



TERRITORIAL POLICING

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Dear

RE: TP Development Programme and Review of Safer Neighbourhoods

I wrote to you in April 2011 to keep you informed on the TP Development Programme, focusing on the Public Access and Safer Neighbourhoods reviews. I would like to take this opportunity to update you on Safer Neighbourhoods, the review of Public Access and our work in developing an operating model for Territorial Policing.

The proposals from the review of Safer Neighbourhoods were discussed at the MPA Full Authority on the 30th June. The following outlines the key review outcomes and sets out how we intend to take forward neighbourhood policing across London.

The key review outcomes

- The MPS remains firmly committed to dedicated Safer Neighbourhoods teams aligned to political ward boundaries
- Borough Commanders will have greater flexibility to task teams to work jointly across wards, on a temporary basis, to meet community and crime priorities
- The MPS will not reduce the number of PCs and PCSOs within Safer Neighbourhoods teams as a result of this review
- However, we will reduce management costs. There will be a reduction of 150 Safer Neighbourhoods Sergeants on a pro-rata basis across all boroughs.

The review involved extensive engagement with staff, partners and the public looking at the structure, location and function of Safer Neighbourhoods teams across London. Your views were a vital contribution, helping to ensure we maintain an effective partnership approach to address local crime and disorder.

In line with our continued commitment to neighbourhood policing, we have maintained the number of PCs and PCSOs within Safer Neighbourhoods teams. Boroughs that currently have enhanced teams with six PCSOs will also retain these staff. Teams will continue to be aligned to ward

boundaries, unless there are exceptional reasons to amend them on a temporary basis to meet local needs.

In the review there was overwhelming support to use Safer Neighbourhoods teams more flexibly to address specific community crime and anti-social behaviour concerns. Therefore we have adjusted our policy to allow temporary deployment to other areas. Wards that are supporting their neighbours during these periods of temporary deployment will retain a minimum strength of one PC and one PCSO from its dedicated team. Contributing towards reductions in crime and anti-social behaviour through problem-solving activity will continue to be objectives of Safer Neighbourhoods activity. This will ensure consistency across London whilst also continuing to address the local priorities of the community, affecting both reassurance levels and crime, which will still be set through ward panels.

These changes will not detract from the core elements of Safer Neighbourhoods policing. Teams will continue to take an intelligence-led approach to identifying community concerns and undertake joint action and problem solving with the community and local partners. Your local officers, under the leadership of your Borough Commanders, will be responsible for managing this flexible deployment to ensure we are using our skills and resources in the most effective way to deliver safety and confidence in our communities and accounting to ward panels regarding the outcomes of the re-deployment of resources. We will continually monitor the temporary deployments using a tracking process and a monthly report will be provided to the MPA.

We will reduce 150 Safer Neighbourhoods Sergeants in 2011/12. This will be spread across all boroughs on a pro-rata basis, which will mean a reduction of between four and six Safer Neighbourhoods Sergeants per borough. Every ward will still have a named Sergeant, although that Sergeant may supervise more than one ward. The role of a Safer Neighbourhoods Sergeant will continue to be that of leading, supervising and managing the engagement and enforcement activity carried out by the PCs and PCSOs. It is recognised that there will be challenges to achieving the required reductions that will vary across boroughs depending on local circumstances. The TP Development Programme approach to business change is designed to enable any such local issues to be identified and addressed. Borough Commanders will take into consideration local requirements to ensure the reductions are made in a sensible and rational way.

Your borough will also be reviewing their current shift patterns for Safer Neighbourhoods teams to ensure they meet local demand more effectively, taking into account that Londoners have told us they want more officers on duty during evenings and weekends.

In my last letter to you, I asked for your assistance in our review of Public Access channels that looked at how we can enhance access to police services, including front counters. The first phase of the review has now concluded and I would like to thank you for your valuable contribution and support. The team is currently analysing the information gathered from the online survey and consultation with local partners and members of the public and this will be used to develop a strategy to maintain and enhance public access to policing services within a core minimum standard.

As you know, Safer Neighbourhoods and Public Access are just two of several projects within our change programme. Another key strand of work within the Programme is looking at how all of these projects function together within an over-arching operating model that will allow us to continue to deliver effective and efficient policing across London. The operating model will focus on how we make best use of our resources and enhance our strong partnership working. It is my intention to consult with you further over the coming months and your Borough Commander will also be liaising with you regularly to keep you informed and capture your thoughts as we move

forward. I would like to thank you again for your continued support and I look forward to working with you to shape the future model of Territorial Policing.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ian McPherson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ian McPherson
AC Territorial Policing