

Witness Name: **Kit Malthouse**

Statement no: **First**

Exhibit: **KM28**

Date: 29 February 2012

**THE LEVESON INQUIRY**

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Exhibit KM28 to the  
Witness Statement of **Kit Malthouse**

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**MAYOR OF LONDON**



**LONDON ASSEMBLY**

**Rt Hon Theresa May MP**

Home Secretary  
Home Office  
2 Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DF

**Date:** 20 September 2010

Dear Theresa

**Policing in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

We welcome this opportunity to put forward our proposals for London in response to the Home Office's consultation paper 'Policing in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Reconnecting police and the people'.

The Mayor, the MPA, the MPS and the London Assembly have worked together to tackle the issues that matter most to Londoners: fighting crime and reducing criminality; increasing confidence in policing; and making sure that the MPS delivers value for money.

We firmly believe that local people are entitled to a say over the way in which their area is policed, and all parties support the aim of increasing the accountability of policing through elected representatives.

We look forward to working in partnership with the Government to develop policing reforms, acknowledging that London has its own governance structures already in place. Changes in London therefore need to reflect the roles of the directly elected Mayor of London, the directly elected London Assembly and also the MPS's national policing responsibilities.

Our key recommendations for London are that:

1. The London Police and Crime Commissioner should be the Mayor of London.
2. The London Police and Crime Panel should be a scrutiny function of the London Assembly. The Assembly would also expect to investigate wider community safety issues.
3. The London Assembly, acting as the London Police and Crime Panel, should have appropriate powers and resources to enable it to fulfil its scrutiny role; that is, the Assembly's existing and agreed new powers in relation to the Mayor's budget, strategies, staff and information should also apply to the London Police and Crime Commissioner. The Assembly should be empowered to summons information, the London Police and Crime Commissioner and senior officers from the MPS and other relevant bodies in London such as the City of London Police, and should receive papers sent to the London Police and Crime Commissioner. The Assembly would expect to refer matters to internal audit for investigation where appropriate. The Assembly would also need appropriate resources to support its scrutiny function, including specialist audit and finance expertise.

4. The London Police and Crime Commissioner should be able to appoint a Deputy London Police and Crime Commissioner if he or she so chooses. There is agreement that this should be someone with experience of elected office. All parties on the Assembly believe that the person should be a currently serving Assembly Member. The Mayor believes that it could be an individual with recent experience of elected office. Responsibility and accountability would remain ultimately with the Mayor, who would be expected to attend meetings of the Assembly to answer questions on policing matters.
5. The London Police and Crime Commissioner should allocate the MPS's budget (subject to the Assembly's power to amend the Mayor's budget proposals by a two-thirds majority vote). The Mayor should produce a London police and crime strategy, which would be subject to an Assembly power to reject it by a two-thirds majority vote as has been agreed will apply to other Mayoral strategies.
6. The London Police and Crime Commission should be established as a legal entity in its own right under the direction of the London Police and Crime Commissioner. It should own the Metropolitan Police's assets (both physical and financial) and should be the employer of police staff. The Commission should be set up in such a way that it makes maximum use of the shared services opportunities available in the GLA Group and elsewhere and to eliminate duplication between the finance and estate management functions undertaken by officials in the MPS and in the London Police and Crime Commission. Consideration should be given to transferring the strategic finance functions relating to budget-setting and monitoring from the MPS to the new Commission.
7. Should the London Police and Crime Commissioner choose to form an advisory board then that advisory board should be drawn from all parts of London government including the London Assembly and London boroughs. Any board should be appointed according to Nolan principles and operate transparently, including meeting in public and publishing agenda papers and minutes.
8. The London Police and Crime Commissioner should recommend in partnership with the Home Secretary the appointment of the MPS Commissioner and the MPS Deputy Commissioner; other ACPO rank MPS officers should be appointed by the MPS Commissioner or the MPS Deputy Commissioner in agreement with the London Police and Crime Commissioner.
9. The complaints function that is currently carried out within the MPS should be transferred to the London Police and Crime Commission.
10. The functions currently carried out by the MPA in relation to professional standards and appeal tribunals should continue to include independent elements. The London Police and Crime Commissioner should fulfil the other functions currently carried out by the MPA.
11. The London Police and Crime Commissioner, or the Deputy London Police and Crime Commissioner, should have a formal role in any governance structures established to oversee the direction of the National Crime Agency and should be empowered to discharge full responsibility for the MPS's regional, national and international activities.
12. The structure of UK policing has a disproportionate impact on the finances and management of the MPS. Resources available for policing in London should be boosted by the savings which would be created by merging police forces outside of London; in addition further rationalisation and improved economies of scale would be achieved by incorporating City of London policing functions into the MPS.

For reasons of simplicity and avoiding unnecessary bureaucracy, we have deliberately kept this letter short. We would of course be happy to meet you to discuss some of the issues arising in more depth, should that be beneficial. Equally, we trust that our respective officials can work together on some of the detailed legislative issues arising from these reforms.

Yours,



**Boris Johnson**  
Mayor of London

**Kit Malthouse AM**  
Chair of the MPA

**Dee Doocey AM**  
Chair of the London Assembly