

6 June 2025

Marina Ahmad AM  
Chair, Police and Crime Committee  
City Hall  
Kamal Chunchie Way  
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**Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
Alexis Boon QPM**

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Dear Marina,

I am writing to you as the new Chair of the London Assembly's Police and Crime Committee to respond to the Committee's recent report on VAWG and the impact of on young people.

We note these are directed to the Mayor of London, the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and/or HM Government, rather than the MPS. Our response to each recommendation is enclosed in the annex.

Yours sincerely,



**Alexis Boon QPM**  
**Deputy Assistant Commissioner**

## **Annex**

**Recommendation 1 - By the end of March 2026, MOPAC, in partnership with London's Violence Reduction Unit and the Metropolitan Police Service, should undertake a VAWG-specific Strategic Needs Assessment. This should include working with all 32 London boroughs to understand VAWG in local areas, as well as a section on the impact of VAWG on people under the age of 25.**

We note that this recommendation is directed at MOPAC. We recognise the current limitations in gathering data on VAWG due to underreporting, and we look forward to working with MOPAC and the VRU to continue to improve the data available to us.

**Recommendation 2 - The Mayor should work with the Government to lobby social media companies to bring in more effective safeguarding mechanisms to protect children and young people.**

We note that this recommendation is directed at the Mayor of London. The MPS fully supports the need for more effective safeguarding mechanisms on social media platforms in order to protect children and young people. We will continue to work with partners and stakeholders to improve safety online

**Recommendation 3 - The Mayor should continue to lobby the Government for the introduction of a National Referral Mechanism along with data sharing initiatives to protect those who are victims of VAWG and ensure they are afforded support akin to the provisions under the Modern Slavery Act for safeguarding victims of modern slavery and human trafficking.**

**As part of this, the Mayor should host an event at City Hall within the next year bringing together those with lived experience, VAWG sector organisations and international partners with experience of successfully implementing a data sharing initiative or 'data firewall' to discuss the implementation challenges and needs such a policy would bring in London.**

We note that this recommendation is directed at the Mayor of London.

The MPS will continue to work with the Mayor and the VAWG sector to identify and address the challenges involved in implementing such a policy.

**Recommendation 4 - The Government should legislate to introduce a data firewall or data sharing and safeguarding initiative to ensure victims of violence can obtain police assistance despite their immigration status.**

We note that this recommendation is for the Government to introduce new legislation. The MPS will assist the government as required.

**Recommendation 5 - The Mayor should commission a Parent's Toolkit to support them in teaching their children about healthy physical and online relationships from a young age, based on the model for the existing School's Toolkit. This programme must include a consultation process with stakeholders, including young people, teachers, parents and VAWG sector organisations. The Mayor should commission this by 31 December 2025.**

**The programme should also establish specific mechanisms for ensuring the toolkit is updated at least every six months, to reflect the fast-changing nature of the harmful online environments that promote misogynistic attitudes and ideas.**

We note that this recommendation is directed at the Mayor of London. The MPS will assist the Mayor as required.

**Recommendation 6 - Within the next year, the Mayor should undertake an information campaign uplifting and championing relatable and 'everyday' positive male role models, as a counter narrative to the harmful misogynistic content offered by some online influencers.**

**This programme should link with the VRU's work around positive fatherhood and male identity.**

We note that this recommendation is directed at the Mayor of London.

**Recommendation 7 - As part of the renewal of the Grassroots Fund, the Mayor should publish a plan and guidance for how organisations who have benefited from the fund can access more sustainable funding sources. Guidance should also include the responsibilities of these organisations to share information with relevant authorities, such as police services, to better encourage reporting of VAWG.**

We note that this recommendation is directed at the Mayor of London. We welcome the recommendation for new guidance to improve information sharing with relevant authorities and increase reporting of VAWG.

**Recommendation 8 - As part of his renewed VAWG strategy, the Mayor should publish a fully costed multi-year financial plan for how he will support VAWG sector organisations and review their capacity and capability to deliver services over the next three years. This should be published by 31 December 2025.**

We note that this recommendation is directed at the Mayor of London. The MPS is clear that the VAWG sector undertake vital work and we will continue to work in partnership with a range of organisations to protect women and girls.