

SAFER CITY PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY BOARD

Tuesday, 25 May 2021

Minutes of the meeting of the Safer City Partnership Strategy Board held as a virtual public meeting and livestreamed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ooFMcK4Wz2Y> on Tuesday 25 May 2021.

Present

Members:

Ruby Sayed (Chair)	Sophie Anne Fernandes
Tijs Broeke (Deputy Chair)	Clare Ansdell
William Duffy	Patrick Brooks
Bob Benton	James Chapman
Tim Wiseman	Paul Eskriett
Randall Anderson	Sophie Fernandes
Shravan Joshi	

Agerta Ayerst	- Corporate Strategy and Performance
Daniel Berry	- City of London Police
Ali Burlington	- Community Safer Officer
Gavin Stedman	- Port Health and Public Protection Director
Andrew Carter	- Director of Community and Children's Services
Chris Pelham	- Assistant Director, People
Christopher Rumbles, Clerk	- Town Clerk's Department
Jaime Rose	- Corporate Stakeholder Research Manager
Kate Smith	- Head of Corporate Strategy and Performance
Ayesha Fordham	- Domestic Abuse, Vulnerability and Risk Policy Officer
Valeria Cadena	- Community Safety Manager
Chris Oldham	- Corporate Strategy and Performance
Chief Inspector Ray Maskell	- City of London Police
Jillian Reid	- Anti-social Behaviour Co-ordinator
Andrew Zelin	- Business Intelligence Analyst
Colin Tanner	- Safer Business Network

The Chair welcomed all Board Members to the meeting and any Members of the public viewing the meeting through the livestream.

The Deputy Chair took the opportunity to thank the previous Chairman, Doug Barrow, for the dedication he had shown throughout his time as Chairman in overseeing the work of the Board. Under his leadership, real progress had been made in developing and reinvigorating the work of Safer City Partnership Strategy Board and also in expanding its reach and remit. The Deputy Chairman thanked Mr Barrow for his outstanding service to Safer City Partnership Strategy Board, which the Chair seconded.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from David Bulbrook, Don Randall and Renu Gupta.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations.

3. **MINUTES**

The Board noted a proposed minor clarification to the minutes of the previous meeting relating to Item 11 Project Kestrel. This being that “any additional funds would be shared equally between the London Fire Brigade Museum restoration fund and their Cadet corps and The Cross-Sector Safety and Security Communications (CSSC) Charity”.

Resolved, that the minutes of the meeting on 25th February 2021 be approved as an accurate record, subject to this clarification.

4. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The Board received a report of the Town Clerk that provided Partners with a summary of actions from previous meetings.

Resolved, that the Board note the outstanding actions.

5. **CORPORATE PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK - PARTNERSHIP DATA REVIEW**

The Head of Corporate Strategy and Performance talked the Board through work that had been ongoing as part of the Corporate Performance Framework and in developing a ‘strategic assessment’ of community safety. The aim being to produce data driven reports on community safety issues in the City.

The Group noted a number of key project deliverables that would lead to a live dashboard through PowerBI and look to provide a single source of up-to-date community safety data for the Safer City Partnership Strategy Board. This would then enable user specified detailed cuts of data and enable tracking of the impact of policy and operational changes.

The Head of Corporate Strategy and Performance remarked on the huge amount of data and work that had already gone into producing the strategic assessment. Partners noted that existing resources were in place until 30 June 2021, after which the Chief Strategy Officer would need to seek further funding for resources to maintain/update the Corporate Performance Framework and allow for further development of it.

How performance information and data more broadly was to be prioritised and managed as part of the City Corporation’s new Target Operating Model would need agreeing. The Head of Corporate Strategy and Performance suggested the new Chief Strategy Officer be invited to a future meeting of the Board to provide an update on her plans moving forward.

The Chair welcomed the presentation, acknowledging all the hard work that had gone into developing a strategic assessment. The Chair noted the need for

funding in support of the Corporate Performance Framework, with the Head of Corporate Strategy and Performance suggesting Transformation Funding, Policy & Resources Committee or Priority Investment Fund as potential sources.

The Deputy Chair noted the importance of funding to support the Corporate Performance Framework. The Deputy Chair questioned whether he and the Chair should become involved in looking to emphasise the importance of the Corporate Performance Framework in support of the work of Safer City Partnership Strategy Board.

The Community Safety Manager welcomed all the work that had taken place to date, acknowledging the positive steps that had been taken in developing a strategic assessment of community safety. The Community Safety Manager stressed that a strategic assessment and dashboard would only be as good as the information fed into it. Partners were encouraged to take an active role in the strategic assessment and feed relevant information through. Safer City Partnership Strategy Board would then be able to look at impacts and trends when looking at and deciding on the implementation of key strategies.

The Board noted the update.

6. **POLICE REPORT FOR THE PERIOD FEBRUARY - APRIL 2021**

The Board received a report of the Commissioner providing information against City of London Police's four main priorities linked to the Safer City Partnership Strategic Plan.

The Board noted incidents of crime had remained relatively low throughout the reporting period as a result of lockdown. Lifting of lockdown restrictions was expected to see an increase in footfall in the City, with Operation Audi recently launched and looking to increase City of London Police resources and also deployment of additional support from Street Pastors. The objective being to offer reassurance to the returning community and making sure the streets were a safe place for people to enjoy on their return to the City.

The Board noted a significant amount of work remained ongoing outside of the reporting period through looking at and considering issues around the lifting of lockdown restrictions and preparing for this.

Resolved, that the report be received, and its content noted.

7. **SAFER BUSINESS NETWORK - CRIME REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP 'SAFER SQUARE MILE' PRESENTATION**

The Safer Business Network Crime Reduction Partnership (SBNCRP) Representative talked the Board through the role of the Safer Business Network Crime Reduction Partnership and how it had been set up by City of London Police to offer a City-wide business focus on crime reduction.

The Board noted that Business Improvement Districts (BID) had been a key area of focus of the SBNCRP in selecting those businesses to become Members,

looking at selecting businesses that would benefit most and getting them to lead by example in the hope it would encourage others to join.

A main focus of the SBNCRP would be on businesses working together in trying to achieve low levels of crime in the City, identifying the 10% of people committing 90% of crime in certain areas and focussing resources appropriately.

The Board noted that an app had been developed through which businesses could report crime, offering the functionality to upload CCTV footage. Feedback had indicated that businesses had previously been reluctant to report crime given it was so time consuming; it was hoped the app would encourage businesses to come forward by making it easier to report a crime.

Appropriate training would be offered to businesses, with a group comprising key stakeholders put in place to provide strategic oversight, deciding on a month by month basis on any additional measures that may be required. A lot of work has been undertaken in preparation, working with City of London Police, and it was now about operational delivery and delivering on the objectives of the SBNCRP objectives.

The City of London Crime Prevention Association Representative referred to their membership and suggested there would be a benefit in discussing potential overlaps and looking at how both organisations can work together in looking to reduce crime in the City, which the SBCRP Representative welcomed.

The Chair referred to a recent meeting between City of London Police and hospitality venues, during which the SBNCRP initiative was highlighted and was very well received. The Chair thanked the SBNCRP Representative for presenting to the Board.

Resolved, that the Board note the update.

8. **BUILDING CAPABILITIES PILOT TO ENHANCE THE SAFER CITY PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY'S COMMUNICATIONS AND PARTNER ENGAGEMENT**

The Board received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services updating on several new ways of working that were being trialled as part of a pilot project aimed at improving communications around crime prevention and awareness campaigns between Safer City Partnership agencies and neighbouring boroughs.

The Board noted that a Community Safety Communications Group had recently been established, with three meetings planned through to November. A review of the Communications Group would be undertaken to review its role and consider whether it had been adding value. The Community Safety Manager agreed to report back to the Board at an appropriate point to allow an opportunity to consider the future of the Community Safety Communications Group.

The Chair concluded the item confirming a report back to the Board in November would be welcomed.

Resolved, that the report be received, and the update noted.

9. **DOMESTIC ABUSE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS UPDATE**
The Board received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services providing an update on current service delivery, actions and provision around Domestic Abuse (DA) and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG).

The Domestic Abuse, Vulnerability and Risk Policy Officer updated the board on a number of key areas including increased referral engagement work with hotels, a City of London Police face to face conference being planned in the summer, hotels being offered sexual harassment training, ongoing promotional work continuing through newsletters and social media, specialist DA training and awareness sessions being offered and a new Bangladeshi Specialist Advocate due in post that would look to provide a service where there was gap at present.

Encouraging reporting remained an important area of focus and there was a lot of ongoing work in promoting the range of services to residents.

The Chair thanked the Domestic Abuse, Vulnerability and Risk Policy Officer for reporting on the significant amount of work taking place in this area and for providing a comprehensive update. The Chair stressed how capturing data would be important moving forward in understanding how all measures were making a difference.

Resolved, that the report be received, and its content noted.

10. **CITY CORPORATION AND CITY POLICE PREVENT UPDATE**
The Board received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services providing an overview of Prevent activity in the Square Mile and presenting a draft Prevent Policy.

The Community Safety Officer updated the Board on key areas including City of London Policy and City Corporation now working together to achieve mutual goals, no Channel Panel cases having been presented since the last Safer City Partnership Strategy Board meeting, co-ordination being ongoing with London Prevent Network through sharing of best practice, prevent training for City Corporation and City of London Police Staff, working with the Livery on training and referrals and also working with Guildhall School and their safeguarding leads.

The Board noted how a City of London Prevent Policy and Guidance document had been produced to allow partners and stakeholders to understand their Prevent duty and Channel Panel responsibilities.

The Community Safety Manager added that any partners or agencies wanting training on domestic abuse, Violence Against Women and Girls or Prevent to come forward and look to promote this opportunity within their organisations. Partners were encouraged to come forward and look to work with the Community Safety Team in running training sessions.

Resolved, that the report be received, and its content noted.

11. PROCEEDS OF CRIME ACT - FUNDING BID FORM

a) City-Wide Mobile Patrol Service

The Community Safety Manager referred to the positive impacts experienced from the Mobile Patrol Services currently operating on the three housing estates within the City. The proposal before the Board today was looking to increase the service City wide as part of a trial.

Resolved, that the Board: -

- Approve option 1 – Up to £50,000

Operation Luscombe (Circulated separately as a late paper)

The Commissioner apologised for the late submission of this item. Board Members noted the bid would look to embed a multi-agency approach and future proof the operation by securing the necessary funds to keep it running for a three-year period.

Resolved, that the Board: -

- Approve a funding allocation of £6,400 to support Operation Luscombe over a 3-year period.

12. COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES UPDATE

The Board received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services providing an update of relevant data and activity from the Department of Community and Children's Services.

Resolved, that the report be received, and its content noted.

13. COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM UPDATE

The Board received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services providing an update on work of the Community Safety Team not otherwise addressed on the agenda.

The Community Safety Manager referred to a recent Anti-Social Behaviour Working Meeting during which there had been agreement on a need to report anti-social behaviour in the right way. All incidents of anti-social behaviour should be reported through to the police non-emergency 101 number, with a view being taken on the situation and redirected as appropriate. Reporting through the appropriate channels should be encouraged in allowing appropriate data to be captured.

Resolved, that the report be received, and its content noted.

14. **PUBLIC PROTECTION SERVICE (ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, LICENSING AND TRADING STANDARDS) UPDATE**

The Board received a report of the Director of Markets and Consumer Protection updating on work of the Public Protection Service.

The Port Health and Public Protection Director updated the Board on the work of the team and referred to their increased engagement with businesses in helping them to comply with the variations to restrictions; working in partnership with the Licensing Team and City of London Police through interventions and engagement with businesses in helping them comply with variations go guidance. An opportunity was also being taken to highlight to businesses the City Corporation's Covid Business Recovery Fund and Covid Accreditation Scheme.

As the City begins to liven up and a return to business as usual was being seen, the team remain ready to respond.

Resolved, that the report be received, and its content noted.

15. **LONDON FIRE BRIGADE UPDATE (ORAL UPDATE)**

The London Fire Brigade Representative provided the Board with an update on a number areas including latest callout figures, London Fire Brigade crews working in support of London Ambulance Service, a 12 pump fire exercise attended by 29 fire fighters and referred to working with the Royal National Lifeboat Institution in dealing with people swimming in the River Thames.

The London Fire Brigade Representative added that London Fire Brigade City was looking to open up to Cadets, with these likely to start being seen in the City very soon.

The update was noted.

16. **QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE GROUP**

There were no questions.

17. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Safer City Partnership Information Sharing Agreement (circulated separately as a late paper)

The Board considered a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services updating on an Information Sharing Agreement that provided a legal and practical framework for Safer City Partnership agencies to share data in order to meet statutory and other requirements.

The Chair referred to the detailed report and agreement that had been circulated. It was acknowledged that Partners may not have had had time to read the report in full, but given the hard work that had gone into producing the agreement and the criticality of time, it was hoped that Partners would be able to give their approval at the meeting today and then follow up with the Community Safety Manager with any further questions they may have.

The Community Safety Manager referred to the Information Sharing Agreement that had been in development with Statutory Partners for some time. Board Members noted the main request being an appropriate high-level signature to the Information Sharing Agreement from within Partnership organisations in allowing allow for information sharing to take place. The Information Sharing Agreement would then become a public document available on the City Corporation's website.

The Chair referred to the criticality of timing with this agreement and asked if Partners could respond back within seven days with a nominated responsible person within their organisation.

Resolved, that the Board: -

- Agree to Partners providing a signature to the Information Sharing Agreement.

Chairman

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