[redacted] [redacted]

Subject: Notes from the meeting on 17th June with the DMPC and [redacted] on group-based CSE
Date: 20 June 2025 15:23:00

Dear all,

I made some very brief notes from the meeting on 17th June with the DMPC and [redacted] on group-based CSE ('grooming gangs').

MOPAC/ MPS areas of focus in relation to the Casey audit recommendations, are as follows:

- Continued support/ oversight on MPS potential involvement in the national police operation/ national inquiry (rec 2), (this will be contingent on the ToRs for that work);

- Improved information sharing between the MPS and partners (Rec 5);
- Increased recording of ethnicity (Rec 4) - although this will need caveats so that MPS are not set up to fail (ethnicity can only be collected if a suspect is identified etc);
- MPS also mentioned that they will work with partners to support Rec 9 (decrease of CIN assessment in LAs based on CSE/A) although the Government response is for DfE to lead on this nationally;
- The Commander's assessment of the current situation is that the response to CSE/A is an improving picture, due to wider public protection reforms (officer uplift, training, improved partnership working etc), but there is still a way to go.

The following is how [redacted] characterised the current state of play on this issue:

- There has been significant improvements since the 2022 IICSA report on poor recording of crimes and demographics;
- Considerable investment in public protection, including uplift in CET (72) and MASH (64);
- HMICFR revisit on child exploitation concurs with this;
- There has been more marked improvements in relation to CCE with County Lines focus and Op Orochi;
- CSE under reporting in CIN assessments (by LAs) will be discussed at LASOB;

- Current MPS understanding is that:

    - NPCC/ CoP are currently taking stock of the implications of a review of cases, especially the scope/ ToR for which cases to include – i.e the definition of 'group based' is where the case includes 2 or more offenders, and including cases with a low numbers of offenders (rather then multiple) may not be a meaningful/ proportionate approach to the review;
    - For example, for the MPS, this could potentially mean including around 4,400 cases (from the last 10 years) for review;
    - Cases in London represent all different ethnicities, and there is not one case of Asian gangs;

- Complex multi-offender cases are held by central specialist crime; less complex

‘group-based’ and 1 perpetrator to 1 victim cases are held at BCU/borough level;
- There are issues with recording ethnicity of offender as this may not be disclosed at the start of the case, and then it's difficult to record retrospectively;
- The requirement for recording would have to be restricted to - where 'suspect known' (sometimes the perpetrator/ suspect is not known).

Thanks

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