

CITY OF LONDON POLICE AUTHORITY BOARD
Wednesday, 7 February 2024

Minutes of the meeting of the City of London Police Authority Board held at
Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Wednesday, 7 February
2024 at 11.00 am

Present

Members:

Deputy James Thomson (Chair)
Helen Fentimen
Jason Groves
Graham Packham
Deborah Oliver
Dawn Wright
Collett (External Member)
Andrew Lentin (External Member)
Sir Craig Mackey (External Member)
Michael Mitchell (External Member)

City of London Police:

Pete O'Doherty	- T/Commissioner, City of London Police
Paul Betts	- Assistant Commissioner, City of London Police
Nik Adams	- T/Assistant Commissioner, City of London Police
Alistair Cook	- City of London Police
Alix Newbold	- City of London Police
Chris Bell	- City of London Police
Gary Brailsford-Hart	- City of London Police
Martin O'Regan	- City of London Police
Mark Paddon	- City of London Police
Steve Reynolds	- City of London Police
Hayley Williams	- City of London Police

Officers

Greg Moore	- Town Clerk's Department
Ian Hughes	- Environment Department
Bruce McVean	- Environment Department
Frank Marchione	- City Solicitor's Department
Simon Bradbury	- Environment Department
Richard Riley CBE	- Town Clerk's Department
Charles Smart	- Town Clerk's Department
Josef Shadwell	- Town Clerk's Department
Rachael Waldon	- Town Clerk's Department
Kezia Barrass	- Town Clerk's Department

1. **APOLOGIES**

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

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 31 January are approved as an accurate record.

4. **OUTSTANDING REFERENCES**

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

RESOLVED – That the Committee notes the report.

5. **CHAIR'S PUBLIC UPDATE**

Members heard the Chair's public update.

The following points were noted:

The Chair stressed the need for both the City of London Police and City Corporation to be involved in operational planning meetings with the Met Police, Greater London Authority and Westminster Council about the routes for protest marches in London, especially in the context of the ongoing situation in the Middle East.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

6. **COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE**

Members received the Commissioner's public update.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- Members welcomed the invitation to the Community Safety Trust meetings, and the Chair was keen to share further opportunities with Members where possible in future events.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

7. **Q3 CAPITAL AND REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING**

Members received a report of the Commissioner which outlined the Q3 capital and revenue budget monitoring.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- It was noted that this report had been discussed in depth at the Resource Risk and Estates Committee on the 5 February.
- The Chair welcomed the clarity now being provided on financial reporting and stressed the importance of maintaining a focus on police staff recruitment as well as maintaining police officer numbers.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

8. **REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET 2024 - 2025**

Members received a report of the Commissioner which outlined the revenue and capital budget for 2024 – 2025.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- It was noted that this report had been discussed in depth at the Resource Risk and Estates Committee on the 5 February.
- Rate payers were consulted with and responded positively to an increase in the Business Rate Premium.
- The firearms training facility and the police accommodation programme more generally remained areas of focus.
- Members requested an update in the next quarterly Budget Monitoring report which outlines the full capital programme relating to the City of London Police and the source of funding for clarity.
- The Chair thanked the CFO for the improvement in financial reporting.

RESOLVED – that the budget be finalised once the BRP raise has been finalised by the Court of the Common Council and the National Lead Force funding would be finalised.

9. POLICING PLAN REFRESH 2022 - 2025 (24 - 25)

Members received a report of the Commissioner which outlined the Policing Plan refresh 2024 – 2025.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- A Member noted a few small points relating to wording which could be amended to improve the clarity of the report. The Chair requested that Members share any suggested edits to the Chief Operating Officer as soon as possible.
- The work around victims was progressing at pace, an expert on victims has been recruited to support this work. The Victim’s Board was driving this work, and a more detailed report on this work would be brought to the Police Authority Board when possible.

RESOLVED – That members approve the report.

10. VISION ZERO PLAN 2023 – 2028

Members received a report of the Executive Director of Environment, which outlined the Vision Zero Plan 2023 – 2028.

Members noted that there would not be additional financial pressures on the City of London Police resulting from this programme.

RESOLVED – that Members approved the report.

11. PARLIAMENTARY UPDATE

Members received a report of the Remembrancer which provided a Parliamentary Update.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

12. QUARTERLY NPCC BUSINESS CRIME PORTFOLIO UPDATE

Members received a report of the Commissioner which provided an update on the quarterly NPCC Business Crime Portfolio.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- The Chair welcomed the report and the good work and engagement with Ministers nationally.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

13. CITY OF LONDON POLICE WELLBEING OVERVIEW

Member received a report of the Commissioner which outlined the City of London Police wellbeing overview.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- 45 voluntary wellbeing ambassadors from around the Force were in place in 7 teams which represent the 7 categories in the Blue Light Framework
- Members mentioned mental health as a significant impact on wellbeing in the report, and suggested collaboration with City Wellbeing Centre, who were already in operation within the City.
- Members requested that outcome key performance indicators, examples and impact statements should be considered to measure and improve effectiveness in this area in the future.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

14. FCCRAS UPDATE

Members heard an update from the Chief Officer on the Fraud and Cyber Crime Reporting and Analysis Service programme.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- The programme was progressing at pace and scheduled for delivery in 2024.
- The Branding options were under consideration, and the brand reputation of Action Fraud was taken into account.
- The strategy for engagement with the public and partners was being worked through and would be shared when possible.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

15. FUTURE NETWORK STRATEGY

Members received a report of the Commissioner which outlined the suggested Future Network Strategy.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- Members agreed the necessity for the new network given that the vulnerability of the force IT network was currently a red risk.
- The cost of the future network is covered by City Fund, and running costs of the system within the City of London Police would be funded by the City of London Police budget.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

16. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD

There were no questions.

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no items of urgent business.

18. 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.

19. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

RESOLVED - that the non public minutes of the Police Authority Board held on the 10 January were approved.

20. **NON-PUBLIC OUTSTANDING REFERENCES**

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

RESOLVED – That the Committee notes the report.

21. **CHAIR'S NON-PUBLIC UPDATE**

Members heard the Chair's non public update.

22. **COMMISSIONER'S UPDATES**

Members received the Commissioner's non public update.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- The Home Office was exploring the potential of an online scams unit, to engage with the tech sector. Large tech firms were assessing the Online Harms Bill and their obligations resulting from it.
- The Lord Mayor has raised questions about the leadership around cyber crime and fraud. The Town Clerk has drafted a response to him to provide assurance of the Police Authority Board and City of London Police's leadership roles.

RESOLVED – that Members received the update.

23. **NON PUBLIC FCCRAS UPDATE**

Members heard a verbal update from the Chief Officer of the Fraud and Cyber Crime Reporting and Analysis Service programme.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- The FCCRAS met on the 31 January and did not agree to extend the IBM contract without funding confirmation from the Home Office. This put the current national service Action Fraud at risk of a break in service.
- The Chair had written to the Home Office twice without response, and an urgent meeting with Home Office officials had been scheduled to outline the issue of National Lead Force funding and its implications.
- Members were keen to ensure that the revised Detailed Implementation Plan included milestones to ensure that any further delays would be picked up instantly. The Chair agreed this oversight was critical.

RESOLVED – that Members noted the update.

Members agreed to extend the meeting at 13:00 under Standing Order 40.

24. **CITY OF LONDON POLICE RISK REGISTER UPDATE**

Members received a report of the Commissioner which provided an update on the City of London Police Risk Register.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- The most significant current risks related to firearms and the national challenge around recruitment and retention of firearms officers. This risk was being carefully monitored and scrutinised.

RESOLVED – that members note the report.

25. **FUTURE POLICE ESTATES MEMBER UPDATE**

Members received a report of the Commissioner which provided an update on the Future Police Estates.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- Positive progress had been made with the Salisbury Square project, and sessions with surveyors and design teams have taken place with the Guildhall Yard East and Bastion House projects
- The biggest risk noted was that most programme delivery dates would be completed in the final quarter of 2026.
- Members asked what information is available to share with residents, it was explained that there was nothing confirmed at this point, and so it was too early to start communications with businesses and residents.
- There had been conversations with Essex Police about the possibility of collaborating on a firearms training facility, and other forces were also looking for a solution to this, which is a national issue.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

26. SECURITY REPORT: INFORMATION SECURITY - PROTECTING FROM WITHIN

Members received a report of the Commissioner which outlined the Security Report: Information Security.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- The report outlined the City of London Police progress against 26 of the 37 recommendations made in the report
- A second paper would follow to the Police Authority Board to provide further updates on the wider issue of all systems security via the Resource Risk and Estates Committee.
- A recent issue had been raised which related to an administrative error and led to a number of staff that had not been through the correct vetting procedures. Work was ongoing to minimise this risk.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

27. REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET NON PUBLIC APPENDICES

The Board received a report of the Commissioner which provided the non public appendices to be read in conjunction with item 8.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

28. NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD

There were no questions.

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

There were no items of urgent business.

30. CITY OF LONDON POLICE RISK REGISTER UPDATE - CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX

Members received a report of the Commissioner which provided an overview of confidential risk register.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- A systems failure had occurred in November 2023, and substantial time was taken to recover the system and access sensitive data.

- Concerns were raised that the back up system and recovery plans had failed.
- An independent review had been commissioned between the Police Authority and the City of London Police.
- The Chair assured Members that the risk and issue was managed appropriately
- The Chief Officer reported that no data has been lost.

The meeting ended at 13:29

Chairman

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