

# Minutes – APPROVED

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>London Resilience Forum</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>17 October 2019</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>2.00pm</b>
<b>Place</b>	<b>Committee Room 5, City Hall, SE1 2AA</b>

<b>Ref</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>OWNER</b>
5.3	MHCLG to follow up on when the new Brexit Planning Assumptions will be available for partners on Resilience Direct.	MHCLG
5.7	Board Officer to circulate the Deputy Chief Resilience Officer's contact details	GLA Board Officer
5.11	The revised Planning Assumptions document to be brought to the February 2020 LRF following consultation with the capability groups.	LRG
5.16	The London Resilience Group to circulate the five reports referenced at paragraph 5.12. The timing of circulation is subject to a communications plan for the publication of the reports.	LRG
5.22	<b>This information has been redacted.</b>	
5.23	<b>This information has been redacted.</b>	
5.26	Members to review their organisations' water usage and consider taking up Thames Water Smarter Business visits.	All

## **Present:**

Fiona Twycross AM, Chair  
 Alice Reeves, Greater London Authority  
 JP Graham, Greater London Authority  
 Stuart Bell, Metropolitan Police Service  
 Richard Waight, City of London Police  
 Sean O'Callaghan, British Transport Police  
 Alan Palmer, London Ambulance Service  
 Graham Ellis, London Fire Brigade  
 Doug Flight, London Councils  
 Mark Sawyer, Local Authorities Panel  
 Peter Boorman, NHS England & NHS Improvement (London)  
 Deborah Turbitt, Public Health England  
 Simon Moody, Environment Agency

Paul O'Connor, Transport Sector Panel  
Guy Huckle, Network Rail  
Miles Featherstone, Thames Resilience Panel  
Sarah Burchard, Utilities Sector Panel  
Bill d'Albertanson, Utilities Sector Panel  
Peter Lavery, Business Sector Panel  
Emma Spragg, Red Cross (Voluntary Sector Panel Chair)  
Luke Miller, Faith Sector Panel  
Jeremy Bagshaw, HQ London District  
Emily Pignon, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)  
Matt Rodgers, MHCLG  
Bryony May, Met Office

London Resilience Group:

Hamish Cameron, London Resilience Group  
Toby Gould, London Resilience Group  
John Hetherington, Head of London Resilience Group  
Jeremy Reynolds, London Resilience Group

GLA: Felicity Harris, Board Officer

**Also in attendance**

Sidika Ahmet, London Resilience Group  
Irina Ardeleanu, NHS England and NHS Improvement  
Richard Berry, Greater London Authority  
Kelly Dallen, London Resilience Group  
Tunji Olujimi, London Resilience Group  
Marvalyn Omoyinmi, London Resilience Group  
Chris Rowbottom, City of London Police  
Anna Sexton, Public Health England  
Rebecca Short, London Resilience Group

## 1 Chair's Opening Remarks

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed Members to the Forum and led a round of introductions. The Chair welcomed three new support officers from the London Resilience Group and noted her thanks to Public Health England for coordinating flu vaccinations for Members of the Forum.

## 2 Introductions and Apologies for Absence

- 2.1 Apologies were received from: John Barradell, Local Authorities Panel; Dany Cotton, London Fire Brigade; Joseph McDonald, MPS; Robin Merrett, MOPAC; Terry Leach, HM Maritime & Coastguard Agency; Louise Spencer, MHCLG; and the London Resilience CommunicationGroup.

## 3 Minutes and Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

- 3.1 The Forum confirmed the minutes of the meeting of the Forum (62 01) held on 20 June 2019 as an accurate record.
- 3.2 With reference to matters arising, it was noted in response to action 6.6 that the latest draft version of the Structural Collapse framework would be used in the event of an incident before the final version is approved, with due regard to any significant changes compared to the extant version approved by the LRF. It was noted that all other actions had either been completed or would be addressed elsewhere on the agenda.

## 4 Risks to London Resilience

### a) MPS:

- i. **Threats:** The MPS confirmed that the threat from international terrorism remained severe and that a change in that status was not anticipated.

### b) MHCLG:

- ii. **Hazards:** The MHCLG representative confirmed there was no further update on current hazards since the report made to the previous Forum on 20 June 2019.

### c) Met Office:

- iii. **Long-range forecast:** The Met Office representative confirmed that the short-term forecast would include a mix of sunshine and blustery showers but that no resilience issues

were expected. Settled conditions were expected to last throughout the rest of October and into November, and while unsettled conditions were possible, there was a high degree of uncertainty at this stage. A three-month outlook for October – December 2019 was published in late September, the key message from which was that above average temperatures were more likely than low temperatures. In terms of precipitation, wetter than average conditions were looking increasingly likely. Members heard that a full briefing on the long-range forecast had been provided to the Mayor's Chief of Staff.

## 5 Special Agenda Items

### a) EU Exit Update

- 5.1 The Head of the London Resilience Group provided an update on EU Exit planning, noting that regardless of updates in the media, the planning assumption remained that the UK would leave the EU without a deal on 31 October 2019. Members heard that a Mayor's Advisory Group meeting was held on 10 October 2019 which provided updates and assurance to the Mayor, and that the Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG) had met on 14 October 2019, where the Terms of Reference and ways of working for SCGs was agreed. Administrative details of further SCG meetings were outlined, noting that extraordinary meetings would be arranged should the need arise.
- 5.2 The Chair expressed her thanks to Louise Spencer from MHCLG, who had been asked to circulate Operation Yellowhammer documents. MHCLG representatives confirmed that the Department would be moving into response mode the following week and that resilience advisers would be moving into operational roles, with government liaison officers temporarily replacing them to ensure that 24/7 coverage would remain available. The Head of London Resilience understood that the Government is revising the planning assumptions and asked when they would be shared.
- 5.3 **ACTION:-** MHCLG to follow up on when the new Brexit Planning Assumptions will be available for partners on Resilience Direct.
- 5.4 **DECISION:-** The Forum noted the update.

### b) Resilient Cities

- 5.5 The Greater London Authority's Deputy Chief Resilience Officer provided an update on the progress of the Resilient Cities Programme, the aim of which was to publish a resilience strategy for London. It was noted that the public consultation document had recently been circulated to a wide range of stakeholders and that a number of comments had already been received. Members were encouraged to comment officially if they were able to.
- 5.6 It was noted that some of the key themes being worked on for inclusion in the strategy included: food for vulnerable communities, water sustainability in London, improved heatwave planning, counter-terrorism preparedness and resilient governance with the GLA. A sounding board meeting would be held at the end of November 2019 and the strategy was due to be published in February 2020. The Deputy Chief Resilience Officer confirmed that a save the date request would be circulated for the launch of the strategy once a date had been finalised and that her

contact details would also be circulated in case any Members wished to get in touch with their views on the Programme.

5.7 **ACTION:-** GLA Board Officer to circulate the Deputy Chief Resilience Officer's contact details.

5.8 **DECISION:-** The Forum noted the update.

**c) Risk and Planning Assumptions (Paper 62 02)**

5.9 The Deputy Head of the London Resilience Group introduced the report, noting that the new National Security Risk Assessment (NSRA 2019) was released on 1 August 2019 and replaced the National Risk Assessment (NRA 2016), which was previously used by Local Resilience Forums (LRFs) to inform local planning. It was noted that threats and hazards were now combined in NSRA 2019 and that this had created additional planning assumptions. Members were advised that the associated advisory group would review the implications of the revised document, and London Resilience Group have looked at options, and approaches taken by other LRFs. It was noted that the national guidance document had not yet been shared.

5.10 Other changes for noting included new risks, the inclusion of major fire incidents, social care provider failure, technical failures, and microbial resistance. It was noted that the new methodology would take some time to be implemented and that while the aim was to implement over the usual three-year cycle, new risks would be prioritised. The London Resilience Group, in conjunction with capability groups, was conducting a capability gap analysis to assure partners that the planning assumptions were met through existing response capabilities.

5.11 **ACTION:-** The revised Planning Assumptions document to be brought to the February 2020 LRF following consultation with the capability groups.

5.12 **DECISION:-** The Forum noted the update and approved the direction of travel of the work.

**d) Counter Terrorism Preparedness Network update**

5.13 The Deputy Head of the London Resilience Group provided an update on the Counter Terrorism Preparedness Network (CTPN), which was established following the Strategic Coordination Summit in March 2017. The Summit recommended international cooperation and learning between cities in relation to counter terrorism. Members heard that the CTPN supported the EU Counter-Terrorism Strategy, UK CONTEST, the Lord Harris Review and the London Resilience Partnership Strategy, and that its mission statement was to bring together strategic leaders, practitioners and academics to inform city-level policies and practices that build resilience to keep our cities and communities safe from terrorism.

5.14 To date, five reports had been developed covering the disciplines of strategic coordination, humanitarian assistance, community preparedness, protecting major events and crowded places, and anti-radicalisation. The content of the reports had been signed off and they were in the final stages of the design process. A further Strategic Coordination Summit and the CTPN launch event had been scheduled, to which selected partners had been invited.

5.15 The next steps included addressing recommendations from the reports in relevant LRF capabilities and work streams, and a forward work programme for which resourcing options were

being considered. The forward work programme priorities included monitoring the impacts of CTPN reports and recommendations, exploring additional research projects including one on cyber-terrorism, and upscaling city-to-city learning. The Chair thanked those involved in this work.

5.16 **ACTION:-** The London Resilience Group to circulate the five reports referenced at paragraph 5.12. The timing of circulation is subject to a communications plan for the publication of the reports.

5.17 **DECISION:-** The Forum noted the update.

**e) This information has been redacted.**

5.18 **This information has been redacted.**

5.19 **This information has been redacted.**

5.20 **This information has been redacted.**

5.21 **ACTION:- This information has been redacted.**

5.22 **ACTION:- This information has been redacted.**

**f) Drought Level 1 update**

5.23 The representative from the Utilities Sector Panel and Thames Water provided a drought update, noting that the significant amount of rainfall over the previous few weeks had been welcomed. Members heard that although water reservoirs had been replenished, there had not been sufficient rainfall to recharge ground water, which was very low in some places, particularly in north west London. The Environment Agency had declared an environmental drought in north west London and Hertfordshire. The London LRF drought response framework is at Level 1, prolonged dry weather. It was expected that this would remain unchanged until there had been sufficient further rainfall.

5.24 Members were encouraged to review their business continuity plans in relation to the continued concerns and partners were encouraged to review their own water usage. Thames Water had offered their services free of charge to assess premises and fix leaks in an effort to assist in water use reduction and to increase resilience in response to incidents such as burst water mains. Members were also reminded that water resources in London were precious and that cooperation between partners would drive a greater level of national resilience.

5.25 **ACTION:-** Members to review their organisations' water usage and consider taking up Thames Water Smarter Business visits.

5.26 **DECISION:-** The Forum noted the update.

## 6 Progress Against London Resilience Programme

### a) Work Programme (Paper 62 03):

6.1 The Head of the London Resilience Group gave an overview of the three-year work programme, which had been designed to show the work that was ongoing and who it was being carried out by. Members heard that the London Resilience Communication Group consultation had begun, as had a review of the recovery and strategic management protocols. Risk assessment and planning assumptions work was ongoing, and the fuel protocol review was due to begin shortly. The outcome of the review was due by June 2020, but progress had been delayed as a result of resources being diverted to focus on EU Exit planning.

6.2 **DECISION:-** The Forum noted the update and approved the Work Programme.

### b) Documents Recommended for Approval:

- i. **London Mass Casualty Framework (Paper 62 04 and 62 05):** The NHS England and NHS Improvement (London) representative presented the Framework for the Forum's approval, noting that this had been delayed from the previous meeting. Members heard that revisions to the Framework were largely administrative but that the revised version now fulfilled partnership capability and included learning from the Manchester Arena bombing in 2017. The revised Framework had been agreed by both the Partnership Programme Board and the London Local Health Resilience Partnership. The Chair thanked those involved in revising the Framework.

6.3 **DECISION:-** The Forum approved the London Mass Casualty Framework.

### c) Capability Updates:

- i. **London Strategic Response Flood Framework Update (Paper 62 06):** The Environment Agency representative introduced the item, noting that although the London Strategic Response Flood Framework had been completed, it had not yet gone through the consultation phase. It was proposed that the final Framework be included on the agenda for approval at the next LRF meeting in February 2020, and that the consultation responses be circulated beforehand. Members heard that revisions to the Framework were not substantial and that the existing Framework remained strong should there be a need to use it between now and the next meeting.

6.4 **DECISION:-** The Forum noted the update and agreed to extend the deadline for the final Framework to February 2020.

- ii. **London Radiation Emergency Preparedness and Public Information Regulations (REPPIR) Update (62 07):** The Deputy Head of the London Resilience Group provided an update on London's REPPIR arrangements, noting that the arrangements were due to be reviewed in November 2018. A decision was taken to postpone the 2018 review to accommodate the publication of revised regulations which came into force in May 2019 with a one-year implementation date. It proposed that a review of the REPPIR arrangements was postponed further until December 2019 for publication in May 2020.

6.5 **DECISION:-** The Forum noted the update and agreed to postpone the review until December 2019.

iii. **Enfield Multi-Agency Reservoir Plan (Paper 62 08):** The Local Authorities Panel representative gave Members an update on the Multi-Agency Reservoir Emergency Plan for the King George V reservoir, noting that it was agreed at the last LRPB meeting that wider consultation would be useful before finalising the plan. It was proposed that a further extension was given until January 2020 to enable wider consultation of key agencies, consultation with neighbouring Borough Resilience Forums (BRFs), and to review and incorporate lessons learned from the Toddbrook Reservoir Dam incident. Members were assured that the current framework was sufficient to manage risk until the plan was finalised.

6.6 **DECISION:-** The Forum noted the update and agreed to extend the deadline for the final plan.

**d) Lessons Status Report (Paper 62 09):**

6.7 The Deputy Head of the London Resilience Group gave Members an update on the status of learning and the implementation of lessons in London. An overview of progress in the year since adopting the new methodology, London Resilience Group shows the pace of lessons learnt has outstripped lessons identified over the period. It was noted that 25 new lessons had been added to the database since the last LRF, which came from the Hampton Burst Water Main incident in June 2019 and the CBRN(e) workshops which took place in July 2019. Some lessons from LESLP have been recategorised from complete to in progress, and this was commended in support of ensuring the accuracy of reporting. Some debriefs are outstanding, including learning from the Kingston UXO incident in June 2019. Members heard that more could have been done to capture these lessons at a pan-London level, but this had been noted and would be considered in future. There had been no significant change to the number of lessons over two years old, but it was expected that they would be completed shortly.

6.8 **DECISION:-** The Forum noted the report.

## 7 Assurance of Partnership Capabilities

a) **Assessment of Partnership Capabilities Proposal (Paper 62 10 and 62 11):** The Deputy Head of the London Resilience Group gave Members an overview of the proposed new assessment methodology, noting that the LRG had recently engaged with Cabinet Office colleagues who had introduced a new methodology as part of the resilience capabilities programme on a national basis. Efforts had been made to improve existing mechanisms and processes, and Members heard that the revised assessment would better align with expected future requirements from the Government. There was a greater focus on gaps in capabilities which would help better focus resources and it was noted that the assessment would be strategic and multi-agency in nature. It was proposed that the assessment methodology was adopted and that capability working groups would undertake an assessment of their capability and report back to the next LRF meeting. The Local Authorities Panel representative highlighted the challenge of the Lead Agency for each capability assessing the collective multi-agency capability. The Deputy



Head of the London Resilience Group said this was part of the reason for asking capability working groups to conduct the assessment.

- 7.1 **DECISION:-** The Forum approved the adoption of the proposed new assessment methodology and agreed to task capability working groups with an assessment of their capability in order that they report back at the next LRF meeting in February 2020.

## 8 Agency and Sector Updates

- 8.1 **Greater London Authority, London Situational Awareness Team (LSAT)** – In addition to other projects discussed earlier in the agenda, work was beginning on the review of incident response protocols.
- 8.2 **Blue Lights Panel and Emergency Services:**
- i. **Metropolitan Police Service (MPS)** – Resources had been dominated by the recent Extinction Rebellion (XR) protests and it was expected that large EU Exit-related protests would take place in the following weeks. The MPS had relied on external support from other services in response to the XR protests and would continue to do so where necessary. Preparation was also underway for Remembrance events in November and a NATO event in early December.
  - ii. **City of London Police** – Officers had been heavily involved in the recent XR protests and were on standby for expected EU Exit-related protests in the following weeks. The Lord Mayor's Show would take place on 9 November 2019, and preparations were ongoing for testing and exercise events taking place in the New Year.
  - iii. **British Transport Police (BTP)** – A CBRN(e) exercise had been carried out at Heathrow Airport, which reportedly went well. Efforts were being made to realign resilience within the BTP on a national basis to ensure better ways of working across partnerships.
  - iv. **London Ambulance Service (LAS)** – Khadir Meer had been appointed as the LAS's Chief Operating Officer and the Accountable Emergency Officer. Pauline Cranmer had been appointed as the Director of Ambulance Services and would be the new representative attending LRF meetings on behalf of the LAS.
  - v. **London Fire Brigade (LFB)** – The largest ever no-notice exercise had recently been carried out and involved a large number of staff. Dany Cotton, London Fire Commissioner, had provided an update to the Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee and it was noted that Phase 2 of the Grenfell Tower inquiry would commence in early 2020. The LFB was continuing to engage with government on discussions about the built environment, noting that it was a national issue rather than specific to London. Officers had been supporting the MPS on the XR protests, particularly on safeguarding and public safety, ensuring people could evacuate public buildings if necessary. The Transport and Infrastructure Team was reviewing plans for the Heathrow expansion project as well as the proposals to extend the Bakerloo line to Lewisham.
  - vi. **Maritime Coastguard Agency** – There was no update.

### 8.3 Local Authorities:

- i. **Local Authorities Panel** – Good progress was being made on the London-wide Enhancement Programme, and a new approach to assurance across London as part of the Local Authority Resilience Standards had been launched. The Local Government Association (LGA) was in the process of delivering peer challenges of authorities with a particular focus on resilience. Collaboration with the MPS on supporting the London Borough Faith Network on training across the capital was ongoing and partners were encouraged to support this work.
- ii. **London Councils** – Preparation for resilience training for council leaders was ongoing and officers were involved in conversations with the MPS on protective security. There was an ongoing focus on the medium-term economic response to EU Exit planning.

### 8.4 Health:

- i. **National Health Service** – Tessa Walton had been appointed as the Director of Performance and Improvement, and would be the NHS representative attending LRF meetings going forward as the senior responsible officer for resilience planning for the London region. The London Local Health Resilience Partnership met in July, the key focus of which was EU Exit planning. A regional exercise focusing on reviewing new structures across health and the NHS, and how they will play into resilience in the future took place in September 2019. A conference on business continuity was also held in September 2019 and was well attended.
- ii. **Public Health England (PHE)** – The results of the Stage 1 investigation into soil toxicity in North Kensington following the Grenfell Tower fire had been published on the MHCLG website. The preliminary investigation found no evidence of contamination and although Stage 2 of the investigation had not yet begun, there was no evidence found to date that indicated any contamination of the soil. In terms of EU Exit planning, it was confirmed that PHE stocks included six months' worth of vaccines and other countermeasures to mitigate against any potential issues at the border.

- 8.5 **Environment Agency** – The Thames Barrier had been closed in September to prevent flooding and several warnings had been issued in the Brent area. Processes for activation had worked well. National Flood Action Week would begin on 11 November 2019 and a London Flood Week would take place at the same time. The National Flood Action Week would be targeted towards risk areas, 18-34 years olds, renters and drivers. Some additional assurance work had been carried out following the Toddbrook Reservoir incident in Whaley Bridge, Derbyshire to ensure there were no outstanding areas for concern. There had been some industrial action over pay, which affected the resilience of out of hours rosters, but Thames Barrier staff had cancelled their proposed strike action.

- 8.6 **Transport Sector Panel** - Exercise Solstice had taken place in September, which had included readiness exercises for snow and ice, and involved both internal and external stakeholders. The output and learning from the exercise would be available in November 2019. Efforts were being made to scope plans for a transport sector day, which would target London local authorities to provide them with an insight into the industry and its capabilities. It was expected that this would take place in March 2020. Members were thanked for their patience and support following travel disruption caused by XR protests and assurance was received from Network Rail that they would link with the national command team in relation to EU Exit planning.
- 8.7 **Thames Resilience Panel** – The new Thames Risk Register had been shared with members of the Thames Resilience Panel at a recent meeting and it was noted the aim of which was to fill gaps between the London Risk Register and the Port of London Authority's (PLA) Risk Register. The PLA had experienced some recent challenges on the river following XR and Greenpeace protests and it was expected that the river would be used more frequently for protests in the future.
- 8.8 **Utilities Sector Panel** – Winter preparedness and EU Exit planning exercises had been carried out.
- 8.9 **Business Sector Panel** – There was no further update.
- 8.10 **Voluntary Sector Panel (VSP)** – The voluntary sector had an active response to the recent fire in Barking and the burst water main in Finsbury Park. It was noted that the Red Cross had been working in advocacy roles as much as response roles.
- 8.11 **Faith Sector Panel** – A recent court case relating to terrorist threats to St Paul's Cathedral had raised concerns about threats to faith buildings more widely, but Members were assured that work on this was ongoing. The structure of the Panel was also being reviewed to ensure a response could be given to the review of the excess deaths protocol.
- 8.12 **HQ London District** – Mission rehearsal exercises were due to take place in February 2020.
- 8.13 **London Resilience Communication Group** – There was no update.
- 8.14 **Government (MHCLG)** – National Security Risk Assessment (NSRA) workshops had been held over recent weeks. Cyber resilience workshops had also taken place and had been well received. The Crown Commercial Service had been working to finalise new information sharing guidance to replace the previous guidance from 2007, the details of which had been sent out for consultation via Resilience Direct. It was noted that Emily Pignon would be taking on a new role at MHCLG so would no longer be attending LRF meetings. The Chair thanked Emily for her commitment and approach to resilience.
- 8.15 **Met Office** – There was no further update.
- 8.16 **London Resilience Group:** Members received an update on the number of recent incidents, noting that in the previous quarter over double the usual average number of incidents had occurred.

## **9 Review of Actions**

9.1 The Deputy Head of Resilience summarised the actions agreed; as set out above.

## **10 Any Other Business**

10.1 There was no other business.

## **11 Dates of Next and Future Meetings**

11.1 The dates of the next and future meetings were noted as follows:

Thursday 6 February 2020, at 2pm at City Hall

Thursday 11 June 2020, 2pm at City Hall

Thursday 22 October 2020, 2pm at City Hall

Thursday 25 February 2021, 2pm at City Hall