

<b>Committee(s):</b> Police Authority Board	<b>Dated:</b> September 2024
<b>Subject:</b> Chair's Update	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Tijs Broeke	<b>For Information</b>

## **City of London Police Commissioner recruitment**

As Members will have seen, the advert inviting applications to be the next substantive Commissioner of the City of London Police was published in July. A selection day for shortlisted candidates takes place on 2 September with a final interview panel on 20 September. The process is designed to enable a preferred candidate to appear before the Court of Common Council on 10 October. I am grateful to fellow Members and Corporation officers for their support through this important process, and to the College of Policing which has been providing valuable help and guidance.

## **Police Officer pay award for 2024/25/Spending Review**

On 6 August, the Home Secretary announced the outcome of the police officer pay award for 24/25, following the report of the Police Remuneration Review Body. From 1 September, this gives all officers a consolidated 4.75% increase, with London Weighting increasing by 4.75% along with increases to certain allowances. Chief Officers have also been given discretion to set the starting salary for new constables at either pay point 1 or 2. The Home Office has identified £175m additional funding this year to cover the cost to forces above 2.5%. The City is awaiting confirmation of its allocation.

Additionally, the Home Secretary has increased the maximum rate of London Allowance for officers appointed on or after 1 September 1994 by £1,250. This element is not funded. The case for implementing a further increase in London Allowance in the City will need to be considered carefully, taking account of affordability constraints and the Metropolitan Police Service's positioning.

Looking further outwards, a steer on the Spending Review approach and timeline, for 25/26 and beyond, is awaited from Government. For its core funding, the City is part of an overall National Police Chiefs' Council bid process. For its national funding, the City has opportunities to engage directly with Home Office in developing bids into HM Treasury. The Home Secretary has signalled that the Home Office will be looking to maximise efficiency and productivity in policing in the forthcoming Spending Review.

## **City of London Police EDI Strategy**

I was very pleased to attend and speak at the launch of the City Police's new Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) strategy on 16 July ([link](#)). The Deputy Chair also attended as did Michael Mitchell, Chair of the Professional Standards and Integrity (PSI) Committee. As we have discussed in Committee, the work on EDI is essential

to delivering the mission of the City Police, including improving trust and confidence in it. I know that the senior leadership of the City Police believe similarly. Through the PSI Committee, the Authority's focus will now be on scrutinising effective implementation of the new strategy, and ensuring that a clear reporting framework is in place.

### **Victims Strategy and London engagement**

Members will note the draft Victims Strategy as an agenda item for this Committee. As the Corporation's Victims Champion, I want to highlight that as part of it the Police Authority will be co-commissioning a new 'victim voice forum' with the London Mayor's Office of Policing and Crime (MOPAC), and note that the City Police recently hosted the London Victim's Commissioner, Claire Waxman, to explain their approach to supporting victims locally and in their National Lead Force role.

### **Political engagement**

Introductory letters were sent to the Home Secretary, Security Minister, Policing Minister and Lord Hanson (who is leading on fraud policy) following the General Election. We are currently liaising with the ministerial visits team to confirm a date for a visit by the Security Minister and Lord Hanson (hopefully in the next month or so) to review COLP's national responsibilities on fraud, economic and cyber crime. And we are optimistic of securing a visit by the Policing Minister in the longer term to showcase the wider work the COLP are doing on ensuring the safety of those living, visiting and working in the City. We continue to work with Home Office officials to keep abreast of the implementation of the Government's Missions, such as Safer Streets, to identify where these will impact City interests.

### **999 Day and PAB Dinner**

The City of London Corporation will host two important events in September to highlight the value we place on policing and our emergency services.

On the morning of 9 September, we will be raising the emergency services flag at the Guildhall to honour emergency services workers within the Square Mile and across the pan-London area, recognising the joint approach we take to protecting communities across London.

Later that evening, the Police Authority Board Dinner will take place. This is one of the Corporation's flagship dinners, bringing together senior policing figures, policy specialists, financial and professional services leaders, and key thinkers from across the country. This will be my first dinner as Chair, and as such will be in honour of our previous Chair, James Thomson. We have confirmed a senior guest speaker, which will tie into the theme of local and national security, and the importance of a system-wide approach to tackling current and future threats, and exploiting opportunities.