

# Minutes (Public Version)

**Meeting** London Local Resilience Forum  
**Date** Monday 6 October 2014  
**Time** 2.00pm  
**Place** Committee Room 5, City Hall

**Chair James Cleverly AM**

**In Attendance:**

**Chair James Cleverly AM**

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

Cressida Dick, Assistant Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service

Ian Dyson, Assistant Commissioner, City of London Police

Mark Newton, British Transport Police

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

The Ven. Luke Miller, The Archdeacon of Hampstead (Faith Sector)

Kevin Brown, London Ambulance Service,

Ged Curran, Chief Executive, London Borough of Merton (representing Local Authorities Panel)

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

Ron Dobson, Commissioner, London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority

Tim Cutbill, Assistant Commissioner, LFEPA

Andrew Pritchard, Head of Emergency Planning and Water, London Fire Brigade,

Nikki Smith, NHS England (London)

Yvonne Doyle, Public Health England

Seamus Kelly, St John Ambulance (Voluntary Sector Panel)

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

Chris Felton, Head of High Impact Hazards Team, Civil Contingencies Secretariat, Cabinet Office

James McBride, High Impact Hazards Team, Civil Contingencies Secretariat, Cabinet Office

Richard Beckett, National Security Secretariat (Cabinet Office)

**Greater London Authority officers:**

Tom Middleton, Head of Governance and Resilience

Hamish Cameron, London Resilience Manager

Matthew Dear, London Resilience Officer

Anna Flatley, Senior Committee Officer

## **1. Introductions and Apologies for Absence**

- 1.1 The Chair opened the meeting by noting there had been a few last minute apologies due to transport problems. He then asked attendees to identify themselves and state which organisation they were from.
- 1.2 Apologies were received from; John O'Brien, London Councils, Steve Bath, Utilities Sector Panel, John Baradell, Local Authorities Panel, Simon Hughes, Environment Agency and Peter Guy, Network Rail.

## **2. Minutes and Matters Arising from Previous Meeting**

- 2.1 The Forum confirmed the minutes of the meeting of the Forum held on 2 June 2014 as an accurate record of events.

## **3. Presentation on Space Weather – Cabinet Office**

- 3.1 Chris Felton, the Head of High Impact Hazards Team, Cabinet Office, gave the presentation and answered questions. It was noted that the National Grid undertook annual exercises for such events and had extra transformers in cases of emergencies.
- 3.2 The London Resilience Manager informed the Forum that there was at present no reference to space weather risk on the London Risk Register, but the risk will be addressed by the London Risk Assessment Group in December, with a view to bring this to the February LRF for approval.
- 3.3 **ACTION: Assess the risk of Space Weather to London at the next LLAG meeting (LRT)**

## **4. Briefing on Cyber Risk – Cabinet Office**

- 4.1 Richard Beckett, National Security Secretariat (Cabinet Office), gave a briefing and answered questions.
- 4.2 It was noted that GovCertUk, provided support and advice to public sector organisations. It was questioned whether GovCertUk provided support to local government organisations and this needed clarification.
- 4.3 **ACTION: Provide a named contact to GovCertUK and clarify whether the organisation can provide support to LRT and more broadly to members of the London Resilience Partnership (DCLG).**
- 4.4 It was noted that the London Resilience Forum Telecom Sub Group was considering the fact that more devices can pass mobile data, potential attacks on networks and the challenges this poses.

5. **London Resilience Forum Dashboard Report – key issues and considerations for LRF discussion (October 2014)**

- 5.1 **Partnership Strategy and Delivery Plan.** The Chair noted that the LRF would be reviewing this strategy at the end of 2015 and partners should begin to consider it.
- 5.2 **Threats – MPS:** the current threat level for international terrorism has been raised to severe (i.e. highly likely). Relevant organisations have been briefed however should partners require further information the MPS would be happy to provide suitable briefings.
- 5.3 **Hazards – DCLG:** the most immediate risk was co-ordinated strike action across the public sector on 13-15 October, although the impact of this is assessed as low. Other hazards included winter weather, although there was no evidence to suggest it would be severe. Other issues include high tides this winter; social unrest; overseas energy supplies and Ebola.
- 5.4 A discussion on winter weather followed, noting that due to the fact that the groundwater level had not fully subsided following last year's floods. As a result there remains a risk of ground water flooding during the winter.
- 5.5 **PHE/NHS England** has launched a campaign aimed at encouraging the uptake of flu vaccinations, particularly amongst healthcare workers.
- 5.6 **Waste Site Fires – EA:** - The London Resilience Manager updated the meeting on behalf of the Environment Agency.
- 5.7 **ACTION: EA is conducting a risk assessment. The likely approach is that the EA will identify partner agencies around a cluster of sites in London with a view to carrying out a risk assessment and developing plans. These would then be used as a model for work elsewhere in the capital (EA).**
- 5.8 **Post Event Report: February 2014 Flooding** - The report provided the outcomes of the multi-agency debrief of the response to the flooding which affected London in the spring of 2014.
- 5.9 **Communicating with the Public** – It was noted that the group had met twice since the last LRF and the group is carrying out a range of tasks addressing the issue of Community Resilience.
- 5.10 **Disruption to Fuel supplies** – DCLG confirmed that Phase 1 of the update to the national plan is complete however there has been no indication from DECC about timelines for Phase 2.
- 5.11 **ACTION: DCLG to ask DECC for further information re. Phase 2, highlighting the delay this has caused at a local level.**
- 5.12 **Disruption to Telecommunications for Responders** - It was noted that the Lead agency was NHS England (London) – not LAS as indicated.
- 5.13 **London Resilience Partnership Drought Response** – Thames Water reported that an initial meeting to scope the issues had taken place and that further meetings were

planned.

- 5.14 **London Strategic Flood Framework** – The London Resilience Manager reported on behalf of the Environment Agency that the first meeting of the flooding sub-group had taken place and the intention was to bring a revised London Strategic Flood Framework to the LRF in June 2015.
- 5.15 **Reservoir Plans** – A meeting had taken place and a report will be submitted to the LRF by spring 2015. With regard to the King George Reservoir it was proposed that the LRT arrange a meeting to resolve challenges in completing the off-site plan for the King George Reservoir in LB Enfield. **This was agreed.**
- 5.16 **ACTION: LRT to consult LB Enfield, the Environment Agency, Thames Water and the Met Police and report to the LRF in February 2015.**
- 5.17 **London Structural Collapse Response and Recovery Framework** – It was noted that the Local Authorities had agreed to take the lead on this, which was welcomed.

## 6. Status of the London Resilience Team

- 6.1 The Chair stated the proposal to transfer LRT to LFB from the GLA was not a merger but a practical move which would strengthen the team and provide more resilience. The team already worked well with the LFB and the statutory functions would be unaffected. After discussion and reassurance that continuity of service and neutrality would be protected, the Forum indicated its general support with the proviso that it be reviewed a year after its implementation.

The Forum then:-

1. **Agreed that its support function should be transferred from the GLA to the LFB as part of the proposed transfer of the LRT;**
2. **Noted the proposal that the LFB should undertake London Resilience functions on the GLA's behalf; and**
3. **Agreed that a review of the transfer of the function should be undertaken 12 months from the date the transfer is implemented.**

## 7. London Resilience Workplan

- 7.1 The London Resilience Manager reported that this was an outline of the plan based on a 3 year cycle. LRT will prepare a more detailed workplan for the coming year on an annual basis. **The report was noted.**

## 8. Organisational Sector Updates

- 8.1 **DCLG** – It was noted that the National Risk Assessment was moving to a two year cycle, with the next full one due in 2016; the local risk management guidance had been published; LRF chairs had been provided with a Government guide to setting

out priorities and the Get Ready for Winter campaign had been launched

- 8.2 **LFB** –The threat of firefighter strikes had not gone away although there had been some mutually encouraging words.
- 8.3 **LAS** – Significant progress had been made into the recruitment crisis, with staff being recruited from abroad. It was noted that industrial action was likely and plans were being made to mitigate its effects.
- 8.4 **Local Authorities** - Guidance on Animal Disease and Excess Deaths have been distributed to local authorities. Work is being undertaken with DCLG on more standards for emergency planning. The peer review across London boroughs is due to be complete by next year.
- 8.5 **SRRF/BRF** – A report was submitted to LRF members.
- 8.6 **Business**– The issue of government protective marking was raised - the restrictions reduce the ability to disseminate information to the broader business community. It was recognised that such restrictions are at odds with Government’s desire to increase community resilience and place more emphasis on individual responsibility. DCLG clarified the current classification markings.
- 8.7 **NHS** – It was noted that a reconfiguration of NHS England was taking place with subsequent cost savings; work was being undertaken with the LAS ahead of any potential strike action and work was being undertaken with PHE to deal with the impact in London of nearly 500 staff going to Africa to assist with the Ebola crisis.
- 8.8 **PHE** – It was highlighted that the impact and demands on London re. Ebola response was higher than other parts of the country because the capital is the international travel hub.
- 8.9 **Utilities** – It was noted that there was a burst water main in Twickenham on 6 October. Thames Water and other responders were dealing.
- 8.10 **Voluntary** – It was noted that the Voluntary Panel Membership had changed dramatically and a meeting was due in November.
- 8.11 **Faith** –The lack of a hierarchical structure in all faiths apart from the Christian sector presented a challenge around how to ensure representation from other faiths in exercises and other activities.

## **9. Review of Actions and Confirmation of priorities for the next four months.**

- 9.1 The London Resilience Manager summarised the work to be undertaken following this meeting.

## **10. Any Other Business**

- 10.1 No other business was raised.

## **11. Date of Next Meeting**

11.1 The next meeting was scheduled for Monday 2 February 2015 at 2.00pm.