

## ICV Chairs' Meeting Notes

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

Start time 18:30

Committee Room 5

### Attendees:

	Home Office Immigration Enforcement
	Home Office Detention and Escort Services
	Metropolitan Police Service (MPS)
	Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime

Panel	Attendees	
Barnet		
Brent and Harrow ( <i>Harrow closed 11/2018</i> )		
Bromley		
Camden		
Croydon		
Ealing		
Greenwich		
Hackney and Tower Hamlets		
Haringey		
Havering		
Hillingdon		
Hounslow		
Islington		
Kingston		
Lambeth		
Lewisham		
Newham and Barking & Dagenham		
Southwark		
Waltham Forest		

Wandsworth		
Westminster		

## 1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies were received from Kingston and Waltham Forest. Actions and Minutes from March 2019 meeting were agreed.

## 2. Home Office

█ gave overview of Home Office immigration and enforcement work. Members discussed the complexity of immigration cases and detainees' needs. █ and █ discussed the capacity of the estate and explained that, where delays in collection do occur, this was more likely to be due to escorting delays rather than capacity issues.

Members asked which agency is responsible for the custody of detainees who are both immigrants in addition to being arrested for UK or international crimes? [REDACTED] confirmed that criminal matters take priority, and in these cases, detainees are in Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) custody. Only when the criminal investigation is concluded would the Home Office step in.

Data shows there has been a decrease in the number of failures to collect detainees within 24 hours and that response times for requests from the MPS are improving overall.

█ confirmed that there is no engagement between the MPS and Home Office to address or acknowledge the most suitable suites for immigration detainees who experience extended periods of time in custody due to delays in Home Office processes. Both agencies would prefer to not have to move detainees between MPS custodies, however █ acknowledged that more could be done with MPS on this issue.

The MPS do have recourse to recharge for services incurred due to Home Office detainees.

External scrutiny of the Home Office's work in this area is undertaken by the Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons and the Independent Monitoring Board who report annually to the Secretary of State.

### 3. MPS update

### 3.1 Appropriate Adults

The MPS delivered a presentation on Appropriate Adult (AA) service. This included a discussion on the levels of demand and the delays that often occur in getting an AA to attend custody suites and an explanation of Met Detention's new partnership approach, which is part-funded by MOPAC and aims to ensure more consistent and timely provision across London. The agreed approach is for a 24/7 service for both vulnerable adults and juveniles. Currently 70% of AA services are used for adults and 30% for juveniles. Local

Authorities are to be responsible for delivering services based on where an offence or arrest occurs rather than detainee's home address.

However, there have been delays in putting the new approach in place as arrangements have to be negotiated and re-commissioned with all the local authorities across London.

Members discussed need for AA services during anti-social hours and discussed possibility of retaining AAs within the suites once arrived, to be more readily available to support other vulnerable detainees as needed.

**ACTION:** MOPAC and MPS to circulate PowerPoint presentation to ICVs on provision of AA services in boroughs.

### **3.2 Engagement**

MPS gave a presentation on their Engage programme, detailing the work that is undertaken within custody to engage and divert detainees away from offending and towards support services. [REDACTED] also gave an overview of the specific work done to support children in custody.

### **3.3 Other Matters**

[REDACTED] provided further updates, including confirmation of the roll out of PAVA spray and Nicotine Patches for detainees. Members discussed the healthcare model and [REDACTED] confirmed the new Target Operating Model, which for 2021 would see a reduction in the number of forensic medical examiners and an increase in the number of custody nurse practitioners to increase overall coverage across the all custody suites.

## **4. MOPAC Update**

The November seminar dates were confirmed and ICVs reminded to sign up. ICVs were also advised of changes to the MOPAC officers assigned to each panel.

## **5. AOB**

Charing Cross: members discussed the newly refurbished suite and the innovative design.

Members discussed update on cleaning / toothbrushes – the company that makes the toothbrushes stopped making them and so MPS shifted to new supplier. Shower gel sachets are still a risk and safety issues continue as containers are left in showers.

Meeting closed: 9:00apm.

**Date of next meeting:**  
**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020**  
**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020**