

## **MOPAC Quarterly ERG Meeting Note**

**When:** Wednesday 8th May 2024, 17:00 – 19:00

**Where:** Teams

**Attendees:** Aba Abekah-Mensah, Dionne Usherwood, Lynn Ferguson, Paul Mundy-Castle (Chair), Piran Dhillon-Starkings, Jamila Bernard-Stevenson, Sara Owusu, Natasha Plummer (MOPAC) Mel Asare (MOPAC)

**Guest Presenters** (18:00) Jane Bennet Head of Integrated Gangs and Targeted Youth Support-Islington Council, Giulia Romiti, YJB

**Apologies:** Yusuf Deerow

**Resignation:** Leona Lewis has resigned from the group and members wished her farewell.

### **Welcome and Matters Arising**

Members review the minutes, one outstanding action-Trello tutorial and ERG profiles to be published. Members asked to review these again before publishing.

**Action:** Current profiles to be circulated for review

MOPAC asked how the young people found the public review meeting and AAM expressed that they found their involvement to be positive and are open to becoming involved in other matters in the future. MOPAC expressed that attendees appreciated their input and they added great value to the event.

MOPAC asked if the young people received their Thank you letter from Sophie and AAM does not believe they did.

**Action:** MOPAC to re-send the letters to AAM.

PDS asked about the visual that they were promised on where they fit into the wider policing oversight structure. MOPAC updated that a helpful draft has been created and is near to sign off. This will be circulated shortly.

**Action:** MOPAC to circulate visual once completed.

## **London Policing Board**

PMC provided an update on his role in the LPB sub-committee- People and Culture. He informed that there has only been one meeting to date and a main feature of this meeting related to disproportionate number of Black officers in the misconduct process. He expressed that he would like more transparency and communication about the investigations process, accepting that details cannot be provided but how the investigative process works would be helpful to provide confidence to Londoner's. He continued to share that whilst it's good that the Met will be doubling down on standards, but if their data evidences that Black officers are put through the formal process more than others, than this could result in Black people being disproportionately impacted even more. How can the Met ensure that equity and parity are part of these proceedings.

Members discussed the Police Powers Cohort as the Met data for 2023 to scrutinise the Grounds provided in Stop and Search has been provided. Members of this cohort are meeting with Evidence and Insight next week to plan the coding of the data.

LF provided a reminder of the rationale behind this research. Members hypothesise that unreasonable grounds are provided and this may be a driver behind disproportionality and will be analysing the grounds provided across three borough which also aligns with the ethnographic research that Crest are completing.

AAB informed that she and SO plan on pursuing the young people's survey once the young people finished their exams. SO informed that she has met with Crest on a few occasions, and they provided her with advice on how to tailor their questions for this survey.

The Lifecycle Cohort will now be led by PMC, JBS and SO who will convene soon to discuss which area of the policing lifecycle they will want to review in depth.

SO is also involved in Police Powers and this will help identify synergies between both cohorts as well as any interdependencies.

## **Disproportionality Board**

MOPAC consulted with members on the effectiveness of the Disproportionality Board and members believe that its useful hearing about developments across the criminal justice system and not only policing but that it may be helpful to focus on a few areas as this can provide richer insight. They also expressed that having clarity on how topics will contribute to Board outcomes will be helpful.

## **Islington YJS Presentation and Q&A**

Jane Bennet presented their work on an effective youth safety response informing that their strategy takes a 'whole system' approach to work in partnership to achieve lasting and sustained change. Partnership working between agencies such as social care, health, youth justice, Targeted Youth Support, Integrated Gangs Team, education, commissioned services, the voluntary sector, and the police. This has enabled services to devise 'joined-up' responses to the young people exposed to risk in their communities and families, to those experiencing trauma and mental ill health, to those who struggle at school, and to those involved in – or threatened by – criminal networks and gangs.

In Islington, the partnership's approach to tackling youth violence includes the World Health Organisation's public health model – this strategy is based on the evidence of links between personal vulnerability and involvement in youth crime and violence, endeavouring to maximise the protective factors that will keep them safe. Whether the young person is a victim or perpetrator of violence, protective factors within communities, neighbourhoods, families, schools, and peer groups can reduce risk significantly. Islington's approach is rooted in a contextual safeguarding approach and mode. Justice involved young people have been involved in the training of new police officers informing them about neurodiversity and taking a trauma informed approach and sharing their experiences of being stopped and searched. Additionally, they have been working with Met detention to address the concerns on the strip

searching of children and are introducing peer advocates and parent champions.

ERG members were keen on this work taking place in Islington and the YJB informed them that Islington is much more ahead than any other London borough and they are working to formalise all elements of this approach so that they can share learning across boroughs. It was agreed that ERG members will stay in contact with Jane to help inform their work across London.

## **AOB**

MOPAC informed that they are chasing the response to their letter they sent to the Commissioner.

The Chair offered the introduction of an ERG Deputy Chair

MOPAC offered an ERG member to attend the London Race Action Plan Strategic Delivery Group and the All Parliamentary Group.

**Action:** ERG member to put themselves forward as Deputy Chair.

**Action:** Members to consider becoming the LRAP representative

**Action:** MOPAC to send PDS more info on the All Parliamentary Group.