



Jennette Arnold OBE AM
Member for North East London
Hackney, Islington and Waltham Forest

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25 April 2017

Dear Mayor,

Please find enclosed a copy of the London Assembly report *Tackling Female Genital Mutilation in London*, which has been published today. This report follows the London Assembly's conference, Tackling FGM in London, hosted by Assembly Member Jennette Arnold in January 2017. The conference provided an opportunity for practitioners with a responsibility for tackling FGM in London to come together and share insight and best practice.

The presentations and participant discussions highlighted a number of key issues and practical recommendations to strengthen London's response to FGM. The report provides a summary of our findings and recommends that you:

- Take a visible lead and speak out against FGM. The delivery of your Police and Crime Plan must demonstrate your commitment and drive a more effective multi-agency response to FGM, with a shared vision across organisations and aspirations for action.
- Champion a communication strategy, including a pan-London campaign to raise awareness of the real risks and dangers of FGM, reaching a wide audience and signposting women and girls to the support they require.
- Regularly engage with communities affected by FGM to raise awareness, strengthen community-based prevention work and engage them in providing training for professionals.
- Actively support the provision of enhanced multi-agency and bespoke training for London's frontline practitioners.
- Lead the way in bringing agencies together to standardise the recording of FGM related information, support the collation of good practice and qualitative and quantitative data

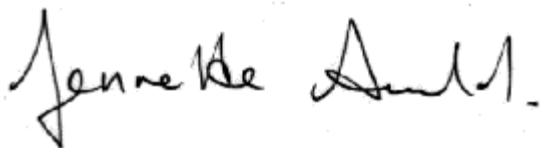
from across London's agencies to provide a robust evidence base and informed response to FGM.

- Make clear the support you will give to the police, health, social care and education services, voluntary organisations and communities to help move London towards a 'zero cutting city'.
- Make long-term sustainable investment in preventing and tackling FGM a funding priority.
- Explore options for joined up pan-London commissioning for FGM services.

As Mayor you have asserted that you will not tolerate the practice of FGM in London. I trust that the recommendations outlined in the report will be incorporated into your approach to end FGM in London.

I look forward to receiving your response to the findings and recommendations, as well as any other comments you have on the report. We would be very grateful if you could send any questions about the report and your comments to janette.roker@london.gov.uk by 25 July 2017.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennette Arnold'.

Jennette Arnold OBE AM

cc. **Joanne McCartney, Deputy Mayor**
Sophie Linden, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime