

## ICV Chairs Meeting

### Meeting Agenda Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Start time 18:30 via MS Teams

#### Attendees:

|  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
|  | Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) |
|  | MOPAC                             |

Representatives in attendance from:

| Panel     | Attendee 1 | Attendee 2 |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| Ealing    |            |            |
| HTH       |            |            |
| Islington |            |            |
| Camden    |            |            |
| Kingston  |            |            |
| Lewisham  |            |            |
| Havering  |            |            |
| Bromley   |            |            |
| Croydon   |            |            |
| Greenwich |            |            |

### 1. Welcome and apologies

Actions and matters arising from September 2019 meeting

### 2. Business Continuity

- **MPS Update**

gave overview of Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) COVID secure practices including social distancing, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and additional detainee screenings.

Members discussed Custody Nurse Practitioners (CNP) and Forensic Medical Examiners (FME) coverage.

- **Coronavirus Update**

MOPAC discussed important information on the impact of national restrictions due to COVID on Custody suites and Custody visiting. Chairs discussed and informed MOPAC of the impact on Panel resilience and their wider concerns.

MOPAC outlined the Public Health England (PHE) guidance and [REDACTED] spoke of MPS specific COVID practices being rolled out.

The Mayor and other National Police and Crime Commissioners do not want to put volunteers at risk. The work of volunteers is recognised by the MPS and MOPAC as vitally important to our National Preventative Mechanism and public confidence in policing practices. We will need this more than ever in the coming months.

MOPAC has conducted a review of the locations of custody suites, ICVs' means of travel and vulnerabilities. Alongside this work we have discussed the response with other Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) and the MPS. We have agreed that the risks to the ICV scheme and risks to detention population and staff mean we do not want to postpone all visits at this time.

- **Flexible working practices**

MOPAC is advising ICVs over 70 or if they or a dependent have any health vulnerabilities not to conduct any physical custody visits between now and June, however this does not mean there is not a role for these members during this time.

ICV work is essential and MOPAC has the opportunity as a large scheme to be able to adapt at this time.

MOPAC has decided to divide the work of ICVs into three levels of engagement:

Level 1 – No Contact

Level 2 – Minimal contact between ICVs and Custody Staff

Level 3 – Contact between ICVs/ Detainees and Custody Staff

MOPAC will use ICV responses to devise remote ways of engaging with detainees and custody staff.

Members noted that pass renewal will require travel and MOPAC agreed to review MPS policy on pass collections.

**ACTION for MOPAC:** Email post meeting to all ICVs to ask if over 70/ or underlying health conditions

**ACTION for ICV Chairs:** To confirm with their panels their visiting status based on the availability of panel members.

- **COVID Secure Panel Meetings**

MOPAC will move all Panel scheduled meetings online. Therefore, there are no physical meetings between April – June 2020 and this will be under review.

At this time, MOPAC officers need to review processes for printing and posting hard copies of papers to panel members. We need to identify all ICVs who this will impact.

- **Refresher training and Initial training**

MOPAC is cancelling refresher and initial sessions next week and rescheduling for

- Monday, 27th July
- Friday, 31st July

Currently it is anticipated the training will be delivered in City Hall. However, we will also explore a level 1 option going forward by exploring online sessions. This will involve the ICV selecting a Skype or Microsoft link to join an online conference. It is free, but attendees will need to have access to a smart phone, tablet, PC or laptop.

We will also circulate the refresher slides and invite members to comment via email.

During this time our pool of trained ICVs for Terrorism (TACT) detainees requires more resilience and we would like to offer training for new TACT visitors in July as well. A separate email will go out about this.

**ACTION for MOPAC:** Send out email to confirm training has been postponed.

- **Contingency planning**

**ACTION:** Chairs ensure MOPAC has up to date contact details and emergency contact for themselves and encourage panel to provide information.

MOPAC encourages panel chairs to set up contact groups to keep in touch with all members, especially any who may be vulnerable and self-isolating at this time.

Where possible inform MOPAC if you or any of your members are sick, self-isolating or social distancing so we can keep track of this information.

### 3. **AOB**

During April the Custody estate is still expected to undergo closures and opening for the following suites:

| Closures                    | Opening     |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Plumstead (Greenwich Panel) | Bexley      |
| Hounslow (Hounslow Panel)   | Hammersmith |

We will be sending out separate emails to ICVs in these panels to discuss the closures and their roles going forward.

**Date of next meeting:  
Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020**