



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

TOTAL POLICING

Our Ref: 2013020001221

14 February 2013

Councillor Reg Rice
Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Haringey Council
5th Floor River Park House
225 High Road
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London
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**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe QPM, MBA, MA
(Oxon)**
Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis
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Dear Councillor Rice,

Thank you for your letter dated 06 February 2013 received in my office on 12 February, which I have seen.

I note your concerns regarding the extension of the distribution of tasers in Haringey Borough.

I have a duty to ensure that my officers have the necessary equipment to protect both the public and themselves. I therefore took this operational decision after recent incidents where officers were seriously injured whilst awaiting support from specialist units. Our standard operating procedures are subject of continuous review and I can not delay this process pending the outcome of individual investigations.

I do agree that engagement with your panel and the wider community in Haringey is vital and I have therefore asked Assistant Commissioner Territorial Policing Simon Byrne to consider this aspect of your letter in order that an appropriate response can be sent to you.

I would remind the committee that tasers have been deployed in London and Haringey for the last six years. We are now making them more available to front line officers to more efficiently defend the public and themselves.

Yours sincerely
Bernard Hogan-Howe

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe
Commissioner**