

London Crime Reduction Board

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday 10 March 2015, 3:30 Mayor's Office, City Hall, GLA

Present

Board and advisors

Mayor Boris Johnson	Chair
Stephen Greenhalgh	DMPC, MOPAC
Helen Bailey	COO, MOPAC
Marie Snelling	Director, MOPAC
Rebecca Lawrence	Director, MOPAC
Deputy Commissioner Craig Mackey	Metropolitan Police Service (MPS)
Nick Smart	CEO, CRC London
John O'Brien	CEO, London Councils
Mayor Jules Pipe	London Councils
Cllr Lib Peck	LB Lambeth
Cllr Richard Cornelius	LB Barnet
Paul Martin	CEO LB Wandsworth
Baljit Ubhey	Crown Prosecution Service
Lucy Bogue	Ministry of Justice
Joanne Murfitt	NHS England
Martin Esom	CEO Waltham Forest, Chair Prevent
Kate Gilbert	Probation

Officers

Dan Hales	MOPAC
Doug Flight	London Councils
Tony Hawker	MOPAC

ITEM 1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair, Mayor Johnson welcomed the Board members and opened the meeting.

ITEM 2. Minutes Of Last Meeting/Actions (15 September)

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. There were no outstanding actions.

ITEM 3. Counter Terrorism

1. Taking as its basis that London has the highest CT threat and vulnerability of any UK City the Board discussed proposals contained in the presentation paper. A general view was put forward that more political oversight and leadership on a London level would be beneficial and use learning from other areas such as Birmingham where there is currently greater oversight on this agenda. The nature and aims and limitations of the London Prevent Board and the Contest Strategy were considered. Prevent is a tactical board and covers the 17 priority boroughs and because of this it does not have comprehensive oversight of all areas of the Contest strategy. It is also commissioned from the centre and has direct engagement with local government.
2. The Board considered the CT needs of London and what was felt to be the shortcomings of current regional oversight. There was a need to understand the level of threat and this was not always available across all of London but an understanding of this would help all partners, not least the Mayor, in establishing the level of resources needed. Overall information sharing was seen as a key element in future work and it was asked if the briefing provided by Mark Rowley of the MPS to the Mayor could be made available to the boroughs. The problems of extremism are across London and the strategy needed to match this.
3. The reluctance sometimes shown by the MPS to share information more widely stemmed from a concern that this may reveal how information is gathered and compromise future work. However in the West Midlands this has not been a problem. Sharing information with Local Authority heads would lead to a more galvanized community safety ethos. Issues do not stop at borough boundaries and currently Prevent bypasses the regional level. A wider view is necessary and the solutions do not just lie with the MPS.
4. The Board discussed the proposed new model for London – the London-wide CONTEST Board. This would be separate to the LCRB and would be co-chaired by the DMPC and the chair of London Councils. It would be designed to provide the link between City Hall and London Councils and would include attendees from the police, NOMS, Health and the Home Office. It would report back to LCRB. The initial work would be to establish a new Prevent framework and would be supported by the London Prevent Board (chaired by

Martin Esom). This was agreed by the Board. The details will be worked up outside the LCRB.

Action 1: Partners from MOPAC, MPS, London Councils, Health and MoJ/HO will meet to design and create a new London-Wide CT CONTEST Board. Partners will aim to hold the first full CONTEST board in May or June 2015.

ITEM 4 – Public Service Reform.

5. The MOPAC COO and the CEO of London Councils presented a paper to the Board. This paper showed that significant work has already been done by the Mayor's Office, London Councils and partners on public services working together to limit the effects of increasing financial constraints. Collective leadership from the LCRB has contributed to valuable achievements at all levels in London
6. The criminal justice work and reoffending was discussed. The CPS wants to get people to court more quickly and are committed to working with partners but the system is stretched. Reoffending rates are higher as are ineffective trial rates. The initial part of the process, led by the police, is currently the quickest part. The CJS system is the area that is experiencing problems. Devolution is a potential means of setting objectives and encouraging a whole system approach.
7. The work on rehabilitation, particularly the through the gate piece, is something that affects most of the partners represented on the Board. When offenders come out of prisons they will require health, mental health or drug services amongst other things. London borough councils are already spending money on services such as these, although there is some disparity in the amounts being spent by individual boroughs. The budget of the secure estate used for these purposes combined with the borough spend could provide a more responsive service nearer to the ground.
8. The work done by partners on the Transforming Rehabilitation project and the creation of the CRC was a good example of joined up working with the Mayor's office as an anchor. The infrastructure of the prison service is something that is already familiar to the CRC. The CEO and his team have visited all of the prisons recently. Previously the borough's main anxiety was offenders falling through the gaps between Probation and the CRC. Local authorities know the serious threat some offenders pose. The importance of information sharing between the CRC, London councils and Probation was recognised and it was confirmed that this is clearly spelt out in the contract.

It is early days with the CRC but the statistics show good progress so far.

9. The Board agreed that the work on public service reform should be developed as proposed over the coming two months. London Councils and MOPAC will lead on this.

Action 2: London Councils and MOPAC to continue working on the shared approach to public service reform as outlined in the paper.

ITEM 5 Any other business

10. Following the publication of an article in a newspaper, the Mayor raised the issue of police corruption. The Deputy Commissioner explained that historically corruption was bribe taking – sometimes on a large scale – but now it is predominately about the obtaining of information about police cases. The Met has an open approach to dealing with corruption which you would not find in America. The MPS is not institutionally corrupt and officers and staff are urged to be constantly vigilant.

Date of next LCRB meeting: 9 June 2015. 12:00pm at City Hall
