

CITY OF LONDON POLICE AUTHORITY BOARD
Wednesday, 16 December 2020

Minutes of the meeting of the City of London Police Authority Board held virtually on
Wednesday, 16 December 2020 at 10.00 am

Present

Members:

Deputy James Thomson (Chairman)
Douglas Barrow (Deputy Chairman)
Caroline Addy
Munsur Ali
Nicholas Bensted-Smith
Deputy Keith Bottomley
Tijs Broeke
Alderman Emma Edhem
Alderman Alison Gowman
Dawn Wright
Deborah Oliver (External Member)

City of London Police Authority:

John Barradell	- Town Clerk
Simon Latham	- Deputy Chief Executive
Alex Orme	- Head of Police Authority Team
Oliver Bolton	- Deputy Head of Police Authority Team
Rachael Waldron	- Compliance Lead
Alistair Cook	- Head of Police Authority Finance
Tim Fletcher	- Town Clerk's Department
Polly Dunn	- Town Clerk's Department
Leanne Murphy	- Town Clerk's Department
Sean Green	- Chamberlain's Department
Christopher Bell	- Chamberlain's Department
Ellen Wentworth	- Chamberlain's Department
Ian Hughes	- Department of Built Environment
Paul Chadha	- Comptroller and City Solicitor

City of London Police:

Ian Dyson	- Commissioner of the City of London Police
Angela McLaren	- Assistant Commissioner
Clinton Blackburn	- Commander (Economic Crime)
David Evans	- Commander (Operations and Security)
Cecilie Booth	- Chief Operating and Chief Financial Officer
Christopher Bell	- City of London Police
Pete Digby	- City of London Police
Fiona Murphy	- City of London Police

Oliver Shaw - City of London Police
Hayley Williams - City of London Police

Observing:

Helen Fentimen - Common Councillor
Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark - Common Councillor
Graham Packham - Common Councillor
Renu Gupta - Independent Advisory and Scrutiny Group (Public Section only)
Godfrey Baillon-Bending - Independent Advisory and Scrutiny Group (Public Section only)
Heather Thomas - Independent Advisory and Scrutiny Group (Public Section only)

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Alderman Timothy Hailes and Andrew Lentin.

The Chairman welcomed Angela McLaren, new Assistant Commissioner of the City of London Police, and Christopher Bell, new Service Delivery Director of the Fraud and Cyber Crime Reporting and Analysis Service at the City of London Police.

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

There were none.

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that the public minutes and the non-public summary of the meeting held on 9 November 2020, be approved as an accurate record.

4. **COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The Chairman noted that a Professional Standards and Integrity Committee meeting took place on 26 November 2020 and the minutes would come to the January Board meeting.

1a. **Performance & Resource Management Committee**

RESOLVED, that the draft public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 11 November 2020, be received.

2a. **Economic Crime Committee**

RESOLVED, that the draft public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 16 November 2020, be received.

5. **OUTSTANDING REFERENCES**

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk which set out Outstanding References from previous meetings of the Committee.

- 37/2019/P – It was confirmed that there were no anticipated delays with contractors working around the Christmas period and all orders had been made.
- 29/2020/P – Officers confirmed the relevant Members were being consulted on the documents which would come to the Board in February. A number of introductory meetings have been planned, the first took place last week and more would follow in the New Year.
- 39/2020/P – The Chairman confirmed his attendance at the ISAG meeting last week and was pleased the Group was engaging with the Force.

The Chairman of the Professional Standards and Integrity Committee (PSIC) voiced concern regarding the timing of admin governance issues, noting that PSIC would be reviewing diversity. A draft was therefore requested before February in order that Members could work on the agenda in advance.

- 49/2020/P – Members were advised that this was up and running and an update on the guidelines would come to the next Board meeting.
- 50/2020/P – The Chairman confirmed that email exchanges had taken place concerning the Special Constabulary and utilisation of reserves. An update would be brought to the February Board meeting.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

6. **CHAIRMAN'S PUBLIC UPDATE**

The Chairman provided a verbal update on his activities in his capacity as Chairman of the City of London Police Authority Board.

The Chairman advised that the National Lead Force (NLF) continued to engage internally and externally on behalf of the Authority including a well-received session hosted by the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) which had a large number of PCCs in attendance. The Chairman and Officers continue to work with APCC on the programme going forward on fraud, policing plans and how they can support other forces on tackling crime. Appreciation was extended to Commander Blackburn and the Commissioner for their ongoing engagement.

The Chairman also participated in a meeting concerning a further review by the HMRC around fraud in early 2021. This was seen as an opportunity to ensure fraud remained on the agenda.

Other activities of note included a further bilateral meeting on finances with Chairman of Finance Committee (to be discussed in non-public session); engagement sessions for Board and Committee Members to discuss the Policing Plan on 19 January 2021 and 8 March 2021; and it was hoped that the

advertisement for an external Member on the Professional Standards and Integrity Committee would go live shortly after Christmas.

RESOLVED, that the update be noted.

7. **COMMISSIONER'S PUBLIC UPDATE**

The Commissioner provided a verbal update regarding activities of the City of London Police Force.

Members were advised that crime remained low due to decreased footfall in the City and this was expected to continue with the additional Tier 3 restrictions that came into effect today. Covid restrictions continued to have a significant effect on the usual crime trends associated with the Night-time Economy as well as the wider economic picture. Compliance by licensed premises had been generally high; however, since the last meeting another £10k fine was recently issued to a commercial office having a party.

Extra police resources were arranged for 15 December in anticipation of large numbers visiting licensed premises before London entered Tier 3 and there were two alcohol-related incidences that the Force responded to. It was noted that there was an incident with a marked police carrier resulting in a loss of control of the vehicle. There were no injuries sustained by either of the two Officers in the vehicle, nor members of the public and a full investigation would follow. Another car had swerved and burst a tyre when they came across the scene, but those individuals were unharmed, and the Force would be checking in with them.

With regards to protesting, Members were informed that there had been no City-specific intelligence to suggest any were planned. A central London protest was due to take place at the weekend and whilst the Force would be offering policing support, it was not expected to directly impact the City.

The Commissioner confirmed that the Force was working with Deputy Chief Executive on a CoLP Strategic Communications and Engagement Plan outlining its position as the lead Force on protective security specialism and local policing. An early draft had been circulated and would be reviewed at the Force's Strategic Management Board tomorrow. Pending approval, this overarching plan would come to the Board for comment.

RESOLVED, that the update be noted.

8. **NATIONAL LEAD FORCE**

The Commander (Economic Crime) provided a verbal update on the work of National Lead Force.

The Board welcomed the new Assistant Commissioner as National Co-ordinator for Economic Crime to the City of London Police who was delighted to join the team and recognised the huge challenges ahead including cybercrime and fraud.

Fraud still constituted a third of all crime, with a 9% increase this month from the same period in 2019. Types of fraud on the increase included dating fraud, advanced fee, financial investigation and fraud recovery. Since the early days of the pandemic there had been a slight drop in online shopping fraud. Covid related fraud constituted approximately 1% of all incidents but this equated to an unverified total loss of £2.1mil.

It was noted that the Call Centre had seen a reduction in calls regarding fraud which was felt to be reassuring. As a result, the Call Centre was achieving its KPIs, e.g. call waiting times, etc.

With fraud accounting for more than a third of all crimes, important work was progressing including data collection across policing through PCC and stakeholder work. The Force has also continued to work with the HMICFRS who was visiting all crime units as an opportunity to review how they were getting on.

Work was ongoing between the City Corporation and the Force on the funding and spending review that the Government was currently going through. This had been postponed and Officers continued to work with the Home Office to improve the capability and capacity across policing nationally.

It was reported that recent figures showed that 97% of all UK's fraudulent sites were taken down by the COLP and 91% of European counterfeit sites. The Board was encouraged by this positive news.

A Member highlighted the great response from the Victim Care Unit that was supporting the most vulnerable and increasingly isolated groups.

It was noted by the Professional Standards and Integrity Committee Chairman that accepting volume of complaints were low for Action Fraud, these mostly related to accessibility, circulation and clarity of information provided to the public via the website and follow up of cases to be an issue. The new Assistant Commissioner (Economic Crime) agreed to look at this and how it might be improved.

RESOLVED, that the update be noted.

9. **EXIT FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION - CITY OF LONDON POLICE PREPAREDNESS**

Members received a report of the Commissioner regarding the preparedness of the City of London Police concerning the UK's exit from the European Union.

Despite the UK exiting the European Union on 31 December 2020, the exact terms and conditions of the exit agreement (if any) remained unclear. Whilst there was significant nervousness on the loss of legislation regarding action fraud, having an Officer embedded in the national team meant the Force was in a good place to prepare for the exit and extra deployments would support the London region in January.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

10. **Q2 BUDGET MONITORING 2020/21**

Members received a report of the Commissioner regarding Q2 Budget Monitoring for 2020/21.

The Chief Operating and Chief Financial Officer (COFO) noted that the report set out a good degree of confidence that all savings targets would be achieved, with a £5m underspend projected. This was due to the time taken for the Force to fill vacancies and its success in securing additional grants. The bulk of this underspend would go towards repayment of the Action Fraud loan.

The tracker showed that they were on target to achieve all savings (£5.7m) and all items were now RAG rated as requested. The capital programme remained a work in progress; however, little had been spent this financial year and project managers had projected that they would be spending to budget, but a more detailed update would come to the Board in Q3.

Improvements had been seen in the Transactional Services Team following new management arrangements. The backlog of work had been cleared and as this was no longer a concern for the Board it was agreed that detail on this would not need to be reported routinely in future, only by exception.

It was acknowledged that hard work had gone into report and Members welcomed the progress, noting only a few areas for further development such as the pay flow forecast, non-pay granularity and realistic capital forecasting.

A Member noted that the Savings Tracker reflected that ‘Savings through National Policing Programmes’ was still amber despite what appeared to be a confirmed £1m saving. The holding branch had secured the £1mil of savings but the Force had not had confirmation on the £300k of IT savings. It was hoped that an update would be available for the Q3 reporting.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

11. **CITY OF LONDON JOINT HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY REFRESH - UPDATE AND ENGAGEMENT**

Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children’s Services regarding the City of London Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWBS).

The Commissioner confirmed the Force were engaged with the Health and Wellbeing Board and wider agenda through the community policing team who were considering how best to support the strategy going forward.

Members supported the joined-up work and requested an update in due course

RESOLVED, that Members note the progress made on developing the 2021–24 JHWB.

12. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD**

There were two questions.

Climate Action Strategy

A Member enquired, bearing in mind the City Corporation's new Climate Action Strategy, what steps the Force was taking to ensure that it will meet the requirement to reduce Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions to net zero by 2027 and the full value chain by 2040. In particular, the Member was interested to know, since the new Police HQ should meet most of the property standards, what other aspects would be considered, e.g. the change of the whole fleet to electric vehicles.

The Commissioner confirmed that the COLP had been involved in the development of the Strategy and had been looking at their role in support of the City Corporation's targets. COLP vehicles and business travel were considered to be key areas for consideration.

With regards to electric vehicles, these were being brought in as existing vehicles reached the end of their lifetime. The Force was also expanding its bicycle fleet in light of changes in the built environment. Plans to move to a fully electrical fleet were underway but it was noted that some specialist vehicles would require national approval before they could be used by any Force.

The Commissioner highlighted that there were longer term challenges and they were looking to move rapidly and appropriately for all fleet vehicles but needed to ensure they had the infrastructure and charging facilities available to support this offer. The Force was also learning lessons from the Metropolitan Police who had faced some challenges in using small BMW electric vehicles for patrols.

Business travel was currently low due to Covid restrictions and robust approvals on sign-off for international travel were already in place. Furthermore, as the Force was looking to develop regional capability around fraud it was hoped this would ultimately reduce the need for officers to move around country as much.

Changes in the built environment

A Member understood that there had been significant street changes in the City due to increased social distancing measures in response to Covid. They queried what impact this had, if any, on vehicle movement and the COLP's ability to carry out any responses.

It was confirmed that changes to the built environment presented some challenges to the patrol strategy as it changed how officers could move around the City. The challenges posed would be more difficult should these changes be maintained when footfall eventually increased in the City.

From a Counter Terrorism (CT) perspective, there was no enhanced risk. However, the Force was looking at the Secure City Programme and

considering the overlaying infrastructure for routes of travel in and out of the City.

The Force agreed to report any feedback or concerns about specific changes to the built environment to Planning & Transportation Committee through a review being conducted on the temporary measures on social distancing. This would take place in early January and it was stressed that any urgent issues should be flagged with DBE as soon as possible.

13. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**
There were no items of urgent business.
14. **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.
15. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**
RESOLVED, that the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2020, be approved as an accurate record.
16. **NON-PUBLIC COMMITTEE MINUTES**
 - a) **Performance & Resource Management Committee**
RESOLVED, that the draft non-public minutes of the Performance & Resource Management Committee meeting held on 11 November 2020, be noted.
 - b) **Economic Crime Committee**
RESOLVED, that the draft non-public minutes of the Economic Crime Committee meeting held on 16 November 2020, be noted.
17. **NON-PUBLIC OUTSTANDING REFERENCES**
Members received a report of the Town Clerk regarding the Board's non-public outstanding references.
18. **CHAIRMAN'S NON-PUBLIC UPDATE**
The Chairman noted that there was nothing further to add beyond his public statement.
19. **COMMISSIONER'S NON-PUBLIC UPDATE**
Members received a verbal update regarding non-public activities of the City of London Police Force.
20. **NATIONAL LEAD FORCE**
Members received an update on non-public activities of National Lead Force.
21. **CYBERCRIME PROGRAMME - NOVATION OF CONTRACTS**
Members considered a report of the Commissioner regarding the Cybercrime Programme – novation of contracts.

22. **UPDATED MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN (MTFP) AND RESERVES POLICY PRINCIPLES**
Members considered a joint report of the Chamberlain and Commissioner regarding the updated MTFP and Reserves Policy Principles.
23. **PROVISIONAL REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET 2021/22**
Members received a report of the Commissioner regarding the provisional revenue and capital budget 2021/22.
24. **TRANSFORM PROGRAMME: PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE REPORTING TO THE CITY OF LONDON POLICE AUTHORITY BOARD**
Members considered a report of the Commissioner regarding the Transform Programme.
25. **S22A COLLABORATION AGREEMENT- MPS KMF AND COVERT RADIO SUPPORT SERVICE**
Members considered a report of the Commissioner regarding the S22A Collaboration agreement.
26. **CITY OF LONDON POLICE IT MODERNISATION PROGRAMME DEEP DIVE ON CHANGES TO SCOPE, PLAN AND BUDGET**
Members received a joint report of the Commissioner and Chamberlain regarding the COLP IT Modernisation programme.
27. **GW5: SECURE CITY PROGRAMME (SCP) - CCTV & TELECOMMUNICATIONS WORKSTREAM**
Members received a joint Gateway 5 report of the Director of Built Environment and the Commissioner regarding the SCP CCTV and Telecommunications workstream.
28. **CCTV UPGRADE - CUSTODY SUITE PROJECT DEPENDENCIES/SCOPE ISSUES**
Members received a report of the Commissioner regarding dependency and scope issues from the CCTV Upgrade – Custody Suite Project.
29. **CITY OF LONDON POLICE - MOUNTED BRANCH**
Members received a report of the Commissioner regarding the City of London Police Mounted Branch.
30. **REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN BETWEEN MEETINGS**
Members received a report of the Town Clerk regarding decisions taken under urgency procedures since the last Board meeting.
31. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD**
There were no questions.

32. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE BOARD AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

There were no items of urgent business.

11.57 – Under SO 40 the Board moved to extend the meeting by 5 minutes.

All officers, with the exception of the Town Clerk, Deputy Chief Executive and Clerk to the Board left the meeting.

33. STAFFING UPDATE REPORT

Members received a verbal update from the Town Clerk regarding a staffing matter.

The meeting ended at 12.02 pm

Chairman

**Contact Officer: Polly Dunn
Polly.Dunn@cityoflondon.gov.uk**