

RESOURCE, RISK & ESTATES (POLICE) COMMITTEE
Monday, 6 September 2021

Minutes of the meeting of the Resource, Risk & Estates (Police) Committee held
virtually on Monday, 6 September 2021 at 10.30 am

Present

Members:

Alderman Timothy Hailes (Chair)
Deputy James Thomson (Deputy Chair)
Deputy Keith Bottomley
Tijs Broeke
Graham Packham
Dawn Wright
Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark

Officers:

Angela McLaren	- Assistant Commissioner, City of London Police
Alistair Sutherland	- Assistant Commissioner, City of London Police
Chris Bell	- City of London Police
Tricia Mulvee	- City of London Police
Martin O'Regan	- City of London Police
Rachel Vipond	- City of London Police
Rob Atkin	- City of London Police
Gary Brailsford-Hart	- City of London Police
Kevin Kilburn	- City of London Police
Paul Adams	- City of London Police
Hayley Williams	- City of London Police
	-
Simon Latham	- Director, Police Authority Team
Alistair Cook	- Police Authority Treasurer
Oliver Bolton	- Deputy Head, Police Authority Team
Polly Dunn	- Town Clerk's Department
Sarah Phillips	- Town Clerk's Department
Emma Moore	- Chief Operating Officer
Matt Lock	- Head of Internal Audit
Aqib Hussain	- Chamberlain's Department

1. APOLOGIES

The Town Clerk reminded Members that the meeting was informal and that any views reached at the meeting would need to be considered by the Town Clerk in accordance with the Court of Common Council's Covid approvals procedure, agreed in April 2021.

Apologies were received from Andrew Lentin and Dan Worsley.

The Chair welcomed Adrian Hanstock and Michael Landau to their first meeting of this Committee.

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

Adrian Hanstock noted his position as Deputy Chief Constable of the British Transport Police and that Assistant Commissioner Alistair Sutherland had recently been announced as his successor.

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that the public minutes of the meeting held on 1 July 2021, be approved as an accurate record.

4. **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 Audit Action Plan.

As noted at the meeting of the Strategic Planning & Performance Committee, the Chairs of the Committees and Boards requested that matters of significant importance be brought to their attention as they arose, rather than waiting for a Committee report.

There was discussion over whether the number of audits was suitable given the size of the operational budget. Context on the much-reduced resource of the Internal Audit Team was provided. Conversations were ongoing with the City of London Police (COLP) and Chief Operating Officer whether there were gaps and whether there was appropriate benchmarking available from other forces. The Metropolitan Police (MPS) did a significantly larger amount of audit, but this was in line with its larger size. COLP and MPS both covered the same key risk areas. There were ongoing conversations with the Chamberlain around budget challenges and the size of the Internal Audit Team, but regardless the police plan would likely remain the same.

Use of external auditors was limited and specialist experience in police was available via the current third-party providers, although it was viewed that this function would not be needed until a more complex matter came to light.

Members clarified the distinction between holding leadership to account and the purpose of the audit function.

RESOLVED, that the update be noted.

5. **Q1 CAPITAL AND REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING**

Members received a report of the Commissioner providing an update on Quarter 1 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring 2021/22. The Town Clerk

reminded Members that a revised version of the report was circulated in a supplementary agenda pack.

The Chair raised concerns over the IT provision, specifically whether the City of London Corporation (COLC) shared service contract demonstrated value for money, delivered operational requirements and had appropriately skilled staff deployed to meet the COLP needs. He was also concerned about the discipline for overspend and financial management. The Chair informed the Committee that he was inclined to commission a review into the provision of IT between COL and the COLC, whether that be led internally or by a third party.

It was noted that a Member felt that the governance structure within the COLP added a layer of complexity that would also need to be resolved. A further point was made about the importance of IT in the context of the Next Generation Action Fraud Service and its procurement.

The Director of the Police Authority Team was tasked with exploring how best to deliver the IT review with the Force and COLC Chief Operating Officer and also involving the Special interest area Members for IT, Graham Packham and Dawn Wright **(1/2021/P)**.

The Chair commented on the approach of holding vacancies open to make savings and whilst Members accepted that it was difficult as the budget was largely pay/workforce, they felt there must be a better way of finding and managing savings. The Chair asked COLC Chief Operating Officer to work with COLP Chief Operating and Finance Officer to explore alternatives **(2/2021/P)**

A question was raised on revenue and how many estimates were included within the report. Underspend on capital was also highlighted, as it suggested poor forecasting. Improvements in forecasting had been made through the Force's Capital Programme board, but Members did not feel that this was being reflected in the numbers reported. Officers assured Members that some technical accounting issues would be resolved for Q2.

Members asked that the NPCC Cyber Portfolio and uplift of officers also be covered within this report for the next quarter. **(3/2021/P)**

RESOLVED, that the update be noted.

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

There were no questions.

7. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT**

There was no other business.

8. **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 the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

9. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 1 July 2021, be approved as an accurate record.

10. **NON-PUBLIC OUTSTANDING REFERENCES**

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

11. **MTFP AND BUDGET CHALLENGES INTERIM UPDATE REPORT**

Members received a report of the Commissioner providing an interim update on the medium-term financial plan (MTFP) and budget challenges.

12. **CIPFA FINANCE REVIEW IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

Members received a report of the Commissioner presenting an update on the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Improvement Plan.

13. **FRAUD AND CYBER CRIME REPORTING AND ANALYSIS SERVICE - NEXT GENERATION AND CURRENT SERVICE UPDATE REPORT**

Members received a report of the Commissioner providing an update on the progress of the business case and procurement of the Next Generation Service of the Fraud and Cyber Crime Reporting and Analysis Service and the existing Action Fraud and National Fraud Intelligence Bureau Service.

14. **POLICE ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME UPDATE REPORT**

Members received a report of the Commissioner providing an update on the Police Accommodation Programme.

15. **POLICE AUTHORITY RISK REGISTER**

Members received a report of the Town Clerk presenting the Police Authority Risk Register.

16. **SECURITY REPORT: IT RISKS (DEEP DIVE)**

Members received a report of the Commissioner presenting a security report of IT Risks (Deep Dive).

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

There were no questions.

18. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There was no other business.

The meeting ended at 12.18

Chairman

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