



Working together for a safer London

OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

*Chris Allison MBE
Assistant Commissioner
National Olympic Security Coordinator
2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games*

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Dear James,

I am writing in response to your letter dated the 7th December 2010 asking for comments on the milestones set out in the report - **Business as usual? - London's emergency and health services' preparations for the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.**

Your report contains twelve milestones and I will briefly outline the response from the Metropolitan Police Service to each of those in turn:-

Milestone 1 - This milestone does not apply to the MPS.

Milestone 2 - The importance of testing and exercising is well understood and the Olympic and Paralympic Safety and Security Programme already has a significant testing and exercising regime built into it. This will cover the areas highlighted in this recommendation.

Milestone 3 - The command and control infrastructure for the Games is based on existing protocols that are tried and tested, with some additional layers that take into account the scale and complexity of the Games. These arrangements have been tested on a number of occasions already and will be subject to more testing during the exercise programme. Individuals for key command roles have already been identified and by way of example, I am now working full time on the Games in my role as the National Olympic Security Coordinator.

Milestone 4 - As a part of our planning, the MPS has sought to ensure that it can undertake 'business as usual' policing across the Capital as well as policing the Games, in recognition of the numbers of people that will be in London. To that end, we will be maximising the numbers of MPS officers we have available in the Games period and also asking for mutual aid from other forces to assist. We will keep resourcing levels under constant review over the next 17 months as we continue to plan for the Games.

Milestone 5 - The MPS is working closely with the GLA and fully supporting their efforts to create an events calendar for London for 2012.

Milestone 6 - The MPS is working closely with TfL over all aspects of the Olympic Route Network to ensure that 'business as usual' can still be undertaken when the network is in use.

Milestone 7 - A significant amount of work on travel demand management is already being undertaken by the ODA which will include a public information campaign. Where appropriate, the MPS will reinforce the messages in its dealings with the media.

Milestone 8 - The MPS is pleased that the Government has stated that up to £600m will be made available for safety and security of the Games if it is required. The MPS continues to work closely with all of its partners to develop plans that are both effective and value for money.

Milestone 9 - The details of the core funding for the MPS are made public through the annual budget settlement process that is overseen by the Metropolitan Police Authority. The Authority is currently considering the budget proposals for the 2011/2012 planning year.

Milestone 10 - The management of time off, leave and training are some of the key areas that will help to maximise the available workforce in 2012. The MPS is developing an HR strategy that covers these areas which will be subject to constant review.

Milestone 11 - The demands on the MPS in 2012 will severely limit the opportunities for members of staff to volunteer for LOCOG. This issue will be covered in the HR strategy outlined above.

Milestone 12 - The MPS will continue to refine its policing plans for the Games over the next seventeen months. A series of tests, with indicative levels of the mutual aid requirement, have already been undertaken across the country and more will take place in coming months. The final mutual aid requirement will be circulated in February 2012.

Over the next 17 months, the MPS will continue to refine its plans so that it can police the Olympic and Paralympic Games at the same time as serving the rest of London. Whilst this will not be easy, I am satisfied that the MPS can rise to this challenge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Allison'.

Chris Allison MBE
Assistant Commissioner
National Olympic Security Coordinator