

MOPAC

MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

Susan Hall AM

Chair of the Police and Crime Committee
London Assembly
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4 May 2023

Dear Susan,

Thank you for your letters thanking me and Kenny Bowie for attending the London Assembly's Police and Crime Committee meeting on 25th January 2023.

During the course of the discussion, I agreed to provide the Committee with the following additional information:

Further information on the work MOPAC is doing to support victims of domestic abuse, including how victims are able to stay in their homes and the levels of investment from MOPAC.

The Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Framework was established in 2021/22 to provide the mechanism through which Domestic Abuse Duty funding for London is distributed. This funding is received from the Department of Levelling up, Housing and Communities, and totals c. £20m for London. The Framework and commissioned services have been centred around the core principles of equality, diversity and inclusion, evidence-based commissioning, and valuing partners.

The framework has allowed us to successfully embed an intersectional approach across all our commissioning processes. It acknowledges and protects the importance of led 'by and for' organisations. We have also been able to use our evidence base to identify emerging and unmet needs, ensuring that services are survivor informed and co-designed with expert providers. These inclusive commissioning processes have been recognised by central Government as good practice in the DLUHC annual report.

We have a total of 52 unique providers successfully added onto the Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Framework and 67 providers across three procurement lots (some providers are on more than one lot). A total of 70 services are provided through this first phase (referred to as Call Off 1), as well as the continuation of grant provision. This has resulted in £3.6m being awarded for services dedicated to support BME survivors and just under £3m for specialist 'by and for' led organisations supporting a broad range of survivors including LGBT+, those with learning disabilities, and male victims.

Lot 2 comprises £11.5m of new money to directly support c. 7,000 survivors including children in their own right – just under 6,000 of these through specialist support in safe

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accommodation (the remainder through helpline support). Lot 3 meanwhile provides a much-needed funding stream for infrastructure and coordination.

In addition, the London Community Foundation has been commissioned to manage grants from the Psychologically Informed Environment (PIE) Programme Fund, a £750,000 fund open to local authorities and domestic abuse organisations to improve the physical environment and social spaces of existing safe accommodation. Applicants can apply for between £10,000 and £100,000 to support projects for a 12-month period, which will result in improved safe accommodation quality and provision.

A list of actions that MOPAC is taking to support the MPS in the delivery of its Turnaround Plan.

The Mayor has provided funding uplifts to help support reform of the Metropolitan Police and deliver the Turnaround Plan. The total amounts of these uplifts are set out below. This is in addition to money already in the MPS budget which will be repurposed to focus on reform and the details of which will be established over the period to come.

Description	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m
500 additional PCSOs	21.8	26.8
Reform of Met Command and Control	2.5	2.5
Strengthening the MPS's public protection work by increasing staff capacity	5	5
Raising Standards within the MPS (supporting managers and leaders)	15	15
Total turn around funding	44.3	49.3

It is also possible that the expenditure allocations towards reform may increase in future. For example, the MPS are currently reviewing their earmarked reserves to establish if any further funding can be released and, if realised, it is likely that any 2022-23 underspend will also be applied to reform.

MOPAC is working closely with the MPS to ensure they have the tools they need to implement the Turnaround Plan and improve the service the MPS provides to all Londoners. We provided extensive feedback on the draft Turnaround Plan and as a result of MOPAC's input there is now a more explicit focus on improving the service provided to victims within the plan. We will do the same for the next iteration, which will also reflect feedback from wider engagement and the findings of the Casey Review.

We continue to provide robust oversight of all MPS activity, adjusted to reflect the priorities within the Turnaround Plan. MOPAC staff, including the DMPC and I, attend the Commissioner's Turnaround Board, which has been set up to support the delivery of this work, to drive sustainable improvements in response to HMICFRS' concerns, and to achieve the Commissioner's wider mission of More Trust, Less Crime, and High Standards. We have agreed with the MPS that MOPAC will be closely involved in each strand of the plan, working with the lead on each, and will pull all these strands together at Oversight Board to monitor delivery.

The low levels of trust and confidence that Londoners have in the MPS is one of the key challenges that we currently face. The Mayor commissioned Baroness Casey's Review to look into the standards and culture within the MPS, in recognition of the impact that incidences of serious police misconduct have had on levels of public trust in the police. The findings and recommendations of the recently published review will now inform the MPS' final Turnaround Plan. MOPAC is working with the MPS to influence further changes to the Plan to ensure strategic alignment and we are also collaborating with partners across City Hall to ensure their views are reflected in MOPAC's work in response to the Casey Review.

Relating to transparency, the review recommended that a new quarterly board, chaired by the Mayor of London, should be created to drive forward the changes called for. We are in the process of setting up the London Policing Board (LPB) which will convene a diverse range of experts, reflective of London's diverse population, to provide specialist advice to further support us holding the MPS to account for delivering on policing reforms as part of our wider strategic oversight framework.

MOPAC continues to assist the MPS in raising levels of trust and confidence in the police, and our Evidence and Insight team have been providing direct support to the MPS to apply learning from their analysis and research findings to achieve this. For example, the team recently held two-day long events with BCU staff and several mentoring sessions with officers in local BCUs to help officers and staff understand the evidence base on drivers of trust and confidence and how to apply this in practice as part of their day-to-day interactions with the public.

MOPAC also developed and continues to deliver improvements through the Mayor's Action Plan to improve transparency, accountability and trust in policing. This has introduced new community involvement in the training for new police recruits, ensuring they engage with diverse voices & perspectives from the communities they will be policing.

MOPAC continues to work with the London Policing Ethics Panel (LPEP), which is an independent panel set up by the Mayor of London to provide ethical advice on policing issues that may impact on public confidence. LPEP complements the existing structures in place in the capital to oversee the way London is police and provides in-depth consideration of ethical issues around current and future policing practice in London. The LPEP's Openness and Transparency Report is currently being finalised and we foresee this contributing towards the MPS' cultural and general policing reforms going forward.

We have also encouraged the MPS to seek external advice to support them in their work in delivering upon the Turnaround Plan and addressing the issues highlighted by the HMICFRS.

I hope this information is useful to the committee.

Thank you again for writing.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Diana Luchford." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

Diana Luchford CB
Chief Executive
Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime