

**City of London Law Society**

**Corporate Crime Committee**

**Minutes of Meeting 1 July 2025**

**(Held as a hybrid meeting)**

**Attendees (in-person):**

Louise Hodges (Chair)	Camilla da Silva
Neill Blundell (Vice-Chair)	Oliver Hamill (alternate for Ali Sallaway)
Phil Taylor (Secretary to the Committee)	Rosanne Kay
Barry Vitou	Sarah Wallace

**Attendees (online):**

Daren Allen	Nick Barnard
Jonathan Cotton	Ruby Hamid
Matt Getz	Tom Epps
Michelle de Kluyver	

1. The Chair **welcomed** the attendees and thanked the Vice-Chair for hosting this meeting.
2. **Apologies** were received from Jeremy Summers, Andrew Katzen, Christopher David, Elly Proudlock, Susannah Cogman, Eve Giles, Satnam Tumani, Alistair Graham, Matthew Banham, Hannah Laming, Laura Ford. **Minutes of the previous meeting** had been circulated and amendments were invited within 24 hours.

The Secretary updated the Committee with regard to **actions from the previous meeting**:

- An update would be shared later in this meeting in regard to the Crime and Policing Bill
  - Volunteers are still needed to review Sir Brian Leveson's report, which has not yet been published; the CH; the Chair proposed forming a working group once the report has been published
  - The Chair and Vice-Chair will seek to liaise with the Secretariat of the Times Crime and Justice Commission and update the Committee in due course; any other interested Members should indicate as such to the Secretary.
- *The Chair and Vice-Chair to update the Committee on liaison with the Secretariat at the next scheduled meeting.*
3. **CLLS / Committee business**

- a. The Chair updated the Members on a recent request received from the CLLS, requesting input in relation to assistance being provided by the City of London Solicitors' Company ("CLSC") to the office of the Lord Mayor of the City of London and the Financial Services grouping of the City of London livery companies. CLLS specialists had been asked to provide feedback on four specific points relating to the City of London's legal sector: assets, opportunities, risks, and asks. Due to time constraints, it had not been possible to consult the Committee a whole on this matter. The Chair and Vice-Chair, with help from the Secretary, therefore sent a written response on behalf of the Committee. The Secretary summarised the response.
- *The Secretary to ensure a copy of the written responses is circulated to the Committee.*
- b. The Chair reminded the Committee of the recent meeting with Rt Hon Alex Chalk KC and gave opportunity for further feedback, of which there was none. The Vice-Chair noted that inviting a guest to Committee meetings appears to encourage more attendance.
  - c. The Secretary noted again that the new CLLS Chief Executive would be taking up his post in September 2025. The Chair recently attended the AGM of the CLLS and CLSC and extended her congratulations to the new Master Solicitor (currently the bridge contact between the Committee and the central CLLS) who was installed at that meeting.
- *The Secretary to make note to contact the new Chief Executive once in post.*

#### 4. Subcommittee business

- a. **AML / Sanctions:** There were no updates from subcommittee members. The Secretary provided a brief update on some related developments, including: changes to the EU's list of high-risk countries and the FATF grey list; updated AML/CFT guidance from FATF; and government plans to introduce amendments to the Money Laundering Regulations by the end of 2025.
- b. **Disclosure:** There were no updates.
- c. **Law Reform / Legal Practice:** The Secretary read an update from a Member in relation to the Crime and Policing Bill: what is now clause 196 of the Bill will expand the senior manager corporate liability provisions of the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 ("ECCTA") to include all criminal offences. The Bill is now in the House of Lords but no date has yet been set for the Committee/Reporting Stages. The subcommittee is preparing a note summarising any issues arising and is liaising with an industry group on the matter. Consideration will be given in due course as to whether the Committee will make formal submissions on the Bill and/or publish a paper.

- *The Law Reform / Legal Practice subcommittee to provide a note to the Secretary for circulation to the Committee.*

d. **Events:** A Member updated the Committee that the next associates' round table event will take place on 16th September. An invitation will be circulated to the Committee, for onward transmission to associates in Members' firms. The Chair encouraged Committee members to consider attending the event also.

- *The Events subcommittee to provide an email invitation for circulation.*

5. **Legal / Case updates:**

a. The Secretary provided an update summarising recent developments relating to the Serious Fraud Office, including: developments in recent investigations; an increase to the SFO's budget; comments from the SFO that it will provide UK companies with free training and guidance as part of its prevention strategy; the SFO's recent membership of the International Anti-Corruption Coordination Centre; and the relationship between the SFO and the US Department of Justice.

A Member passed on comments made by the SFO's Director at a recent International Bar Association meeting.

b. The Secretary reminded Members that the provisions of ECCTA relating to SLAPPs are now in force; and noted a useful enforcement statistics tool which can be found on the Spotlight on Corruption website.

- *The Secretary to circulate a link to the online tool.*

6. There was a short discussion relating to **Investigation and & Interview Practices (including tech)**, including potential expansion of the Taskforce which currently involves the SFO and counterparty agencies in France and Switzerland.

7. Under **further business**, the Chair asked Members to put forward ideas for future guests. The Chair then called a close to the meeting with thanks to the Members for their contributions.