

Olympic Games Security Strategy

Summary

This is to provide information about the publication of a new security strategy for the London Olympics in 2012

Recommendations

This report is for information.

Action

The Board will be updated on progress at future meetings.

Olympic Games Security Strategy

Background

1. The Government published a new Olympic Games security strategy on 21 July 2009 outlining how the government is working to ensure a safe and secure Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012, within the £600M allocated security budget.
2. Hosting a safe and secure Games will be one of the largest, most complex security challenges the UK has ever faced. The [London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Safety and Security Strategy](#) outlines the plan to run a safe and secure Olympics, including:
 - protecting the venues, events and transport to and from the Games, and those attending and using them
 - preparing for events that may significantly disrupt the safety and security of the Games, and make sure that contingency plans are in place
 - identifying and disrupting potential threats to the safety and security of the Games
 - working with international and domestic partners and local communities to ensure the Games are safe and secure.
3. The strategy is the result of close cooperation between the Government Olympic Executive, the Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA), the London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (LOCOG), the office of the London Mayor, the security and emergency services and a wide range of other government departments and agencies.
4. The Olympic and Paralympic Games run from 27 July to 9 September 2012. There will be 26 Olympic sports in 34 venues and 20 Paralympic sports in 21 venues across London and the United Kingdom.

LGA involvement

5. One of the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board's objectives is to encourage as many local authorities as possible to get involved with the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. This is not only about sport, culture, education and tourism, but also supporting councils directly involved with the Games to meet the practical challenges of hosting the biggest sporting event in the world. An important aspect of this is planning to meet the extra burdens on councils' emergency planning services. As mentioned in the background section, these burdens will not just fall on London, but across the UK albeit to varying degrees.
6. The LGA, working with London Councils and London Fire Brigade, has successfully lobbied the Home Office for extra funding to support local authorities in England and Wales to plan for the impact of the 2012 Games on

23 4

resilience and security. The funding (around £400,000 over three years) will be used to create a national coordination team consisting of two posts. The team will draw upon a national network of emergency planning officers from councils with an interest in resilience matters arising from the 2012 Games.

7. Our lobbying was in response to councils telling us that the 2012 Games will place considerable extra burdens on resilience planning in England and Wales, not just London, for which no extra funding has been identified. For example, there will be nine competition venues outside London, an as yet unknown number of pre-games training camps across the UK (including hosting high-profile nations) and transport hubs will experience an increased number of visitors.
8. The Home Office's Olympic Security Directorate has set up a range of boards to oversee the implementation of the security strategy. Subject to agreement by the CTS Board on 15 September, Joe Duckworth (Chief Executive of Newham) will represent local government in England and Wales at relevant Home Office meetings.
9. The Home Office funding will give us extra capacity to support the involvement of local authorities in this agenda and to ensure that all local authorities in England and Wales with an interest in 2012 resilience will be supported in the extra resilience planning made necessary by the Games. The new team will also play a role in linking the resilience agenda to broader 2012 security issues such as community engagement, prevent and neighbourhood policing.
10. Final discussions are taking place on the recruitment process. Once the arrangements are finalised we will use an article in **first** to let the sector know about the new team.

Financial Implications

11. There are no implications for the LGA because we have secured funding from the Home Office to fund a new team to support local authorities' emergency planning for the 2012 Games.

Implications for Wales

12. The LGA acts on behalf of Welsh councils in relation to 2012 security and resilience matters.

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