

COUNCIL

14 September 2011

JOINT AUTHORITY QUESTIONS

Police Authority

Councillor Pickstone

Could the representative of Greater Manchester Police Authority please pass on our thanks to the police men and women involved in the policing and Manchester and Salford 'riots' and their aftermath? Could he also outline the process by which the Police will assess and, if necessary, learn from the operation? How will members have an opportunity to input into this process and to hear about the outcomes of this review?

A. The process by which the Police will assess and, if necessary, learn from the operation

GMP is conducting an internal review of the Force Operation to contain the disturbances in various locations across the city region and restore order (Operation Valant). This will focus on what worked, organisational behaviour and lessons learned. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary is also undertaking a review of public order policing focusing on the force areas that experienced disorder. In addition, the Home Affairs Committee is holding an inquiry into the policing of large scale disorder.

How will members have an opportunity to input into this process and to hear about the outcomes of this review? GMPA Members and senior officers within the Authority were kept in constant contact as the events of 9th August unfolded. The Chairman and the Executive Director attended the Force Command Module on the evening of 9th August to monitor the progress of the Force Operation.

A comprehensive briefing was delivered by GMP to Police Authority Members, partner agencies and Greater Manchester Members of Parliament on 10th August. This briefing encompassed detailed information about the events that had taken place, the police response to those events and Force action going forward. Those present asked many questions of the Force and raised key issues which have been reflected in the terms of reference for the Force's internal review of Operation Valant.

Going forward, GMPA will scrutinise closely the findings to emerge from GMP's review of Operation Valant and will also examine the outcomes from the HMIC review and the Home Affairs Committee inquiry.

Further briefings have been arranged for GMPA Members (11th October) and Members of Parliament (18th October) at which the interim findings of the review of Operation Valant will be outlined.

Fire and Rescue Authority

Councillor Vic D'Albert

In the light of recent events, could the representative of the Fire Authority please outline if the Authority will be reviewing its policy for members travel expenses?

A. The matter has been referred to the District Auditor for consideration. Once the District Auditor has completed her enquiries her full report including any recommendations will be presented to a future meeting of the Authority's Audit Committee and will be a matter of public record.