



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

13 September 2022

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House of Commons
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I am writing to you as I begin my Commission to set out my priorities for the Met and policing London over the coming weeks and months, ahead of my first appearance as Commissioner in front of the Committee this autumn. I look forward to working with you and the Committee in my new role, as I take forward my mission to deliver more trust, less crime and high standards.

It was an honour to take the oath and swear allegiance to His Majesty The King on my first day in office as Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Service, alongside Dame Lynne Owens who also took her oath as the new Deputy Commissioner of the Met. I am incredibly proud to begin my leadership of this organisation at a time when the eyes of the world will be focused on the UK, and on London in particular, as ceremonial events begin to mark the life of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. I join the nation in sorrow and I have shared my condolences personally with His Majesty The King. Her Majesty's unstinting public service, stoicism in times of turbulence and dedication to the people she served has shaped our nation immensely.

In the next two weeks, I have two priorities: firstly, to lead a Met that enables Londoners and visitors from all over the world to safely pay their respects to Her Majesty the Queen. Second, as we continue to police local communities, we will begin the journey of reform to **renew policing by consent**. Through my leadership, I am determined to bring **more trust, less crime and high standards**, and build trust and confidence in our police service once more.

We will renew the uniquely British invention of policing by consent. We can only do this by standing shoulder to shoulder with those we serve, and we must listen to those groups we have failed to protect. The Met has been too weak in confronting racism, misogyny and other repellent behaviour. This cannot continue and it is my personal mission that we are ruthless about removing those who corrupt our integrity. We will repair our foundations.

I am also determined to build the strongest community policing model this city has ever seen. By sharpening our response to those crimes that matter most to residents, including street level drug dealing and antisocial behaviour, Londoners will feel the impact of local officers tackling local issues. Many Londoners and victims of crime rightly feel our day-to-day service is not good enough. We must prevent and detect more crime and get the basics right.

To do this we need to be driven by data and facts. We are going to use world class data and analysis assisted by best practice from around the world to help us make the best use of public money and develop new ways of working that benefits the public and our officers the most.



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However, the Met cannot do this alone. We need the support of communities, partners, Members of Parliament and Government to achieve a better police service for London. There are many aspects of policing – or demand for policing – where renewed thinking could free up officers' time to tackle neighbourhood crime and disorder. I look forward to conversations with colleagues in the Committee, in Government, in partner organisations and many others about how we can achieve this. For our part, we will approach this mission with candour, optimism and a desire to work together with partners to do what's necessary to renew policing by consent.

I would like to invite you to visit the Met soon to see first-hand the hard work my officers and staff do – every hour of every day – to keep our city safe. I will be their advocate to drive change and the leader who drives up standards in policing. I am determined to re-establish policing by consent across our great city – and I look forward to discussing my plans in more detail with the Committee.

Yours sincerely
Mark Rowley

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Commissioner