Subject: Policing and Security at Notting Hill Carnival

Report to: Police and Crime Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 3 November 2016

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

1.1 This report provides background information to the Police and Crime Committee for its first meeting with invited guests to discuss policing and security at Notting Hill Carnival.

2. Recommendation

2.1 That the Committee notes the report as background to putting questions to invited guests on policing and security at Notting Hill Carnival, and notes the discussion.

3. Background

3.1 This meeting will be used to consider policing and security at Notting Hill Carnival. Since the late 1960s Notting Hill Carnival has taken place every year on the streets of Kensington and Westminster. An estimated one million people attended this year’s Notting Hill Carnival, which includes a street party, parade, sound stages, steel bands and performers.

3.2 Notting Hill Carnival draws heavily on police resources from across London. Over 6,000 officers usually patrol the Carnival on each day of the event and this, combined with stewarding of the event, costs around £8 million. This year’s Carnival resulted in over 450 arrests for offences including public order; possession of offensive weapons; drugs; theft; and assault. There were 15 reports of violent injuries involving a knife or blade.1

3.3 The Committee is seeking to examine the policing and security arrangements of Notting Hill Carnival to identify any improvements that can be made to keep people at the Carnival safe. In addition to evidence gathering meetings, the Committee is seeking written evidence from interested organisations and members of the public. The call for written evidence includes the following questions:

- What are the strengths and weaknesses of the security arrangements at Notting Hill Carnival?

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• What improvements can be made to security arrangements?
• What lessons can be learned from other large scale events?
• What more can the Mayor do to support the agencies responsible for keeping the Carnival safe?

4. Issues for Consideration

4.1 The meeting will be used to speak with organisations working to keep Carnival safe. It will reflect on recent events at Carnival, including the levels and type of crime that takes place, and identify key risks. It will also explore how Carnival impacts on policing resources across the rest of London.

4.2 Guests have been invited from the following organisations:
• The Metropolitan Police;
• McKenzie Arnold Security; and
• London Notting Hill Carnival Enterprises Trust Ltd (LNHCET).

5. Legal Implications

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

5.2 Officers confirm that the scope for this thematic session falls within the Committee’s terms of reference.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications to the Greater London Authority arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report: None

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

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<tr>
<th>Contact Officer:</th>
<th>Becky Short, Scrutiny Manager</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Telephone:</td>
<td>020 7983 4760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:becky.short@london.gov.uk">becky.short@london.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
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