

Committee	Dated:
Police Authority Board Professional Standards & Integrity Committee	28 November, 2019 29 November, 2019
Subject: Ethical Economic Partnerships Policy	Public
Report of: Commissioner of Police & Chief Executive of the Police Authority	For Decision
Report author: Ian Dyson, Commissioner City of London Police and Oliver Bolton, Police Authority Team, Town Clerk's Department	

Summary

In July 2019 the Police Authority Board considered a report from the Force that outlined their approach to developing international training partnerships and the different legal frameworks available to the Force to enter into domestic commercial partnerships. In light of Member concern that decisions on entering into partnerships should be subject to appropriate oversight from the Police Authority, this report sets out a framework for Members to obtain assurance that such external economic partnerships are subject to appropriate oversight and scrutiny prior to being formalised by the Force.

Recommendations

Members are asked to agree that:

- i. The Force should consult at the earliest opportunity with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Police Authority Board, and the Chief Executive of the Police Authority, about the legal form, financial value and reputational risk of any potential external economic partnership prior to this being formalised by the Force, including where appropriate taking any decision to the Police Authority Board
- ii. To agree that the Force should publish a register of organisations that the force is in partnership with, including high level details; and
- iii. To agree that the Force should provide an annual report to the Police Authority Board on its external partnerships.

Main Report

Background

1. The Force has agreed a five-year Corporate Plan detailing their ambitions across five key pillars:
 - a. To make the City of London the safest city area in the world, regarded as a centre of excellence for protective security.
 - b. To deliver a policing service that is valued by those who live in, work in, or visit the City of London.
 - c. To be a police force with global influence and impact.

- d. To build new ethical economic partnerships.
 - e. To have an innovative, skilled and agile workforce in a culture that supports and empowers our people.
2. In line with the Corporate Plan ambitions and, as is consistent with modern policing across the United Kingdom, Forces nationally are using various legislative means to develop successful partnerships that support the policing response and outcomes. These are currently generally initiated on an ad hoc basis through engagement and / or networking with stakeholders, based on areas of most risk, threat and harm.
 3. The Force has a number of existing agreements where the Force's services and capabilities are employed for a national interest (e.g. the escort of the Bank of England transport vehicles) or for the benefit of wider industry (e.g. the Lloyd's agreement that supports training of insurance investigators across c.95% of the industry). Members will recall that for international services (principally training) that the Force offers overseas, there is a comprehensive set of checks and balances outlined in the report submitted in July 2019. The force is also keen to focus on developing new, local partnerships within the City. One such agreement has already been made with Bloomberg to enhance the local community policing services in the area surrounding their headquarters.
 4. This report outlines some considerations and recommendations in order to ensure there is appropriate assurance to the Authority on these new ethical economic, partnerships and that they support the Force's commitment to integrity, fairness and professionalism, underpinning the principles of the College of Policing's Code of Ethics.

Proposals

5. It is usual for Local Policing Bodies to be involved in discussions about funding. Members may recall that when Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) were introduced in 2012, the City of London Corporation made a commitment to the then Home Secretary to mirror the principles and values of the office of PCCs, as part of its retention of a police authority structure.
6. In order to give a steer on any likely political sensitivities or reputational risks regarding any particular proposal, as well as to ensure an early understanding of the legal form and financial value of any potential partnership, it is recommended there is early engagement from the Force with the Police Authority. In particular, it is expected that the Commissioner would consult with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Police Authority Board, and the Chief Executive of the Police Authority. This would help at officer level to ensure an appropriate agreement framework is developed and allow time to seek legal advice, if necessary. Furthermore, if authority for Member approval were agreed then it could be given in principle at this stage – subject to final terms being agreed formerly.

7. There is an expectation that public organisations will be open and transparent about their funding streams, particularly where these involve partnerships with private or external organisations. It is therefore proposed that the Force should publish a register of external organisations with which it has commercial or economic partnerships, providing high level details of the nature of the partnership.
8. Furthermore, it is vital that the Police Authority Board is given the opportunity to review all partnerships on an annual basis, particularly where such partnerships are longstanding or where decisions on partnerships have been delegated to officers. This review would also provide an opportunity to share more detail than what would be in the public register, as well as outline any strategic approaches to these partnerships that may have developed over time. It is therefore proposed that the Force should provide an annual summary report on its partnerships to the Police Authority Board and the Performance and Resource Management Committee.

Conclusion

9. It is hoped that the measures outlined above will support the Force's efforts to enter into innovative and ethical, economic partnerships; provide Member reassurance; and align the City of London with other Local Policing Bodies across the country.

Annexes

- Annex A - Questions for the force to consider when developing new ethical economic partnerships.

Background Reports

- Ethical Private Partnerships, Police Authority Board, July 2019.

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Annex A - Questions for the force to consider when developing new ethical economic partnerships.

1. Which organisation is seeking a partnership with the COLP/Authority?
2. What sort of organisation is it (public/single private entity/ umbrella industry organisation etc.)?
3. What are they seeking from the Force?
4. Who are the beneficiaries of the arrangement (e.g. wider public/ industry/ local community)?
5. Over what period would this partnership be for (i.e. one-off event / regular single event / ongoing for indefinite period)?
6. Why is this arrangement required?
7. What is the organisation in (1) offering the Force (either cash payment or benefit in kind)?
8. An outline of what the Force is prepared to offer to meet the request from the external partner?
9. What are the relevant timescales or deadlines on getting the arrangement agreed and signed (relating to either funding or service need)?