## Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPC). Briefing note

## 1. Summary

- 1.1 This paper is intended to provide member of the Committee with a brief over of MOPC.
- 1.2 As this body now oversees the Police Service details of how the complaints and problems will be dealt with is also included. The intention is to help Councillors assist their constituents.

## 2. Details

- 2.1 The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime has been set up in response to the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act (2011) which reforms the accountability of police services and replaces police authorities across England and Wales with elected individuals. The rest of the country will elect their Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) in November 2012.
- 2.3 The MOPC is headed by the Mayor or, by his nomination, the appointed statutory Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, currently Kit Malthouse. This means that the Mayor is directly accountable for policing performance in London. The MOPC makes this process and accountability clearer and gives Londoners a further voice in how their city is policed.
- 2.4 Through the MOPC the Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be directly accountable for police performance in the capital, setting the Met Police's strategic direction and allocating resources. Operational policing will however remain the responsibility of the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Bernard Hogan-Howe.
- 2.5 The London Assembly will scrutinise the work of the MOPC through a new body, the Police and Crime Committee (PCC).
- 2.6 The Police and Crime Committee (PCC)

The London Assembly <u>Police and Crime Committee</u> (PCC) examines the work of the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and reviews the police and crime plan for London. The Committee can also investigate anything which it considers to be of importance to policing and crime reduction in Greater London and make recommendations for improvements

## 3. Frequently Asked Questions:

3.1 Who will oversee the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS)?

The occupant of the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPC) is an elected individual tasked with holding the MPS to account on behalf of the public. This approach came into effect on 16 January 2012. The occupant of the MOPC may be supported by a Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime.

The City of London Police continues to be overseen by the <u>Common Council of the City of London</u>. (External link)

In November 2012, elections will be held for Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs), who will then hold to account the Chief Constables of most police forces outside London.

3.2 What has happened to the Metropolitan Police Authority?

The Metropolitan Police Authority was abolished in January 2012 and the occupant of the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime is now responsible for overseeing the Metropolitan Police Service

3.3 Who can make a complaint against the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPC) or a Deputy?

Anyone can make a complaint about the MOPC or their Deputy to the London Assembly's Police and Crime Committee.

3.4 How do I make a complaint about someone working for the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS)?

The department for recording and responding to complaints on behalf of the Commissioner is the Directorate of Professional Standards. You can contact the Directorate of Professional Standards at:

Metropolitan Police
DPS Customer Services
22nd Floor
Empress State Building
Lillie Road
London
SW6 1TR

3.5 How do I make a complaint about the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS)?

The Commissioner of the MPS is accountable for all of the work of the MPS, and will be held to account by the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPC). To make a complaint about the Commissioner of the MPS you should contact the MOPC at:

Professional Standards Office Mayor's Officer for Policing and Crime 10 Dean Farrar Street London SW1H 0NY

3.6 How will complaints about the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPC) or a Deputy be handled?

There are a number of routes through which complains about the MOPC or Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime can be channeled. In order for a complaint to be dealt with more quickly, you should make it directly to the London Assembly Police and Crime Committee.

The Committee will decide whether to record the complaint. The decision whether to 'record' a complaint is the first step in dealing with it. Members can expect the Committee to record the complaint unless it thinks either that the subject of your complaint has been, or is being, dealt with already through criminal proceedings, or that the complaint has been made before, but then withdrawn. This last section may be open to legal challenge where people have withdrawn for valid reasons we can expect it be reported or see precedents set through the courts.

If the complaint is recorded, the Committee will decide whether your complaint must be referred to the Independent Police Complaints Commission. When it receives a referral, the IPCC will decide whether the complaint requires investigation and, if so, what sort of investigation should take place.

If the Committee decides that your complaint does not need to be referred to the IPCC, or if the IPCC determines that your allegation does not need to be investigated, the Committee will take steps to resolve your complaint itself. The Committee may appoint someone to deal with your complaint on its behalf.