

STRATEGIC PLANNING & PERFORMANCE (POLICE) COMMITTEE
Monday, 6 September 2021

Minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Planning & Performance (Police) Committee
held virtually on Monday, 6 September 2021 at 9.00 am

Present

Members:

Tijs Broeke (Chair)
Munsur Ali
Deputy Keith Bottomley
Helen Fentimen
Alderman Timothy Hailes
Deborah Oliver
Deputy James Thomson
Deputy Philip Woodhouse
Moawia Bin-Sufyan (External Member)
Adrian Hanstock (External Member)

Officers:

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| Simon Latham | - | Director of the Police Authority Team |
| Alistair Cook | - | Treasurer, Police Authority |
| Oliver Bolton | - | Deputy Head, Police Authority |
| Polly Dunn | - | Town Clerk's Department |
| Sarah Phillips | - | Town Clerk's Department |
| Matt Lock | - | Head of Internal Audit |
| Bukola Soyombo | - | Chamberlain's Department |
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| Alistair Sutherland | - | Assistant Commissioner, City of London Police |
| Kevin Kilburn | - | City of London Police |
| Rob Atkin | - | City of London Police |
| Paul Adams | - | City of London Police |
| Steve Heatley | - | City of London Police |
| Hayley Williams | - | City of London Police |

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Andrew Lentin.

The Chair introduced the two new Members of the Committee, Adrian Hanstock and Moawia Bin-Sufyan.

The Chair congratulated Assistant Commissioner Alistair Sutherland, following the announcement of his appointment as Deputy Chief Constable of the British Transport Police (BTP).

The Chair took the opportunity to thank the Force, Metropolitan Police and BTP, amongst others, for their work during the various protests over recent weeks.

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

Adrian Hanstock noted that Assistant Commissioner Alistair Sutherland had been announced as his successor at BTP.

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that the public minutes of the meeting held on 4 May 2021, be approved as an accurate record.

4. **PUBLIC OUTSTANDING REFERENCES**

Members considered a joint report of the Town Clerk and Commissioner regarding public outstanding references.:

RESOLVED, that the update be noted.

5. **Q1 PERFORMANCE V POLICING PLAN MEASURES**

Members received a report of the Commissioner providing an update on performance against the measures in the City of London Policing Plan 2020-23 in Quarter 1, 2021/22.

The Assistant Commissioner provided a verbal overview of the report and concluded that the data was favourable.

Members requested that officers revisit the information contained within the report and how it was presented. Acknowledging that Q1 represented the start of the year, Members wished to see Q4 data from the previous year included in future so that there might be scope for comparison and the identification of trends. Officers would work on a revised report with the Chair ahead of the next meeting **(2/2021/P)**.

It was not considered meaningful to compare current statistics with mid-pandemic data, which had been exceptional. It was confirmed that performance data from 2019/2020 was being used (in place of 2020/2021) and was included in the report.

There was a concern expressed for the drop in levels of positive outcomes from stop and searches.

Following a question on whether the backlog in the Courts was impacting the outcome of cases, the Assistant Commissioner advised that it was too early to tell. There may be consequences due to Covid, prison population and other factors. This was something that could be better explored in the coming six months.

The importance of ongoing training was discussed. Upskilling formed a huge part of the Transform programme and a review into the efficiency of training and associated costs had been undertaken two weeks previously.

RESOLVED, that the update be noted.

6. **HMICFRS QUARTERLY REPORT**

Members received a report of the Commissioner providing an overview of activities undertaken in response to reports published by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) since May 2021 and the following matters were raised:

Before the report was discussed, the Chair articulated immediate worry for ongoing slippage of deadlines and requested that the Force do all it can to prevent further continuous delays. There was also a request to revisit the report format, to be explored with officers ahead of the next meeting **(3/2021/P)**. It was suggested that a distinction be drawn between actions the Force have more control over delivering and those that are largely dictated by external bodies.

The SIA for Safeguarding & Public Protection enquired as to whether there was evidence that previous recommendations on recognising the voice of the child had been addressed. This area had historically featured within these reports but had not been included on this occasion. The Assistant Commissioner stated there had been significant work on vulnerability training, from the voice of the child through to modern slavery and beyond and it was noted that all the recommendations from that inspection had been delivered as reported to the previous Committee in May 2021 including the recommendation relating to voice of the child. A deep dive on vulnerability was scheduled for the November meeting, so a fuller update would be provided

There was a challenge to the recommendation updates provided on the use of force. It was suggested that the Force had been harsh in their own assessment of this and that work was being undertaken by the Stop and Search Working Group to explore if this happened disproportionately when working outside of the City. Steps to address this were ongoing. Members felt that this was a good example of where improved background context would provide a helpful story alongside the metrics.

On road safety, a collaborative effort between the City of London Police (COLP) and the City of London Corporation (COL) was clearly required. It was felt that the Authority Team could helpfully work as an intermediary to address this particular issue once and for all. The Chair requested that the deadline for resolution be brought forward for November 2021 **(4/2021/P)**.

Information regarding the work underway to address other issues such as domestic abuse will be covered within the deep dive on vulnerability.

RESOLVED, that the update be noted.

7. **TRANSFORM- UPDATE ON SECTOR / LOCAL POLICING (DEEP DIVE)**

Members received a report of the Commissioner presenting an update on a deep dive of the Sector/Local Policing model since June 2021.

Members felt that the work of Sector and Local Policing was hugely important but yet to demonstrate its full potential since the implementation of the new model. Members sought reassurance and commitment that funding would continue to be prioritised for this area, providing it could be based on a demonstration of effectiveness. There was positive uptake across Members of the corporation and officers confirmed that the model works and would remain. It was hoped that a dedicated ward officer and prevention hub would improve corporate memory with the added benefit of better reporting for measurable outcomes.

Thoughts on what metrics could be used to for measurable outcomes were welcomed, suggestions included how local policing has contributed to the prevention of acquisitive crime, Criminal Behaviour Orders and repeat offenders.

There was a discussion on communications, particularly on the subject of anti-social behaviour (ASB) and the varying tolerance levels to certain behaviours. It was acknowledged that there were often different views amongst residents about when there should be police intervention. Where criminal activity is taking place, the COLP would take action, but in the effort to ensure quality of life there had been an increase in patrols, particularly around the Barbican estate. It was suggested that if the number of patrol hours around the City could be measured, this may usefully be shared with residents and businesses.

It was the ambition of the Force as part of the Transform programme, to have Corporation Communications staff available in the Control Room, to better enable live updates through social media and other appropriate platforms. The Force was also pushing the Next Door app.

RESOLVED, that the update be noted.

8. **FORCE'S PERFORMANCE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT'S NATIONAL PRIORITIES FOR POLICING - SPECIFIED INFORMATION (AMENDMENT) ORDER 2021**

Members received a report of the Town Clerk outlining the performance of the City of London Police against the Government's National Priorities for Policing – Specified Information (Amendment) order 2021.

RESOLVED, that:

- The amendment to the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011 for PCC's to publish additional information relating to their force's performance against the Government's national priorities for policing be noted; and,
- The performance statement up to the end of July 2021 which had been published on the City of London Police Authority's website be noted.

9. INTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE

Members received a report of the Head of Audit and Risk Management providing an update on the work of Internal Audit undertaken for the City of London Police and the Police Authority against the 2021/22 Internal Action Plan.

There needed to be further discussion with the PA Team and relevant Chairs about whether this report needed to and should be presented to both SPPC and Resource, Risk and Estates Committee (RREC), as it had been for this quarter.

It had been requested that Internal Audit escalate significant issues with the Chairs of the relevant Committees as they arise, rather than waiting for the Committee meetings in order to report on them.

RESOLVED, that the update be noted.

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

There were no questions.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

There was no other business.

12. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

The Chair established that there were no questions or other business to be taken in non-public session and ended the meeting accordingly, in public session.

The meeting ended at 10.24

Chairman

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