



TOTAL POLICING

** Peter Tordjman*

6 September 2012

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→ Mayor Jules Pipe
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htell

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- *Consultative Document - STARS*
- *S-greenhalgh / consultation*
- *4/10 - J*

Dear Mayor Pipe,

Re: Improvements to Borough Policing

I am writing to update you and seek the involvement of leaders and chief executives in the Met Change programme. Met Change is the programme that seeks to improve the services we deliver to the people of London and make the necessary cost reductions to meet the challenges of the financial settlement.

The first part of our change programme is about enhancing neighbourhood policing. It is proposed that the new Local Policing Model (LPM), which builds on the success of Safer Neighbourhoods teams, will be implemented from spring 2013. This will see around 2000 officers back on the streets so they can provide enhanced visibility and contact with the public at a ward level. Our current ward and borough based policing structure will continue to be the foundation of neighbourhood policing.

Over recent years public access to policing services has changed considerably. The introduction of a standard 101 non emergency number and our ability to diary appointments for members of the public, coupled with internet access, means the picture of provision across London is changing. We are planning for at least one police station in each borough to provide public access, 24 hours a day seven days a week. This coupled with greater neighbourhood presence - through attendance at community centres, supermarkets, care and day centres - allows communities to access the police.

We are keen to work with all London authorities to look at opportunities for sharing public access points; this seems to make sense for everyone involved, especially the public. To meet the needs of all Londoners, we are working on an internet based interpreter hub, which should allow anyone entering a police station to access services in a language of their choice and will be a big step forward for the Metropolitan Police Service.

*John
refer*



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As part of the LPM, we are looking at management costs and supervision ratios to ensure we are making most effective use of the resources we have. At a local level, neighbourhood inspectors will direct the policing of wards. The sovereignty and role of boroughs will remain. However the MPS is proposing to move to a model where senior management and some more specialised services, such as custody provision, are co-commissioned across a number of boroughs. Delivery of investigations, neighbourhood policing and response will remain embedded, and distinct, at borough level to allow local partnerships to flourish. This new model in policing terms is called Basic Command Units (BCUs). Clearly the size and shape of BCUs will vary across London, as the size and shape of boroughs does. This new model will also allow MPS leadership to be streamlined from areas to neighbourhoods.

Push 4
Commissioner
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No decisions have, as yet, been taken about the composition of BCUs, and I welcome the views of London's local authority leaders, chief executives and other key stakeholders. Accordingly, I have asked my office to contact both John O'Brien and Nick Walkley to discuss how we might engage with your leaders' committee and with the Chief Executives' London committee on these changes.

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I am copying this letter to all leaders and chief executives of London boroughs.

Yours sincerely

**Bernard Hogan-Howe
Commissioner**