NUMS)**

The Committee received a report of the Chamberlain and the Corporate Service Category Board regarding the City of London Police Uniform Managed Service.

19. **STRA GROWTH REQUIREMENT**

The Committee received a report of the Commissioner of Police regarding the Strategic Risk Assessment (STRA) Process.

20. **VALUE FOR MONEY UPDATE**

21. **RISK REGISTER UPDATE**

The Committee received a report of the Commissioner of Police that updated Members on the CoLP risk profile

22. **REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN**

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk that action taken since the last meeting by the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, in accordance with Standing Order Nos.41(a) and 41(b).

23. **POLICE ACCOMMODATION STRATEGY UPDATE**

This item was incorporated into the Accommodation and Infrastructure Update at item 9a.

24. **URGENT WAIVER REPORT - HOTEL FOR POLICE STAFF**

The Committee received a report of the Commissioner of Police that informed Members of the decision by the Chamberlain to retrospectively approve a waiver of a Procurement Code Rule.

25. **COMMISSIONER'S UPDATES**

The Commissioner updated Members on the key developments affecting CoLP since the last meeting in December 2017.

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

There were no questions.

27. **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 closed at 1.00 pm

Chairman

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