



Susan Hall AM
Chairman of the Police and Crime Committee

The Rt Hon Suella Braverman KC MP
Secretary of State for the Home Department

4 May 2023

Dear Secretary of State,

Sir Thomas Winsor's review of the resignation of Dame Cressida Dick as Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis

I am writing to you on behalf of the London Assembly Police and Crime Committee in relation to Sir Thomas Winsor's review of the resignation of Dame Cressida Dick as Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis.¹ This follows Committee meetings held with the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan and Sir Tom – the former HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary – on 16 November 2022 and 13 December 2022.

The Committee's investigation set out to consider the matters and actions in relation to the resignation of Dame Cressida as set out in Sir Tom's review. The Committee also considered Sir Tom's conclusions on "the strengthening of accountability and due process in respect of the role, appointment and removal of the Commissioner" and "the terms of service established between the Commissioner and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime, and the interplay between those terms and the appointment to the office of Commissioner by Royal Warrant and the tenure of the Commissioner at [His] Majesty's pleasure".²

¹ Sir Thomas Winsor, [Special commission on the resignation of the Commissioner of the Police of the Metropolis](#), August 2022

² Sir Thomas Winsor, [Special commission on the resignation of the Commissioner of the Police of the Metropolis](#), August 2022

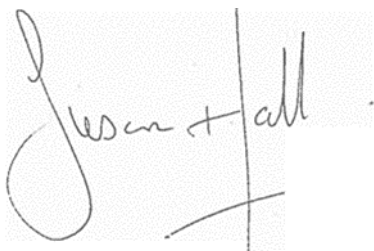
In his report, Sir Tom put forward nine options and recommendations for reform. The Committee explored these at its meeting with the Mayor and Sir Tom on 13 December 2022.

Having carefully considered the options put forward in Sir Tom’s report, the Committee believes “Option 5 – London Assembly” is the best option for reform presented. The Committee believes that this option strengthens local democracy. Requiring the approval of the London Assembly (elected by Londoners) in order for the Mayor (also elected by Londoners) to begin the statutory removal procedure for a Met Commissioner makes sense and seems like a good check and balance. As Sir Tom highlighted, the London Assembly and the Committee “are well-established and, adequately informed and resourced, [and] can work well”.³

The Committee looks forward to hearing your plans to reform, strengthen accountability and due process in respect of the role, appointment and removal of the Commissioner of the Met. We are ready to engage on these issues and would welcome the opportunity to contribute to any work on these plans, as appropriate.

The Committee trusts the information in this letter is helpful. Please do let Janette Roker, janette.roker@london.gov.uk, know if you would like to discuss in more detail.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Hall". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Susan Hall AM
Chairman of the Police and Crime Committee

³ Sir Thomas Winsor, [Special commission on the resignation of the Commissioner of the Police of the Metropolis](#), August 2022