Mayor's Office Kit Malthouse AM Deputy Mayor for Policing London West Central Constituency

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Date: 17 February 2011

Councillor Stephen Carr

Leader of the Council London Borough of Bromley Bromley Civic Centre Stockwell Close Bromley Kent BR1 3UH

Dear Stephen

(LONDON) COMMUNITY SAFETY FUND 2011/12

Following the letter from the Home Office on 9 February regarding the establishment of the new Community Safety Fund (CSF), I am writing to outline the arrangements for the allocation of these funds to London boroughs for 2011/12.

The timing of the notification of this new reduced fund at this relatively late point in the financial year has, as many of you have highlighted, the potential for a serious adverse impact on the viability and continuation of many of your local initiatives. I understand what a destabilising effect that this may have and so the Mayor and I are extremely keen to ensure that the relevant decisions are made and that the relevant funds are passed onto your borough as soon as is possible.

In order to minimise any adverse effect on boroughs and to provide a speedy resolution to the situation, I have therefore decided that for 2011/12 none of the London CSF allocation will be held centrally and that the entirety of the fund will be passed onto your borough using a similar allocation profile to that used by the Home Office for 2010/11.

The only criterion that the Mayor is placing on the use of the funds is that they are utilised for "community safety and crime reduction" purposes only.

Although the London CSF has been reduced by 20% for 2011/12, the overall London allocation is still in excess of £10M. Consequently it is essential for the Mayoralty, for reasons of good governance of public funds, to spend some time to understand your spending plans for your allocation. Therefore we would be grateful if you could immediately submit a statement providing a sufficiently informative overview of your borough's spending plans for your CSF allocation for the year. To facilitate this process it would be helpful to receive your borough statement by 4 March 2011.

Once your statement is received and it is clear that it appropriately meets the criterion referred to above, then your allocation will be confirmed and funds released.

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It is intended that funds would be released in a single payment at the start of the financial year but that boroughs would provide a brief quarterly update on progress during the year. Further details as to the format of those updates will be supplied in due course.

Please send your overview statement to the GLA Community Safety Unit (<u>Mat.Ilic@london.gov.uk</u>). Any queries on the operation of the London Community Safety Fund should initially be addressed to the Head of Community Safety (<u>Ron.Belgrave@london.gov.uk</u>).

The above outlines the arrangements for the 2011/12 year but I am conscious that the Home Office has identified that the CSF will reduce further for 2012/13 meaning a 60% reduction in total on the 2010/11 baseline. I will be writing to the Home Office raising my concerns about the future of community safety funding, which I am sure you would support. However, being able to plan ahead now will allow us to develop an understanding of the shared crime and community safety priorities for London for 2012/13. This could include, for example, building in the funding recently announced on "knife crime" and the possible funding made available from the late night levy provision on licensed premises currently going through Parliament.

I look forward to our continued close working to make London the safest big city in the world.

Yours sincerely

Kit Malthouse AM

Deputy Mayor for Policing

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