

City of London Police Authority Board
Wednesday, 14 May 2025

Minutes of the meeting of the City of London Police Authority Board held at
Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Wednesday, 14 May
2025 at 11.00 am

Present

Tijs Broeke (Chair)
Jason Groves (Deputy Chair)
Melissa Collett
Deputy Helen Fentimen OBE JP
Deputy Madush Gupta
Alderman Timothy Hailes JP
Deputy Benjamin Murphy
Deborah Oliver
Deputy James Thomson CBE
Deputy Dawn Wright
Andrew Lentin (External Member)
Michael Mitchell (External Member)

Officers:

Ian Thomas CBE	- Town Clerk's Department
Greg Moore	- Town Clerk's Department
Richard Riley CBE	- Town Clerk's Department
Raquel Pinto	- Town Clerk's Department
Caroline Al-Bayerti	- Chamberlain's Department
Zakki Ghauri	- Chamberlain's Department
Katie Foster	- Remembrancer's Department
Jennifer Phillips	- Comptroller & City Solicitor's

City of London Police:

Pete O'Doherty	- City of London Police
Nik Adams	- City of London Police
Paul Betts	- City of London Police
Tor Garnet	- City of London Police
Alix Newbold	- City of London Police
Alistair Cook	- City of London Police
Chris Bell	- City of London Police
Nichola Meghji	- City of London Police
Kate Lloyd	- City of London Police
Erica Doran	- City of London Police
Luca Filippi	- City of London Police
Yagmur Koz	- City of London Police

In attendance:

Deputy Henry Pollard – The Chief Commoner
Marc Holland – Deputy Governor Gibraltar
Peter Montegriffo KC – Chair of the Gibraltar Police Authority
David Gardham – Foreign Office

With Alderman Timothy Hailes JP in the Chair until item 4.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Alderman Emma Edhem and Sir Craig Mackey.

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

There were no declarations.

3. **ORDER OF THE COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL**

The Committee received an Order of the Court of Common Council dated 25th April 2025 appointing the Committee and setting its terms of reference for the ensuing year.

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4. **ELECTION OF CHAIR**

The Committee proceeded to elect a Chair in accordance with Standing Order No 28.

Tijs Broeke being the only Member expressing their willingness to serve, was duly elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

The Chair welcomed the Chief Commoner who was in attendance and thanked outgoing members Nick Bensted-Smith and Graham Packham for their service. New members Deputy Benjamin Murphy and Melissa Collett were welcomed, with recognition of their prior contributions to the Board and its sub-Committees

A warm welcome was extended to Commander Tor Garnett, leading on fraud and cybercrime in the City of London Police, and to the new Police Authority Board clerk, Raquel Pinto. Finally, observers Marc Holland, Peter Montegriffo, and David Gardham who were observing were also welcomed to the meeting.

The Chair thanked Members and partners for their continued support and outlined progress on the priorities he set in May 2024: on the delivery of the replacement service for Action Fraud, victim support, and on equity, diversity and inclusion. The Chair indicated that the main focus for 2025–26 was delivering the new Policing Plan, especially the Action Fraud replacement, and strengthening governance, trust, and national leadership against economic and cybercrime.

RESOLVED- That Tijs Broeke be elected as Chair of the Police Authority Board for the year ensuing.

5. **ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR**

The Committee proceeded to elect a Chair in accordance with Standing Order No 29.

Two expressions of interest were received from Jason Groves and Deputy Dawn Wright.

A ballot was therefore carried out, and the following results were announced:

- Jason Groves – 6 Votes
- Deputy Dawn Wright – 4 Votes

Jason Groves having received the majority of votes, was duly elected as Deputy Chair.

RESOLVED- That Jason Groves be elected as Chair of the Police Authority Board for the year ensuing.

6. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 February are approved as an accurate record.

7. **RECENT POLICE AUTHORITY BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES**

RESOLVED - that Members received and noted the minutes from recent subcommittees as follows

- Economic and Cyber Crime Committee
- Resource Risk and Estates Committee
- Professional Standards and Integrity Committee
- Strategic Planning and Performance Committee

8. **CITY OF LONDON POLICE AUTHORITY BOARD'S COMMITTEES AND APPOINTMENTS**

The Board considered a report of the Town Clerk relating to its Committees and Appointments.

The Board approved the frequency of Board and Committee meetings as set out in Appendix 1, as well as the Chair, Deputy Chair, Member, External Member and Committee Member role descriptions at Appendix 3.

The Board then considered the appointment of each of the Committees, noting the changes to the Standing Orders whereby, the Chairs of the Sub-committees would be appointed by the Board, and the Deputy Chairs would be appointed at the first meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED - That for the:

1) Economic & Cyber Crime Committee (ECCC)

- a) Members approved the terms of reference and composition as proposed in Appendix 2;
- b) Members agreed that, in addition to the Police Authority Board's Chair and Deputy Chair, Deputy James Thomson, Alderman Emma Edhem, Deputy Madush Gupta, Melissa Collett, Deputy Dawn Wright and Andrew Lentin be appointed for 2025/26.
- c) Members noted that the co-opted Court of Common Council places on the Committee were to be advertised after the meeting and appointed at the next meeting of the Board.

- d) Tijs Broeke being the only Member expressing their willingness to serve, was duly elected Chair of the Economic and Cyber Crime Committee for the ensuing year.

2) Strategic Planning & Performance Committee (SPPC)

- a) Members approved the terms of reference as proposed in Appendix 2.
- b) Members agreed that, in addition to the Police Authority Board's Deputy Chair (the Chairman did not wish to take up his position on the Committee on this occasion), Deputy Benjamin Murphy, Deborah Oliver, Deputy Helen Fentimen, Melissa Collett, Deputy Madush Gupta and Michael Mitchell be appointed for 2025/26;
- c) Members noted that the co-opted Court of Common Council places on the Committee were to be advertised after the meeting and appointed the next meeting of the Board.
- d) Jason Groves being the only Member expressing their willingness to serve, was duly elected Chair of the Strategic Planning & Performance Committee for the ensuing year.

3) Resource, Risk & Estates Committee (RREC)

- a) Members approved the terms of reference as proposed in Appendix 2
- b) Members agreed that, in addition to the Police Authority Board's Chair and Deputy Chair, Deputy James Thomson, Deputy Helen Fentimen, Alderman Timothy Hailes, Deputy Madush Gupta, Andrew Lentin and Deputy Dawn Wright be appointed for 2025/26;
- c) Members noted that the co-opted Court of Common Council places on the Committee were to be advertised after the meeting and appointed at the next meeting of the Board.
- d) Deputy Helen Fentimen being the only Member expressing their willingness to serve, was duly elected Chair of the Resource, Risk & Estates Committee for the ensuing year.

4) Professional Standards & Integrity Committee (PSIC)

- a) Members approved the terms of reference as proposed in Appendix 2.
- b) Members agreed that, in addition to the Police Authority Board's Chair and Deputy Chair, Michael Mitchell, Deborah Oliver, Melissa Collett and Alderman Emma Edhem be appointed for 2024/25, with two remaining vacancies
- c) Members noted that the co-opted Court of Common Council places on the Committee were to be advertised after the meeting and appointed at the next meeting of the Board.
- d) Michael Mitchell being the only Member expressing their willingness to serve, was duly elected Chair of the Professional Standards & Integrity Committee for the ensuing year.

5) City of London Police Pensions Board

The Board appointed Deputy Henry Colthurst as the as Chair and Ray Eaglesmith as Deputy Chair of the City of London Police Pensions Board.

6) Streets & Walkways Sub (Planning & Transportation) Committee

Members agreed that Deborah Oliver be appointed.

7) Digital Services Committee

Members agreed that Deputy Dawn Wright be appointed.

8) Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Sub (Community & Children's Services) Committee

Members agreed that Deputy Helen Fentimen and Deborah Oliver and be appointed.

9) Association of Police and Crime Commissioners

Members endorsed that Tijs Broeke represent the Police Authority Board.

10)Capital Buildings Board

Members noted the appointment of the Tijs Broeke and Jason Groves to the Capital Buildings Board.

11)Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee

Members agreed the appointment of Deborah Oliver and Tijs Broeke to the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee.

12)Projects and Procurement Subcommittee

Members agreed to appoint Alderman Timothy Hailes to the Projects and Procurement Subcommittee.

13)Member Lead for Safeguarding and Public Protection (Vulnerability and ICV Scheme)

Members approved the appointment Deborah Oliver to serve as the Member Lead for Safeguarding and Public Protection (Vulnerability and ICV Scheme).

9. OUTSTANDING REFERENCES

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

Members agreed that the first outstanding reference relating to cycle awareness courses could now be closed.

RESOLVED – That the Committee notes the report.

10. RECRUITMENT OF EXTERNAL MEMBERS TO THE CITY OF LONDON POLICE AUTHORITY BOARD AND IT'S SUB-COMMITTEES

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk which set out the process and recommendations for the recruitment to the various external member vacancies to the City of London Police Authority Board and its Sub-Committees.

Members suggested consideration be given to staggering the terms so that multiple vacancies would not need to be recruited to at the same time. Members agreed to delegate authority to the Town Clerk to consider this request, to look at length of terms and where appropriate consider staggering these.

Members also suggested that these be advertised to cluster panels and to encourage applicants to express an interest in more than one role to ensure flexibility and to capture candidates' talent where it may suit more than one position.

Members also noted that for at least one of the vacancies, the requirement of a candidate being a resident or working in the Square Mile needed to be fulfilled.

RESOLVED – That Members:

- a) Authorise the Town Clerk to finalise a role profile and application form for:
 - Two External Members for the City of London Police Authority Board for a four-year term ending in September 2029.
 - One external member on the Economic and Cyber Crime Committee (ECCC) for a four-year term ending in July 2029.
 - Two external members on Strategic Planning & Performance Committee (SPPC) for a four-year term ending in July 2029.
 - One external member on Resource Risk and Estates Committee (RREC) for a four-year term ending in July 2029.
 - Two external members on Professional Standards and Integrity Committee (PSIC) for a four-year term ending in July 2029.
- b) Endorse a panel consisting of the Chairman, Deputy Chairman(s) of Police Authority Board, the relevant Chairs of the Sub-Committees and an appropriate officer of the Corporation to conduct interviews for potential candidates.
- c) Delegate authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman(s), to recommend a candidate to the Court of Common Council meeting in September 2025 following interviews for shortlisted candidates for the Police Authority Board.
- d) Delegate authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to consider any changes to the length of the term advertised, and make any changes if this is deemed appropriate;
- e) Note that for the appointments to the various sub-committees, the final appointments will be brought back to the Board for approval in due course.

11. **CHAIR'S PUBLIC UPDATE**

The Board received the Chair's public update.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

12. **COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE**

Members received the Commissioners public update and noted that the Chief Officer Team was now fully staffed, having welcomed Commander Tor Garnett, and was ready to deliver the Policing Plan. Members also noted the expansion

of the cycle team, national recognition for cycling enforcement, and success in tackling phone theft and dismantling a major organised crime group. Given the recent Supreme Court ruling on gender, which was prompting a national review of police policies, the Force was looking at its own policies to ensure compliance while supporting the trans community.

During the discussion, issues of community safety concerns following a robbery on the Barbican Estate were raised. Members were assured that there were ongoing investigations into this incident and that overall, there were falling crime rates in the area as well as increased neighbourhood policing. Members also raised strong concerns about dangerous cycling and e-bike misuse, calling for more enforcement, better legislation, and collaboration with operators like Lime. Retail crime, particularly shoplifting, was discussed, with the City Police reporting improved response times and outcomes. Members also highlighted the importance of public messaging, digital media, data transparency, and commended the Force on the campaign around signage on phone snatching which had been an incredible success, which Members hoped to see this return.

The Chair noted the wide-ranging discussion and asked Officers to look at including potential papers on cycling and legislative engagement at the meeting of the Board.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

13. DRAFT CITY OF LONDON POLICE ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

The Board received the draft Annual Report, representing the achievement of the City of London Police for the past financial year, and contained information on crime, financial and staff statistics, as well as a summary of performance and highlights within the year.

Members enquired about cluster meetings and community engagement. It was noted that attendance at recent cluster meetings remained low, though representation from elected members and Corporation staff had improved. The Deputy Commissioner explained that the current format was considered the best model. The Police were open to feedback on how to improve this however, they were not looking to undergo full redesign until a full year of cluster panel meetings had happened in order to review and evaluate the impact. It was suggested that this cluster meeting engagement is looked at by the Strategic, Planning and Performance Committee.

On communications, the City of London Police committed to quarterly public updates aligned with performance committees, using storytelling and visual campaigns—like the blue plaque initiative—to bring the policing plan to life.

A joint session between police, Corporation communications, and the City Belonging project was proposed to better coordinate messaging and outreach.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted

14. POLICING PLAN 2025-2028

The Board received a report of the Commissioner presenting the City of London Policing Plan for 2025 to 2028, which was published on 2 April 2025 and would be presented to the Court of Common Council on 22 May 2025.

It was noted that the performance framework would be circulated to Members after the meeting and would be discussed at the next meeting of the Board in July.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted

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

One question was raised regarding concerns about grooming gangs in the City of London ahead of an upcoming report by Baroness Casey. The Deputy Commissioner confirmed there were no current or past cases, however emphasised that there was ongoing vigilance through intelligence monitoring, safeguarding partnerships, and proactive operations like Makesafe. Members also noted a recent deep dive and national self-assessment which found low risk in the City, but efforts continue to address intelligence gaps and to ensure staff were trained. The Town Clerk suggested reviewing past recommendations from the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse to ensure best practice. A short note summarising the City's position in relation to the recommendations made by the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) was suggested, as well as taking a deep dive to the Strategic Planning and Performance Committee.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no items of urgent business.

17. 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.

18. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

RESOLVED, - that the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 12 February be approved as an accurate record.

19. CHAIR'S NON-PUBLIC UPDATE

Members received the Chair's non-public update.

20. COMMISSIONER'S NON-PUBLIC UPDATE

Members received the Commissioners non-public update.

21. FCCRAS PROGRAMME PROGRESS NOTE

Members received a report of the Commissioner which provided a progress update on the Fraud and Cyber Crime Reporting and Analysis Service Procurement programme.

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

There were no questions.

23. **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.

24. **CONFIDENTIAL ITEM**

Members considered a report of the Town Clerk

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

One item of urgent business was raised.

The meeting ended at 13:26.

Chairman

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