

Minutes

Police Authority

Thursday 11 June 2015, 11.00 am

at G1 & G2, FHQ, 25 Camden Road, London NW1 9LN

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Present:

Millie Banerjee CBE, Chairman
Dominic Booth
Liz France CBE
Len Jackson
Bill Matthews
Mark Phillips
Brian Phillpott, Deputy Chairman
Andrew Pollins
Stella Thomas

Apologies:

Dyan Crowther
Anton Valk CBE
Paul Crowther OBE, Chief Constable
Steve Thomas, Assistant Chief Constable

In attendance:

Adrian Hanstock, Deputy Chief Constable
Simon Downey OBE, Director of Capability and Resources
Elaine Derrick, Senior Advisor to Chief Constable
Charles LeFevre, Corporate Budget & Governance Manager

Andrew Figgures CB CBE, Chief Executive
Charlotte Vitty, Finance Director & Deputy Chief Executive
Samantha Elvy, Strategy and Performance Manager
Eleanor Bullivant, Business Manager & Minutes
Iggy Falcon, Senior Policy Officer

PART I - ITEMS TAKEN IN PUBLIC

30/2015 Welcome and Apologies

Non Agenda

- 30.1 The Chair welcomed Charles LeFevre to his first Authority meeting.
30.2 Apologies were received from the Chief Constable, ACC Thomas and Anton Valk.

31/2015 Minutes of Meeting 26 March 2015

Agenda Item 2

31.1 The minutes were approved as an accurate record.

31/2015 Matters arising

Agenda Item 3

- 31.1 The Chief Executive confirmed that the Terms of Reference for the Northgate Review had been approved and the review was now underway.
- 31.2 The Deputy Chief Constable confirmed that BTP have made contact with the College of Policing regarding their recommendations for leadership and application to BTP's leadership academy.
- 31.3 The Deputy Chief Constable confirmed that work was underway with the analyst team and Authority Finance Director on data reporting and charge allocations.
- 31.4 The Chief Executive reported that the governance review will follow the current Finance Review to avoid any overlap and take into account relevant findings.
- 31.5 Members discussed potential need to reintroduce the Strategy Committee prior to the Authority stakeholder event in September.

32/2015 Chief Constable's Report

Agenda Item 4

32.1 The Authority had read the Chief Constable's report in advance of the meeting. The following topics were presented by the Deputy Chief Constable and discussed.

Counter Terrorism Capability

- 32.2 BTP have agreed a secondment of 10 armed officers from Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC) to BTP in London. This secondment will end 30 June 2015. A formal detachment order sets out the duties of Chief Officers with relation to the agreement and that it is between both Chief Constables.
- 32.3 The arrangement with CNC increases the number of armed officer patrols by three times, and in turn BTPs visible presence. CNC officers use the same firearms and have received the same tactical training as BTP officers. Feedback from CNC officers has been positive.
- 32.4 In terms of liabilities, whilst on patrol CNC officers are BTP officers. BTP will take a primary role in the handling of any complaints which can be escalated and passed to the CNC as the authority.

- 32.5 Costs have been minimised to £245k for the arrangement, offset by the under resourcing of the armed officer team. BTP continue to recruit 84 firearms officers.
- 32.6 The Metropolitan Police Service have contacted BTP to share lessons learned.
- 32.7 Members asked if post incident management issues in the unlikely event of discharging of a firearm had been considered. The Deputy Chief Constable confirmed that he would build this and Police Federation representations into the debrief.

B Divisional Commander Secondment to Network Rail

- 32.8 B Divisional Commander, Chief Superintendent Paul Brogden has as of 8 June 2015 begun a 6 month secondment with Network Rail. T/Chief Superintendent Jason Bunyard will be acting B Divisional Commander in his place. Superintendent Chris Horton will continue as Sub Divisional Commander for TfL.
- 32.9 Chief Supt Brogden will be advising Network Rail and developing partnership work on reducing delays. It is the intention that this secondment will contribute to a more consistent approach to disruption with stakeholders.
- 32.10 Chief Superintendent Brogden has been speaking with the Network Rail Chief Operating Officer regarding the impact on delays and disruption time of the contracted funeral service workers not working track side.
- 32.11 Contracts at Dignity are being renegotiated with a requirement for all workers to be trained in trackside safety. Network Rail are not currently providing this training and Dignity workers are therefore refusing to work trackside.
- 32.12 BTP have run Gold Groups on the matter and assessed the impact of this issue as low risk. Senior officers based at Polestra are recording relevant incidents on high alert. Contract negotiations are due to conclude in the next week.

Football Summit

- 32.13 Following the Football Summit in April 2015, the Chief Constable has met with the Commissioner from ATOC to discuss the outcomes and opportunities for collaboration between BTP and other organisations. The Premier League and Football Association have now also said they want to be involved and the Chief Constable will be meeting with their respective Chief Executives.

Fatalities

- 32.14 The Chief Constable's report highlighted that 50% of railway fatalities were suicides. Members asked if this was a high figure and if it was possible that suspicious deaths were being missed. The Deputy Chief Constable reported that in 50% of railway fatalities

there have been contributing factors of long term mental health issues, short term aberration of these issues and circumstances. The BTP are confident their careful assessment of fatalities ensures suspicious circumstances are not missed.

Scotland

- 32.15 ACC McCall reported that the Scottish Government have formed a team of four with responsibility for the merger of BTPs operations in Scotland with Police Scotland. ACC McCall has met with the team and understands that the decision for how to police the railways will rest with the Chief Constable of Police Scotland.
- 32.16 It is expected that integration could take 5 years and perhaps even longer as once the Scottish Parliament decide, further decisions on the transfer of resources would have to be made by Westminster. ACC McCall is meeting the Justice Minister for Scotland 25 June 2015 and will arrange for a visit to BTP operations during the summer recess. BTPA and BTP are making efforts to be more visible in Scotland regarding the policing plan and increase engagement with the Scottish Police Authority.

33/2015 Chief Executive's Report

Agenda Item 5

- 33.1 The adoption of Home Office conduct regulations was discussed. Mr Falcon confirmed that a working group to consider the implications will be proposed to the next People & Standards Committee.
- 33.2 Mrs France advised the Authority of a potential conflict of interest as Chair of the Police Advisory board. A meeting is scheduled for 21 July where the Home Office will update them on the regulations.
- 33.3 Members asked for the value of contracts signed to be included in the Chief Executive's report.

34/2015 Finance Committee Q4 Report

Agenda Item 6

- 34.1 The Chair of the Finance Committee presented the report to the Authority and made recommendations to the Authority for approval.

BTPA Year End

- 34.2 BTPA 2014/15 year end position showed an overspend of £315k. This is largely a result of a £170k fee issued by RPMI for the implantation of the new pensions scheme. The Chair of the Finance Committee reported that key lessons learned are to include a contingency in the BTPA budget and that when ad hoc work is

requested by the Authority for a cost budget proposal to be approved.

BTP Year End

- 34.3 BTP 2014/15 year end position showed a £1.3m underspend on revenue and a £0.5m underspend on capital expenditure. The Chair of the Finance Committee noted that this was under a backdrop of major changes at BTP, to operational threats, restructures and the Transformation programme.
- 34.4 The Finance Committee had expressed concern at the £2.3m (16.5%) overspend in Supplies & Services and recommended revised controls.

BTP Fund Year End

- 34.5 BTP Fund end of year financial statement shows a £2.5m over collection of funds. The Committee had approved the recommendation to move the £2.5m into reserves for consideration when the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) is presented in September 2015 for approval.

Cash Flow

- 34.6 The cash flow forecast for 2015/16 concludes a position of £42m cash at P13 pre capital expenditure, and £17m post capital expenditure. The Committee had agreed that a minimum of £10m cash should be retained at any one time. This leaves an amount of £7m 'free cash'. Members commented that £7m free cash doesn't take into account the recovery from industry and the Authority will need to agree what the right level of reserves is.

Reserves

- 34.7 The reserves review has confirmed there are £65m useable reserves. The Committee approved the recommendation that the cash reserves continue to fund the capital programme.

Agreed

- 34.7.1 To book the £2.5m over collection of funds into reserves for consideration in September with the 2016/17 MTFP.
- 34.7.2 The recommendations approved by the Finance Committee:
- The full funding of the capital programme from the Authority's cash reserves
 - The minimum level of cash to be held within the bank accounts is set at £10m

- Updated terms of reference for the Finance Committee
- Updated delegation authority

35/2015 Audit & Risk Committee Q4 Report

Agenda Item 7

- 35.1 The Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee presented the Q4 report.
- 35.2 The Authority noted that 10,000 boxes of non-indexed archived material (the subject of a Home Affairs Select Committee enquiry) had now been cleared and a further 4,000 boxes uncovered from London South Division.

Action

- 35.2.1 The Chief Constable to write to the Chair of the Home Affairs Select Committee to provide him with a further update on Information Management.
- 35.3 The Finance Director reported on progress made addressing detailed queries made by three Train Operating Companies (TOCs) over provisional PSA charges. Two of these TOCs are now reported to be satisfied with the advice and only one TOC withholding payment. The Finance Director is working with the Deputy Chief Constable and the Analyst team to answer the queries.
- 35.4 The Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee highlighted the impact of vacancies on current Member workloads.
- 35.5 The Committee are confident of a cost effective approach to insurance.
- 35.6 There was a discussion around HMIC inspections and engagement with the liaison officer.

36/2015 Annual Statement of Accounts 2014-15

Agenda Item 8

- 36.1 The Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee and the Finance Director presented the annual statement of accounts for the Authority's approval.

Approved

- 36.1.1 The signing of the accounts by the Accounting Officer and their submission to the NAO and Parliament.

37/2015 People & Standards Committee Q4 Report

Agenda Item 9

- 37.1 The Chair of the People & Standards Committee presented the report.

- 37.2 The Committee Members are inspecting files on a 6 monthly basis and are comfortable that the Professional Standards Department are managing allegations and complaints properly.
- 37.3 There was a discussion around the recording of FTE/headcount numbers for the Force. The Director of Capability and Resources reported that there is a weekly reconciliation meeting to address this as there is a delay for the central Origin system to receive correct data from divisions.
- 37.4 The Committee praised the positive work done on recruitment with particular mention for the advert and article in Pride magazine.
- 37.5 The Deputy Chief Constable said that in the next month he will lead on a soft re-launch of professionalism at BTP.

38/2015 Performance Review Committee Q4 Report

Agenda Item 10

- 38.1 The Authority noted the report.
- 38.2 There was a discussion around notifiable crime and alternative measures and benchmarking crime recording.

PART II - SUMMARY OF ITEMS TAKEN IN PRIVATE

39/2015 Minutes of Meeting 26 March 2015 Part II

Agenda Item 11

The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

40/2015 Any Other Business

Agenda Item 12

The Chief Executive, Deputy Chair and Deputy Chief Constable gave their thanks on behalf of BTP, BTPA and Members for the success and support of the Chairman during her time with BTPA at her final Authority meeting.

The Chairman was heard in reply.

The meeting finished at 12.50 pm

Date of next meeting:

21 July 2015, 2.00pm - 5.00pm

G1 & G2, FHQ, 25 Camden Road, London NW1 9LN