

# EXTRAORDINARY OVERSIGHT BOARD

## Note of Meeting 5 February 2018

### **Present:**

Sophie Linden, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime  
Craig Mackey, Deputy Commissioner  
Rebecca Lawrence, Chief Executive, MOPAC

### **In attendance:**

MOPAC and MPS officials and officers

## **1. Use of Force**

- 1.1. The Oversight Board considered the paper from the Met which provided an update on the implementation of the national Use of Force Recording Programme. It set out how the recording of these data would allow scrutiny and transparency in the use of force by Met officers and staff. It also set out the oversight and governance structures that would monitor it.
- 1.2. There was a demonstration by Commander Matthew Twist of the internal and the publicly available use of force recording dashboards on the 'tableau' system, including how they can be accessed to analyse, amongst other things, proportionality. The increase in publicly available data would lead to increased transparency in how police use force in London. The internal data would allow management scrutiny at the macro and micro level.
- 1.3. It was noted that there had been significant progress in implementing, within the Met, the national Use of Force Recording Programme, and that the Met system was fully compliant with Home Office annual data return requirements. The Board was advised that as the data were not comparable to any previous information, and compliance was still developing, it was too early to draw any conclusions from the current information. The Met expected that from April 2018, when the new system would have been in place for 12 months, that it would be able to analyse change in the use of force rather than simply a change in recording practice.

- 1.4. There were specific discussions on the use of Taser and 'spit guards'. Taser use was now subject to more scrutiny and fewer complaints as all officers wore Body Worn Video during deployment. The spit guard trial had expanded beyond the initial few custody suites due to insufficient volumes of cases. The Deputy Mayor asked that a final assessment of its use, particularly any disproportionality, should be conducted and discussed further with the Mayor of London at a future bilateral meeting.
- 1.5. The Board agreed with the Met's priority of increasing officer recording compliance across the MPS. The Board recognised the work on-going to brief senior leaders and officers, and the structures and analytical products which had been outlined to monitor and improve the data recording.
- 1.6. The Deputy Commissioner and Deputy Mayor noted with concern the number of police officers and staff injured during the course of their duties. It was important that the use of force was considered in this context of safety and such data continued to be published alongside.
- 1.7. It was noted by the Deputy Mayor that this was a helpful examination of the issues and that it should be repeated in due course at a future Oversight Board, as well as remain regularly updated on the public data dashboards to ensure transparency and accountability at the local level. The Deputy Mayor stated that Intrusive Tactics, such as Stop and Search, would also be subject to this scrutiny in due course.

## **2. Information Governance in the MPS**

- 2.1. The Oversight Board considered the paper from the Met which provided an update on information governance within the Met. The paper set out progress in preparing for the changes to data protection related to the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Law Enforcement Directive (LED), both being introduced on 25 May 2018.
- 2.2. There was a discussion of the challenges the Met faced, including the high volume of data and the legacy data from the old IT systems. The Board was advised of the Met internal management structures that oversaw this area of work. The new Met Integrated Policing Solution (MIPS) programme would resolve many of the issues of potential non-compliance with GDPR for new cases. However it was also noted that some legacy systems were essential for the security of Londoners, but may not be able to be made compliant; therefore this legacy risk was the subject of ongoing discussions with the Information Commissioner.
- 2.3. The Met explained that, in addition to data, there was ongoing training and time dedicated to making paper records compliant.

- 2.4. There was also a discussion of the Met developing the use of facial recognition technology. The information governance of this new technology was shared between three different Commissioners (Information, Biometrics and Surveillance) and, as a new and emerging technology, the national guidelines needed to catch up with the potential for its use. The technology had been trialled at Notting Hill Carnival 2017 and the Whitehall Cenotaph Remembrance Day Parade 2017; both using only limited data sets of potential offenders.
- 2.5. The Met advised that it was working with the National Police Chiefs Council lead and, within London, on an engagement strategy for the future use of facial recognition technology, the establishment of a governance board, and assessments of further trials of its use. The Deputy Mayor asked scrutiny questions of its use, community awareness and disproportionality. The Deputy Mayor also noted that the independent London Policing Ethics Panel was currently examining the ethical issues of such technology and would provide formal advice in due course.
- 2.6. Finally, the Board acknowledged the challenges the Met faced and the progress made in its information governance, the ongoing liaison with the Information Commissioner's Office and its preparations to become more compliant with the new legislation.