

Subject: Question and Answer Session with the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and the Deputy Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police

Report to: Police and Crime Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 8 March 2012

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report serves as a background paper to the question and answer session with the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and the Deputy Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police Service.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Committee:

- (a) Notes as background to the question and answer session with the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and the Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police Service the monthly report from the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime attached at Appendix 1; and
- (b) Notes the answers given by the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and the Deputy Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police Service to the questions asked by Members.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Committee has agreed that it will meet twice monthly and that one of its monthly meetings will be used principally to hold a question and answer session with the statutory Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime. The Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis will also be invited to attend. The Deputy Commissioner will represent the Commissioner at this meeting.
- 3.2 The MOPC produces a monthly report providing an update on the activities and decisions of the MOPC and performance against its objectives and budget. This will inform the question and answer session. This month's report is attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

4. Issues for Consideration

Stop and search

- 4.1 The Committee has also agreed that the question and answer session on the MOPC report should include questions on a specific issue of topical interest. For this meeting it is proposed that the topic should be stop and search.
- 4.2 In his first meeting with the MPA following his appointment, the MPS Commissioner, Bernard Hogan-Howe, indicated he wanted to introduce more targeted, as opposed to generic, stop and search. He explained his thinking further at a subsequent meeting of the MPA in January 2012 highlighting three principles: better targeting; improved interactions with the public; and potentially a reduced number of section 60 searches.
- 4.3 The MPS website explains the Commissioner's vision for stop and search: "To achieve the highest level of trust and confidence in the police's use of stop and search as a tactic for keeping our streets safe. As a consequence, the use of Stop and Search in London will become significantly more effective, have better outcomes, and be used primarily to protect our communities from violent crime. The new approach will see a renewed focus on reducing violence and for the powers to be used in a more intelligence-led and targeted way, leading to more arrests and more weapons seized".
- 4.4 It is proposed that the question and answer session with the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Deputy Commissioner includes time set aside to raise questions about the Commissioner's proposed new approach to stop and search.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Committee has the power to do what is recommended in this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no financial implications to the GLA arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report: Appendix 1 - Report of the MOPC.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
List of Background Papers: None
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