

<b>Committee(s):</b> Police Authority Board	<b>Dated:</b> October 2025
<b>Subject:</b> Chair's Update	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Tijs Broeke	<b>For Information</b>

## **HMICFRS PEEL Inspection report on the City of London Police**

His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) published its PEEL inspection report on the City of London Police on 24 July 2025. I was pleased to receive the report. The Inspectorate's findings – including the assessment that the City Police is '*Outstanding*' in terms of how and when it records crime, and the '*Good*' grading for investigating crime – is testament to the hard work and professionalism of officers and staff across the organisation, and the leadership shown by Commissioner Pete O'Doherty and his top team. They have my thanks, and those of the whole City of London Police Authority Board (PAB).

PAB discussed HMICFRS's findings, the City Police's response and the actions to be taken as a result of them, at the Board's informal meeting on 17 September 2025. A paper covering the relevant issues is included in the Board's meeting pack for its 8 October 2025 meeting, for information. I have written to HMICFRS, and the Home Secretary, responding formally to the PEEL report on PAB's behalf.

## **PAB Informal Meeting – 17 September 2025**

Alongside the discussion of the PEEL report, the recent PAB informal meeting was also an opportunity to look ahead at the strategic challenges and opportunities facing the City of London Police over the lifetime of the new City Policing Plan (2025 – 2028). A range of points were highlighted, including the importance of the City Police's productivity plan, its capabilities and its culture. The Board considered the context in which the City Police operates, including potential reforms to policing initiated by the Government. And it considered the picture of growing demand vs finite resources facing the City Police, and the organisational and operational trade-offs which will follow. These themes will be considered and scrutinised further in the coming period, by PAB and across its Sub Committees.

## **External engagement**

The Corporation has been using important opportunities to support the work of the City of London Police, with notable highlights in recent speeches at the Judges, Finance and Professional Services and Tech Dinners. I was particularly delighted to host the Security Minister as our keynote speaker at the Police Authority Board Dinner on 9 September. Feedback on the evening has been extremely positive as we build on the success of previous years and ensure that the Dinner remains a valuable focal point for a broad range of stakeholders to exchange ideas and make connections. My thanks go to all those in the Corporation and the City Police for arranging and hosting this engaging event.

I know the City Police, with support from the Authority Team, have been engaging extensively over the last few months to explore how the partnership approach to tackling fraud can be strengthened, using the opportunity that the upcoming replacement for Action Fraud will provide in terms of sharing data at scale and pace. The City remains committed to supporting this important work and the Authority and force have been in close communication with the Home Office as they finalise their 'expanded' fraud strategy.

There has, similarly, been close engagement with the Home Office over the development of the Government's new UK anti-corruption strategy. An important element of that strategy looks likely to be the Domestic Corruption Unit (DCU) pilot initiative, being run by the City Police. The Economic Security and Cyber Crime Committee looked at progress on the DCU pilot at its meeting on 8 September.

### **Safer Town Centres**

From July-September the City has been contributing to the Home Office's national 'Safer Town Centres' initiative, under which local areas were asked to take additional action (co-ordinated by Police and Crime Commissioners) on retail and street crime.

Over July and August (September data not yet available), the City Police achieved 31 arrests and enacted 44 fines as part of the initiative. Wider work under this initiative has included phone and bike marking events, licensing bus deployments, and the St John Cycle Medic initiative – with the City's first Business Crime Reduction Partnership set for launch in the near future.

### **16 Days of Activism on Violence against Women and Girls**

Members should note this upcoming national campaign in November, with the City's comms and engagement plans being developed and coordinated by the City's community safety team with input from City Police and a wide range of local and national safety and campaigning organisations. It is also White Ribbon Day on 15 November, which Members might like to support.

### **National Black Police Association (NBPA) annual conference**

The City of London Police is proud to be hosting the annual NBPA conference this year (30 September – 2 October) in Guildhall. The Corporation is providing fulsome support for the event and it will be my great pleasure to address the conference on 1 October. The theme of the event this year - *police accountability, building trust, ensuring fairness and justice for all* — could not be more timely, or more vital. These are the very foundations of effective policing, and of its legitimacy. I applaud the City Police's leadership for their commitment and work with both the NBPA leadership and the City of London's own Black Police Association network, for bringing this conference together.