

Minutes (Public Version)

Meeting	London Local Resilience Forum
Date	Thursday 6 February 2014
Time	2.20pm
Place	Committee Room 5, City Hall

In Attendance:

Chair James Cleverly AM

Don Randall, Head of Security, Bank of England (Business Sector Panel)

Paul Crowther, Acting Chief Constable on behalf of Andrew Trotter

John Barradell, Town Clerk and Chief Executive, City of London Corporation (Chair Local Authorities Panel)

Ian Dyson, Assistant Commissioner, City of London Police

Clare Wormald, Head of Strategy, Performance and Assurance, Department for Communities and Local Government (on behalf of James Cruddas)

Luke Miller, Archdeacon (Faith Sector)

Jason Killens, London Ambulance Service,

John O'Brien, London Councils

Col Hugh Bodington, Chief of Staff, London District (Military)

Ron Dobson, Commissioner, London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority

Mark Sawyer, Emergency Planning, London Fire Brigade on behalf of Andrew Pritchard,

Peter Terry, Commander, Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) (on behalf of Mark Rowley)

Ed Stearns, Gold Communications Group Chair MPS

Nikki Smith, NHS England (London)

Yvonne Doyle, Public Health England

Seamus Kelly, St John's Ambulance (Voluntary Sector Panel)

Sarah Burchard, Emergency Risk Specialist, Thames Water (Utilities Sector)

Nigel Furlong, Head of Resilience Planning, Transport for London (Transport Sector Panel)

Greater London Authority officers:

Hamish Cameron, London Resilience Manager

Anna Flatley, Senior Committee Officer

1. Introductions and Apologies for Absence

- 1.1 The Chair opened the meeting by apologising for the late start which was caused by the London Underground strike and resulting traffic delays. He then asked attendees to identify themselves and state which organisation they were from.

- 1.2 Apologies were received from; Andrew Trotter, British Transport Police; James Cruddas, DCLG; Howard Davidson and Alison Baptiste, Environment Agency; Steve Bath, Utilities Sector Panel; Mark Rowley, MPS; Tom Middleton, Head of Governance and Resilience GLA;. Alison Ingleby, London Resilience Officer

2. Minutes and Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

- 2.1 **The Forum confirmed the minutes of the meeting of the Forum (Paper 45 01) held on 22 October 2013 as a correct record.**

3. Key Updates and Escalation of Issues and Decisions to the London Resilience Forum – Summarised in the London Resilience Forum Dashboard Report (February 2014) (45 02)

The Chairman varied the order of business to allow the relevant representatives (who had been delayed by transport problems) to be present.

- 3.1 **Approval of London Risk Register (45 03)** – The London Resilience Manager reported there were no significant changes to the register. The amendments followed discussion at the London Risk Advisory Group meeting, as well as to the display to make it easier to understand. **The London Risk Register was approved.**
- 3.2 **Approval of Borough Resilience Forum Guidance (45 04)** – Mark Sawyer confirmed that wide consultation had been undertaken on the guidance, which now required only one further edit; as such, approval in principle was sought. The intention was to have a launch event at which the LRF Chairman was to be the host.. **The LRF then approved the guidance, subject to the agreed update.**
- 3.3 **Approval of Strategic Coordination Protocol (Capability 1) (45 05)** The MPS representative confirmed that this format had received broad agreement from stakeholders, having been considered by the London Resilience Stakeholder Group and Programme Board. The London Resilience Manager added that the focus of this Protocol was coordination rather than command, with the priority sharing situational awareness. A stronger activation process through the use of the LFB paging system is being developed and this will be incorporated into the protocol within the next month and before final issuing to Partnership. Approval in principle was sought. **The Protocol was then approved in principle.**
- 3.4 **Approval of London Resilience Pandemic Influenza Framework (45 07).** The Public Health for England representative confirmed that this reviewed document had been through the necessary checks and was consistent with Cabinet Office guidelines. **The LRF approved the Framework.**
- 3.5 **Approval of Adverse Weather Framework (45 08)** – The London Resilience Manager reported that the NHS was leading on this piece of work, which drew together different partnership bodies' arrangements for adverse weather events and activation arrangements. There would be an amendment to the drought section, which in the interim would be removed. The London Resilience Manager added that this document had proved useful in incidents relating to the tidal surge. **The LRF**

approved the framework, subject to amendment.

- 3.6 **Threats** – MPS then gave an oral report on current threat levels noting that they were substantial for international terrorism and moderate for dissident UK-related terrorism.
- 3.7 **Hazards** - DCLG reported winter weather was a risk and, with the forecast for more rain, localised flooding was a key issue. Other risks included: human pandemic and seasonal (flu) – although there was no higher risk reported than normal; national industrial action – although the risk was lower than usual; loss of electricity supply; and space weather. The latter was highlighted as a concern by the Business sector representative and he accepted the offer from the DCLG representative to speak to the Business Sector Group on this issue. The representative from TfL echoed this concern and the need for greater guidance on how to protect against the risks from space weather. The DCLG representative informed the LRF that this issue was now included in the National Risk Register and work was being carried out on providing local guidance. It was a quickly developing area which the LRF would need to undertake some work on.
- 3.8 **Situational Awareness (45 06)** – In response to a question from the Chairman, the MPS representative confirmed that the lease on the **Empress State Building** lasted until 2019 and unless it became financially viable to vacate prior to that but there is no plan to do so. The Chairman then said he wanted the LRF to consider the issue of joint situational awareness. He added that the status of the Strategic Coordination Centre should be considered in this work. He asked that a relatively senior officer to lead this work and asked for volunteers.
- 3.9 The LRF then discussed the issue in detail, noting the success and experience from the London Operations Centre during the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games in London. Some concern was expressed that such an approach could, if not controlled, become untenable in terms of funding and resources. The Fire Commissioner proposed that the LFB could co-ordinate (rather than lead) this workstream with the intention of presenting a paper to the next meeting. **This was agreed.** Various other partners confirmed their support for this project, including where appropriate resources and expertise. The DCLG representative welcomed this work and confirmed that Government had an interest and role to play in its development. In response to questions, the Chairman confirmed that certain improvements could be formulated and implemented before 2019.
- 3.10 **Interoperability** – The LFB representative gave an update on JESIP, confirming that it was integrating well into London and that a range of meetings and multi –agency training exercises had been arranged. The voluntary sector representative enquired about voluntary sector involvement and it was confirmed that it was being extended to involve all partners in the legacy phase of the project.
- 3.11 **Training and Exercising** - The London Resilience Manager gave a verbal update on this item, noting that the Gold Summit training which had recently taken place had been successful and resulting lessons learnt would be included in the revised protocol. The NHS London representative added that the Cygnus exercise, which would deal with strategic coordination around pandemic flu, would take place on 14 – 16 October. Details would follow but partners were asked to mark their diaries now. It was noted that the sub regional fora were also focusing on flu this year.

Lessons Learnt - The London Resilience Manager briefed, that recent incidents had been included in the agenda before they had gone through the LRF lessons process. This is the start of a process to ensure that lessons learnt during incidents and exercises are recognised and implemented through the Partnership .

- 3.12 **Severe Weather – October 2013 (45 09)** – The DCLG representative indicated that work was still being carried out on what lessons could be learnt from the tidal surge, but current focus was on the severe weather experienced since then. It was noted that the tidal surge in October had been bigger than the one in 1953 but that, due to preparedness, there had been no loss of life.
- 3.13 **Thames River Boat and Apollo Theatre Collapse** - The MPS representative informed the meeting that the review of the river boat was being undertaken by the marine coast body and was not yet completed. The LAS confirmed that the date for an official debrief on the theatre collapse had also not yet been set. A date would be sent to the Chairman once confirmed.
- 3.14 The Chairman said he wished to explore “Lessons Leant” as a standing item on the agenda to provide the opportunity for a high level look at post incident reports.
- 3.15 **Post Exercise Report (45 10)** - The London Resilience Manager introduced the paper which reviewed the Exercise SAFER CITY. The Chairman added it highlighted a number of areas where improvements could be made to the LRF at a strategic level and asked that the recommendations 1-10 as set out in the report on pages 237-238 of the Agenda pack be agreed. **This was agreed.**

Updates

- 3.16 **Gold Communications Group** – The Chair reported that the Group had invited representatives from major London venues, e.g. O2 and Wembley to their meeting which had proved to be useful.
- 3.17 **Voluntary Sector** – It was reported that an open session was to be held, details to follow in the next fortnight.
- 3.18 **Transport Sector** - It was reported that an open session was planned for late summer.
- 3.19 **Sub Regional Resilience Fora** – It was reported that workshops were planned in the spring on evacuation and shelter. These types of workshops had been most successful with local businesses.
- 3.20 **Military** – It was reported that a recent exercise on flooding had been useful and well received.

4. Update from DCLG

- 4.1 The DCLG representative gave a verbal update on 1) the new streamlined government protective marking system which had reduced the tiers from 6 to 3:- official, secret and top secret. A key risk was to ensure that important information be shared as appropriate to non-partners. It was planned that a seamless transition would take place by April which would allow this information to be shared with secure

partners. 2) Resilience direct which was a web based system used by LRF which was to be migrated to a cloud based system. Some partners raised some concerns with Resilience Direct which was seen as a challenge to implement.

5. LRF to confirm priorities for next four months

- 5.1 The London Resilience Manager reported that the LRF would continue to work on the key priorities as listed, but would review the capabilities and bring a paper back to the LRF. The Chairman added that at some point the LRF needed to look at creating a mechanism to decide when an issue was no longer a priority. **LRT will prepare a capability gap analysis for the next LRF.**

6. Any Other Business

- 6.1 Some partners expressed concern about the proposal to replace the current Airwave system with private networks for use by the emergency services, and the potential danger to resilience. A paper to a future meeting of the LRF on this issue was requested. LAS, as lead for the Telecoms sub-group, will lead this work and a report will be submitted to a future LRF

6. Date of Next Meeting

- 6.1 The next meeting was scheduled for Monday 2 June 2014 at 2.00pm.