

AGENDA

Meeting **Police and Crime Committee**
Date **Wednesday 31 October 2018**
Time **10.45 am**
Place **Chamber, City Hall, The Queen's
Walk, London, SE1 2AA**

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www.london.gov.uk/mayor-assembly/london-assembly/police-and-crime-committee

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Members of the Committee

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman)
Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair)
Tony Arbour AM
Sian Berry AM
Andrew Dismore AM

Len Duvall AM
Florence Eshalomi AM
Susan Hall AM
Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM
Peter Whittle AM

A meeting of the Committee has been called by the Chairman of the Committee to deal with the business listed below.

Ed Williams, Executive Director of Secretariat
Tuesday 23 October 2018

Further Information

If you have questions, would like further information about the meeting or require special facilities please contact: Teresa Young; Telephone: 020 7983 6559; Email: teresa.young@london.gov.uk; Minicom: 020 7983 4458

For media enquiries please contact Howard Wheeler, External Communications Officer – London Assembly on 020 7983 4769. Email: howard.wheeler@london.gov.uk. If you have any questions about individual items please contact the author whose details are at the end of the report.

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Certificate Number: FS 80233

**Agenda
Police and Crime Committee
Wednesday 31 October 2018**

1 Apologies for Absence and Chairman's Announcements

To receive any apologies for absence and any announcements from the Chairman.

2 Declarations of Interests (Pages 1 - 4)

Report of the Executive Director of Secretariat

Contact: Teresa Young, teresa.young@london.gov.uk; 020 7983 6559

The Committee is recommended to:

- (a) Note the list of offices held by Assembly Members, as set out in the table at Agenda Item 2, as disclosable pecuniary interests;**
- (b) Note the declaration by any Member(s) of any disclosable pecuniary interests in specific items listed on the agenda and the necessary action taken by the Member(s) regarding withdrawal following such declaration(s); and**
- (c) Note the declaration by any Member(s) of any other interests deemed to be relevant (including any interests arising from gifts and hospitality received which are not at the time of the meeting reflected on the Authority's register of gifts and hospitality, and noting also the advice from the GLA's Monitoring Officer set out at Agenda Item 2) and to note any necessary action taken by the Member(s) following such declaration(s).**

3 Minutes (Pages 5 - 92)

The Committee is recommended to confirm the minutes of the meetings of the Police and Crime Committee held on 20 September 2018 and 4 October 2018 to be signed by the Chairman as correct records.

The appendices to the minutes set out on pages 9 to 38 and 45 to 92 are attached for Members and officers only but are available from the following area of the GLA's website:

www.london.gov.uk/mayor-assembly/london-assembly/police-and-crime-committee

4 Summary List of Actions (Pages 93 - 106)

Report of the Executive Director of Secretariat

Contact: Teresa Young, teresa.young@london.gov.uk; 020 7983 6559

The Committee is recommended to note the completed, ongoing and closed actions arising from previous meetings of the Committee, as listed in the report.

5 Action Taken Under Delegated Authority (Pages 107 - 142)

Report of the Executive Director of Secretariat

Contact: Teresa Young, teresa.young@london.gov.uk; 020 7983 6559

The Committee is recommended to:

- (a) Note the recent action taken by the Chairman under delegated authority, following consultation with the party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, namely to:**
 - (i) Agree the Committee's Annual Report; and**
 - (ii) Agree the scope and terms of reference for the Committee's forthcoming scrutiny investigation of the prioritisation of common crimes; and**
- (b) Note its report, *Work of the Police and Crime Committee in 2017-18*, as attached at Appendix 1 to the report; and**
- (c) Note the scoping paper for the Committee's forthcoming scrutiny review on the prioritisation of common crimes, as attached at Appendix 2 to the report.**

The appendices to the report set out on pages 111 to 142 are attached for Members and officers only but are available from the following area of the GLA's website:

www.london.gov.uk/mayor-assembly/london-assembly/police-and-crime-committee

6 Question and Answer Session with the Victims' Commissioner (Pages 143 - 144)

Report of the Executive Director of Secretariat

Contact: Samira Islam, samira.islam@london.gov.uk; 020 7983 4591

The Committee is recommended to note the report as background to the question and answer session with the Victims' Commissioner, and note the answers given by the Victims' Commissioner to Members' questions.

7 Police and Crime Committee Work Programme (Pages 145 - 156)

Report of the Executive Director of Secretariat

Contact: Becky Short, becky.short@london.gov.uk; 020 7983 4760

The Committee is recommended to:

- (a) Note the progress on its work programme, as set out in the report.**
- (b) Agree to use its meeting slot on 19 November 2018 for roundtables to support its scrutiny review on the prioritisation of common crimes and delegate authority to the Chairman, in consultation with party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, to make the arrangements for the roundtables.**
- (c) Delegate authority to the Chairman, in consultation with party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, to make arrangements for site visits to Metropolitan Police Service Basic Command Units.**
- (d) Delegate authority to the Chairman, in consultation with party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, to make arrangements for a site visit to the Metropolitan Police Service's Mounted Branch.**
- (e) Note the monthly report from the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime, as attached at Appendix 1 to the report.**

8 Date of Next Meeting

Subject to a decision on the Committee's work programme, the next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Thursday, 29 November 2018 at 10am in the Chamber, City Hall.

9 Any Other Business the Chairman Considers Urgent

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Subject: Declarations of Interests

Report to: Police and Crime Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 31 October 2018

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out details of offices held by Assembly Members for noting as disclosable pecuniary interests and requires additional relevant declarations relating to disclosable pecuniary interests, and gifts and hospitality to be made.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the list of offices held by Assembly Members, as set out in the table below, be noted as disclosable pecuniary interests¹;**
- 2.2 **That the declaration by any Member(s) of any disclosable pecuniary interests in specific items listed on the agenda and the necessary action taken by the Member(s) regarding withdrawal following such declaration(s) be noted; and**
- 2.3 **That the declaration by any Member(s) of any other interests deemed to be relevant (including any interests arising from gifts and hospitality received which are not at the time of the meeting reflected on the Authority's register of gifts and hospitality, and noting also the advice from the GLA's Monitoring Officer set out at below) and any necessary action taken by the Member(s) following such declaration(s) be noted.**

3. Issues for Consideration

- 3.1 Relevant offices held by Assembly Members are listed in the table overleaf:

¹ The Monitoring Officer advises that: Paragraph 10 of the Code of Conduct will only preclude a Member from participating in any matter to be considered or being considered at, for example, a meeting of the Assembly, where the Member has a direct Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in that particular matter. The effect of this is that the 'matter to be considered, or being considered' must be about the Member's interest. So, by way of example, if an Assembly Member is also a councillor of London Borough X, that Assembly Member will be precluded from participating in an Assembly meeting where the Assembly is to consider a matter about the Member's role / employment as a councillor of London Borough X; the Member will not be precluded from participating in a meeting where the Assembly is to consider a matter about an activity or decision of London Borough X.

Member	Interest
Tony Arbour AM	
Jennette Arnold OBE AM	European Committee of the Regions
Gareth Bacon AM	Member, LB Bexley
Shaun Bailey AM	
Sian Berry AM	Member, LB Camden
Andrew Boff AM	Congress of Local and Regional Authorities (Council of Europe)
Leonie Cooper AM	Member, LB Wandsworth
Tom Copley AM	Member, LB Lewisham
Unmesh Desai AM	
Tony Devenish AM	Member, City of Westminster
Andrew Dismore AM	
Len Duvall AM	
Florence Eshalomi AM	
Nicky Gavron AM	
Susan Hall AM	Member, LB Harrow
David Kurten AM	
Joanne McCartney AM	Deputy Mayor
Steve O'Connell AM	Member, LB Croydon
Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM	
Keith Prince AM	Alternate Member, European Committee of the Regions
Caroline Russell AM	Member, LB Islington
Dr Onkar Sahota AM	
Navin Shah AM	
Fiona Twycross AM	Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience; Chair of the London Local Resilience Forum
Peter Whittle AM	

[Note: LB - London Borough]

3.2 Paragraph 10 of the GLA's Code of Conduct, which reflects the relevant provisions of the Localism Act 2011, provides that:

- where an Assembly Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered or being considered or at
 - (i) a meeting of the Assembly and any of its committees or sub-committees; or
 - (ii) any formal meeting held by the Mayor in connection with the exercise of the Authority's functions
- they must disclose that interest to the meeting (or, if it is a sensitive interest, disclose the fact that they have a sensitive interest to the meeting); and
- must not (i) participate, or participate any further, in any discussion of the matter at the meeting; or (ii) participate in any vote, or further vote, taken on the matter at the meeting

UNLESS

- they have obtained a dispensation from the GLA's Monitoring Officer (in accordance with section 2 of the Procedure for registration and declarations of interests, gifts and hospitality – Appendix 5 to the Code).

3.3 Failure to comply with the above requirements, without reasonable excuse, is a criminal offence; as is knowingly or recklessly providing information about your interests that is false or misleading.

- 3.4 In addition, the Monitoring Officer has advised Assembly Members to continue to apply the test that was previously applied to help determine whether a pecuniary / prejudicial interest was arising - namely, that Members rely on a reasonable estimation of whether a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, could, with justification, regard the matter as so significant that it would be likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest.
- 3.5 Members should then exercise their judgement as to whether or not, in view of their interests and the interests of others close to them, they should participate in any given discussions and/or decisions business of within and by the GLA. It remains the responsibility of individual Members to make further declarations about their actual or apparent interests at formal meetings noting also that a Member's failure to disclose relevant interest(s) has become a potential criminal offence.
- 3.6 Members are also required, where considering a matter which relates to or is likely to affect a person from whom they have received a gift or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £25 within the previous three years or from the date of election to the London Assembly, whichever is the later, to disclose the existence and nature of that interest at any meeting of the Authority which they attend at which that business is considered.
- 3.7 The obligation to declare any gift or hospitality at a meeting is discharged, subject to the proviso set out below, by registering gifts and hospitality received on the Authority's on-line database. The on-line database may be viewed here:
<https://www.london.gov.uk/mayor-assembly/gifts-and-hospitality>.
- 3.8 If any gift or hospitality received by a Member is not set out on the on-line database at the time of the meeting, and under consideration is a matter which relates to or is likely to affect a person from whom a Member has received a gift or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £25, Members are asked to disclose these at the meeting, either at the declarations of interest agenda item or when the interest becomes apparent.
- 3.9 It is for Members to decide, in light of the particular circumstances, whether their receipt of a gift or hospitality, could, on a reasonable estimation of a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, with justification, be regarded as so significant that it would be likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest. Where receipt of a gift or hospitality could be so regarded, the Member must exercise their judgement as to whether or not, they should participate in any given discussions and/or decisions business of within and by the GLA.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 The legal implications are as set out in the body of this report.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers: None

Contact Officer: Teresa Young, Senior Committee Officer

Telephone: 020 7983 6559

E-mail: teresa.young@london.gov.uk

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MINUTES

Meeting: Police and Crime Committee
Date: Thursday 20 September 2018
Time: 10.00 am
Place: Chamber, City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London, SE1 2AA

Copies of the minutes may be found at:

<http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor-assembly/london-assembly/police-and-crime-committee>

Present:

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman)
Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair)
Tony Arbour AM
Sian Berry AM
Tom Copley AM
Andrew Dismore AM
Florence Eshalomi AM
Susan Hall AM
Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM
Peter Whittle AM

1 Apologies for Absence and Chairman's Announcements (Item 1)

- 1.1 An apology for absence was received from Len Duvall AM for whom Tom Copley AM attended as a substitute.

2 Declarations of Interests (Item 2)

2.1 **Resolved:**

That the list of offices held by Assembly Members, as set out in the table at Agenda Item 2, be noted as disclosable pecuniary interests.

3 Summary List of Actions (Item 3)

3.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

3.2 **Resolved:**

That the outstanding and completed actions arising from the previous meetings of the Committee, as listed in the report, be noted.

4 Action Taken Under Delegated Authority (Item 4)

4.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

4.2 **Resolved:**

(a) That the recent action taken by the Chairman under delegated authority, following consultation with the party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM be noted, namely to:

(i) Agree the Committee's report, *Detained, not Forgotten - Healthcare in custody*;

(ii) Agree the arrangements for the Committee's site visit on 7 September 2018 to Birmingham; and

(iii) Agree the arrangements for the Committee's discussion on tackling the rise in violence in London on 20 September 2018.

(b) That the Committee's report, *Detained, not Forgotten - Healthcare in custody*, as attached at Appendix 1 of the report, be noted.

(c) That the summary of the Committee's visit to Birmingham, as set out in paragraphs 4.4 to 4.9 of the report, be noted.

5 Tackling the Rise of Violent Crime in London (Item 5)

- 5.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat, as background to holding an open microphone discussion with invited guests on tackling the rise of violent crime in London.
- 5.2 The Chairman welcomed guests with a wide range of experiences and from varied organisations who were involved in tackling the rise of violent crime in London.
- 5.3 A transcript of the discussion is attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 5.4 At the end of the discussion, the Chairman thanked the guests for their attendance and very helpful contributions and invited them to write to the Committee with any further comments.

5.5 **Resolved:**

That the report and discussion be noted.

6 Police and Crime Committee Work Programme (Item 6)

- 6.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

6.2 **Resolved:**

(a) That the progress on work programme, as set out in the report, be noted.

(b) That authority be delegated to the Chairman, in consultation with party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, to agree an Annual Report, summarising the work of the Committee during the past year.

7 Date of Next Meeting (Item 7)

- 7.1 The date of the next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, 4 October 2018 at 10am in the Chamber, City Hall.

8 Any Other Business the Chairman Considers Urgent (Item 8)

- 8.1 There was no other business the Chairman considered urgent.

9 Close of Meeting

9.1 The meeting ended at 11.56am.

Chairman

Date

Contact Officer: Teresa Young; Telephone: 020 7983 6559;
Email: teresa.young@london.gov.uk; Minicom: 020 7983 4458

London Assembly Police and Crime Committee – Thursday 20 September 2018

Transcript of Item 5 – Tackling the Rise of Violent Crime in London

Steve O’Connell AM (Chairman): We now get to the main part of the meeting. Again, thank you very much to our guests for coming along. I know you are all busy people and we genuinely do appreciate it. I know some had a little bit of short notice as well, so again thank you very much for coming along.

The context of the meeting, as I said earlier, is violent crime in London, the fact that we have had an unacceptable level of homicides reaching 100, and also, notwithstanding that, the many other victims and the families of victims that have been affected. Violence has been rising for some years but the spike this year is absolutely unacceptable. We have heard from the Commissioner [of Police of the Metropolis] in front of us that while it is stabilising - which is a word I do not like - the level is far too high. We want to hear from you today around that.

What we want to hear about today particularly, in the limited time that we have, is solutions and recommendations. We are going to be writing and publishing a report aimed squarely at the Mayor and, by extension, the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), about what Londoners - whom we represent and many of you represent also - believe the Mayor can do to address this. We heard a declaration yesterday from the Mayor about some money around the public health investigation. Therefore, we want to hear from you about solutions and we are looking forward very much around that and, again, I am grateful that you have come along.

The morning is going to be split. I will set the scene. I have spoken to some of you personally already, but the morning is split into three sections: a section about the causes of crime, a section about police in the community, and importantly, at the end, a section about what City Hall and what the Mayor can do. Each section will have an invited speaker to speak for two or three minutes. After that Assembly Members will chair that half hour, and I would ask you to indicate. We are going to be tight for time - we only have two and a bit hours - and I will uncharacteristically be quite stroppy about chairing it. If I offend anyone I am sorry, but I want to hear from as many people as possible. If you do not get the chance to speak because we have run out of time, there will be a mechanism to write to us in case you did not get the chance to say something that you really wanted to say. We do not want to miss anything when we publish our report. That is probably enough from me at the moment.

First of all, for the first five or 10 minutes, before we go into the three sections, I want very much to introduce the Mizen family. We are blessed today to have them with their experiences. As a South Londoner I was aware of the problems you had all those years before and I am delighted that you are both here. Perhaps you would like the opportunity to comment about how you perceive things may or may not have changed over that period through the work of yourselves and your foundation. I do not know which one of you wants to speak. Just introduce yourself. We have a roving microphone today so they will be heading your way when you are ready.

Barry Mizen MBE (Co-Founder, For Jimmy): Mr Chairman, thank you very much indeed for inviting us along to speak. We are Barry and Margaret Mizen, parents of Jimmy Mizen [16-year-old schoolboy], who was

murdered 10 years ago in south-east London. You just spoke about a spike and this will be the worst year since 2000, the way things are going.

We know we only have a brief amount of time to talk, so stop me about halfway through because it is important you hear from my wife.

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman): Yes, absolutely.

Barry Mizen MBE (Co-Founder, For Jimmy): My wife provides perspective as well. As to your report, I have read through the drivers you have already recognised and we would certainly agree with those drivers. I would like to add to that the driver of anger. We are not speaking enough about anger, unrequited anger, the anger we see on our streets every day not just from young people but from older people, the causes of anger and perhaps managing that anger.

Historically, about 100 people a year have been killed in London anyway, but there would tend to be a domestic basis for that and it would be a shame if this focuses entirely on the horrific instances with young people at the moment. For the overall homicides in London to be reduced would be a wonderful thing.

For us, what we have learned over the years -- we now have the charity that we call For Jimmy. We have set up a programme working within schools, working with the most recognised schools and disadvantaged young people, whether it is through their behaviour or confidence levels. For us, part of that schools' programme is about creating safe havens in local areas. At the moment we are predominately focused in two parts of Lewisham, which is the borough that is very precious to us. Hopefully, with what we have developed and the evidence we are gathering, we will be able to present: this is what we have done, these are the outcomes, and there is the evidence for that. Part of the schools' programme is creating safe havens in local areas, working with the schools, local businesses, local police and local councils to ask businesses to be places of safety should someone need them. City Hall is a recognised safe haven from many years ago.

The importance of that is not so much the safe haven but what is going on underneath that. It is about community-building. If we really want to make some changes here, we have to take the community along. Together as Londoners, we have the power to create the sort of communities that we all want to live in. There has been far too much blame going on over the years, and I am not picking out any particular areas. It is such an easy rhetoric, "Well, lock them up. We blame this, we blame the parents" or whatever it may be. A harsher punishment will not change this. Again, there are issues that you have identified. If we can change that narrative, if we can get all of us pulling in the same direction, we are very confident that changes can be made. From what we have found out from our charity, the work we do and the evidence we have gathered, we are optimistic that things can change if we want.

Mr Chairman, it is not about, "What are you going to do?" What am I going to do? It is individual responsibility for all of us in London. I would just like to encourage that. Thank you.

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman): Barry, thank you. Margaret, thank you very much.

Margaret Mizen MBE (Co-Founder, For Jimmy): I come at it slightly differently from Barry because I speak about love, really. If we go back to when we lost our son, it did not just affect our family. It affected our whole community. In fact, it affected the whole of the country, really. What have we seen in the past 10 years? We have seen a lot of people working very hard to make a difference. However, as we know, it has got

worse and I do not know why but I do think young people are losing themselves slightly and we have to look at that.

When we go into schools the one thing we do not do is go in and tell them off. We do not go in and tell them to put their knives down, put their guns down, "Do not carry weapons". We go in, first and foremost, and tell them how much they are loved, how they are valued and how they do matter. That is what young people need to hear. They need to hear more of this. They need to know they are precious and how we feel that they are the special ones, but we also believe in our charity that our young people are the change makers. We can make recommendations, we can go and help them, guide them and inspire them, but the real changes in society will come from our young people themselves. Let us listen to their voices more. We tend to go and say what we think they need but let us hear from them, let them tell us what they need and I think that is where the changes will come.

Let us stop blaming people. I hear so much that it is the Government's fault, it is the Mayor's fault or it is the police's fault. Well, I do not believe that. I believe the Government would want to make a difference. I believe the Mayor is desperate. He has children of his own. The police, they have children. They want to stop these things, so let us stop blaming and let us start working together. Let us build our communities and let us make London the great place it really is. Thank you very much for inviting us.

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman): Barry and Margaret, thank you very much. Again, a good point from Barry. This is a complex subject but, also, we must not ignore the fact of the violence in domestic situations. The numbers of homicides from that are at an alarming level. Thank you very much for that. I know that you will probably write in - if you have not already - with submissions to our report, because that was not enough time to represent your foundation. I accept that completely. We look forward to that and, again, thank you, thank you very much.

We now go to the first section of the meeting. I mentioned it is in three parts. This first part is around root causes and tackling the root causes. This is going to be led by Sian Berry [AM].

Sian Berry AM: Thank you very much, Chairman. The question we are asking in this section is: where do we focus our efforts and how can we pinpoint the real root causes and tackle those? We have heard evidence and there is talk all around London of what might be causing what is definitely an increase in violence and murder, but we are not sure. We want to hear from you what you think those root causes are. The immediate causes are criminal organised crime and drugs. We have heard stories about social media being implicated but also we have been looking at the cuts to youth services, exclusions from education and then, even further down the line, family situations, poverty and violence there. We want to hear from you about those kinds of causes and how we can focus our efforts to change them.

I want to introduce our speaker to start off this section. This is Courtney Brown. He is the founder and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Father2Father. He spoke very eloquently to us in Hackney about his work and he is here now to speak.

Courtney Brown (Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Father2Father): Thank you, Chairman, and good morning everybody. My name is Courtney Brown. I am the CEO of Father2Father. I am also the Parent Liaison Officer and behavioural mentor in Cardinal Pole School in Hackney. I am also a Senior Youth Worker in Hackney and a co-sponsor of BlackSox. The reason why I have said all of this is because I think it is necessary to show my background and where all my experiences come from.

My first thing is I look at three strands: home, school and community. I am going to start with the home first. Some of the root causes I have seen, speaking to young people in schools, are family breakdowns. What I mean by that is the fact that one parent has left the home, the young person is coming to school upset and does not have anywhere to go to talk and they start building up emotions inside. I have seen that in school a number of times. One of my solutions with those young people is to give them a safe haven so that they can come and speak and express their emotions before it leads to anger. That is one of the things I have seen.

A couple of other root causes are domestic abuse - again, which I have seen - and mental health. What we are doing in our school at the moment is that we have invited child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) in, so that we can get the early intervention and recognise the triggers, so we can put the right services in place for that young person. What we have also done is empowered the parents. We have had programmes in school where we have invited parents in so we can empower them by giving them knowledge of the triggers and where they can go, where they can signpost to get that early intervention in there. Those are a couple of things we have been doing in the school in terms of home [life].

In school, as you touched on before, there are fixed term exclusions. What we have done in Cardinal Pole School is we have turned that around by using restorative justice and, again, building a relationship with the young people. Restorative justice comes from the criminal justice system, but we have used it in school and we have had a reduction in fixed term exclusions and permanent exclusions. We have also used the young people as restorative practitioners. They have learned how to manage their emotions, but they have also learned how to mediate between themselves as well without resorting to violence, which I and the school believe will make a difference going into the community.

Also, what we have done in the school is worked with community organisations that are trusted and recognised in the community. For too long we have been looking at a school as just being in a community. I believe that the school should be part of the community. There are so many great voluntary organisations in the community that are trusted and that can come in and deliver these workshops, not just to the young people but also to the parents.

One of the biggest things that I have realised, and Hackney has realised, is cultural competence, having the right person deliver the right service, people who understand their community and are not judging the community. My own experience of that is working and living in Enfield with a new head teacher and actually witnessing my six-year-old son being pinned to the floor by the head teacher, even though I was working with the school. On the back end of that I realised it was the whole cultural understanding. He would see me from an unconscious bias thing, see me as a black man who, for him -- the number of questions he was asking me or asking my wife, whether I beat her up at home or anything. I was always questioning, "Why did you ask that?" Therefore, where was his thought process coming from? I think unconscious bias needs to be trained in the schools and in the wider community as well, cultural competency.

There needs to be positive role models. That is what we provide in Father2Father. Again, talking from experience in schools and my own experience, a lot of young people have talked to me about the absence of their father. What I mean by "absence", I could talk about emotionally or physically, and again I understand that there are a lot of fathers out there that are working to try to provide - which touches on poverty - for their children. When you sit down with young people and you can see them emotionally upset, crying because they want that connection, that attachment, then, yes, it is very frustrating and you feel emotional. That is something I went through myself growing up in Tottenham, Broadwater Farm, not having my dad around and seeing the violence that was in the house from there, hence why I set up Father2Father.

Those are just some of the things. I know it is time we are working with, so those are my opening comments. Thank you very much again.

Sian Berry AM: Thank you, Courtney. We are opening up this topic on the root causes to the floor. If you put your hand up if you want to speak, we have a roving microphone. I would like to encourage the young people from Hackney to put their hands up at some point and speak because I know they are here and they were great when we spoke to them before as well. At the front here and then at the back if that is OK, and please introduce yourself when you speak.

Amani Simpson (Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Aviard Inspires): My name is Amani Simpson. I am the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and founder of a youth organisation called Aviard Inspires. We inspire young people through personal development, media and also business. I am someone that was stabbed. Seven years ago, I was stabbed seven times in one go. Essentially, the mindset that I had then is completely different to the mindset I have now. I had to go through the pressure and I had to go through my own personal development to get there.

I think that when you look at the mindset that young people have - I echo what you said - a lot of us have lost our identity now. We are not necessarily striving for anything positive. A lot of the, I guess, negative side of our street culture is creeping into our daily lives and our habits in the way that we behave. That is something that we need to try to counteract. That is not to say that everything is negative but we need to give space for young people to explore their brilliance and unlock their superpowers, essentially.

For me, another thing that is missing is that we do not have many positive role models growing up. That may be through the lack of fathers in the home, it may be through the people that we see on our television, but we do not have a lot of positive role models and I think we need to provide platforms in our community. This is not something necessarily that is going to be put on you but, as a community, we need to provide platforms for positive people to come forward and to lead with this change and for young people to follow, in that sense. I think the other solutions - well, I say "I think" - I know the other solutions that I have are to make sure that we have the funding for these things as a community. We have youth clubs that are unused. I am from Enfield. If I told you what the situation was up there, it is a problem. We need to try to counteract these things, not necessarily rely on the Council to do these things but to empower us as youth organisations and voluntary organisations to use these spaces for social enterprise. Why do we need to keep going for funding when we have all these empty buildings we can use? That does not make sense to me. I would also say, sir, it is not even appreciated.

The last thing I want to say is - as I mentioned, I got stabbed - for me, one of the one of the things that young people really engage with well is media. I have created a film - it is a short film - and we are going to take it into schools from November [2018]. It also features my brother, Robyn Travis, over there as well. He has written an amazing book called *Prisoner to the Streets* and *Mama Can't Raise No Man*. We come from two different ends of the spectrum. I started school playing a violin. I got into a grammar school and I got stabbed. I got kicked out. I went and I did county lines. I sold Class A drugs at the age of 16, so it can happen to anybody. It can happen to the boy from the Council estate and it can happen to the boy whose mum and dad did everything in their power to make it happen. We need to give both sides of the spectrum an opportunity to talk and give them platforms to represent themselves properly.

I appreciate what you guys are doing and, as a few people have said, you guys have been doing it for a long time but it is now down to us to do some stuff as well. We need to be empowered with the spaces that you have, to be able to do what we need to do. We have been saying this for 10 years, as my brother said. We

have been saying this and I do not think the answer is going to come from the people in this room; as you said, it is going to come from the people doing the work. So just empower us to do the work, guys.

Sian Berry AM: Thank you very much.

Hamida Ali (Cabinet Member for Safer Croydon and Communities, Croydon Council): Thank you. My name is Hamida Ali. I am the lead Cabinet Member for Community Safety in Croydon [Council]. I just want to highlight a piece of work that we are doing there, which our local Safeguarding Children Board has commissioned. It speaks very much to the findings you have found and what our speakers have already said. They took a thematic approach looking at 60 cases, a thematic, serious case review to try to understand how our response to vulnerable adolescents could be improved and to see if there is something that we could learn about the common characteristics of those young people, some of whom have very sadly lost their lives and some of whom are still with us. In all of those cases, those young people were already known to the local authority and, in some instances, before they were born, their mothers were known to us.

In every single one of those 60 cases, not one of those young people had a permanent place in school. We are very familiar with the conversation around exclusions and Courtney Brown [Founder and CEO, Father2Father] - who I thought talked very interestingly about the impact of restorative justice, and I will be taking that back to Croydon - was also talking about paternal absence. What we found - and these are interim findings at the moment - was that maternal absence is also a very important feature. Again, it is that concept of emotional absence and not just physical absence, massive unaddressed mental health needs but also, in speaking to the conversation already about role models, not one of those young people had - as the jargon goes - a relationship with a trusted adult. Forget a parent; not a grandparent, not an uncle or an aunt, not a neighbour, not a mentor, not a family friend. I think that is very powerful in terms of what Margaret Mizen [Co-Founder, For Jimmy] was talking about, in terms of love and attention for our young people.

I just wanted to highlight that one approach that our Safeguarding Children Board is doing and we will be using those findings to inform our response.

Sian Berry AM: Thank you very much. I would like to ask Dwayne Vincent to speak, if that is all right. I know you have to leave before we finish today.

Dwayne Vincent (Musician, So Solid Crew): Steve O'Connell, thank you for inviting me. Most would know me as Mega[man] from So Solid, founder of So Solid Crew, founder of many other ventures, clothing lines and stuff like that.

It has been 25 years since I felt I have become an adult in the United Kingdom (UK), when I had my first child in 1995, and there are a few issues. I have grown up in a culture where we do grow our kids as adults at an early age, teenagers and stuff like that, and when we actually do leave the house, we forget the initial reason why we left our doorstep before we can enter the real world, without our parents and without mentoring from our home. A few of those things happen when we actually hit the real world. We felt that we were enemies of society or we thought we were enemies of the authorities and the communication barrier has actually left.

When I was in primary school we had police discos and we had better communication with the authorities in our area. That seems to have been lost. Like the young brother said, there are empty community halls. When I was growing up all of those places got knocked down, for whatever reason it was, and to me it just fell behind in moving with the times. Therefore, if we do have empty buildings in our areas, we do need them to be filled with staff and with people who are qualified to actually entertain the youth with technology and things that they are more interested in doing, more than just the physicality of sports or running or football and so forth.

I have been around many environments and to me I feel that our coaches are doing very well, apart from what we hear today and the rise of knife crime, which is similar to the statistics in 2010. I would say our coaches are doing well. A lot of people are successful. A lot of people are stepping into the business world - Asian, black communities - so we are doing quite well but there is still a lot more work that needs to be done. The Mayor and the authorities need to follow our communities all the way to the end and not treat our youngsters as enemies, treat them as British citizens and take care of their wellbeing.

There are many factors. I am not going to go on for too long, but I am sure there are other discussions that I would like to have with individuals on a personal basis to see if we can move forward. I am here to show my support and I am very pleased with the progress of our community over the years. It has been a long time coming. We are almost there but we just need a little bit more support from the Government and our leaders. Thank you.

Sian Berry AM: Thank you. I want to pick up Robyn Travis, if that is OK, and then over to --

Robyn Travis (Author): There is a saying - and I am going to start because we are strapped for time - in the Bible which says: "he who has ears, let him hear and he who has sight, let him see". I have been here before, guys, and I have been doing this work for over 10 years. We are being asked a question today to break down three things, which is the solution, police effort, and what is the other one?

Sian Berry AM: City Hall. Root causes?

Robyn Travis (Author): What can he do as the Mayor? We have explained it: "he who has ears, let him hear and he who has sight, let him see". I did a documentary prior to this event today. I was not coming to talk because I met Sadiq Khan [Mayor of London] the other day. I have been in a room with him. I am not sure if this lady was here but we had a meeting. We have been talking for years. This book is called *Prisoner to the Streets*. It is not about me promoting a book. It is about me promoting your questions, giving you a solution, giving you the explanations and giving you the answers and exit strategies to a mindset.

Now imagine you are playing football and everyone is shooting and that is the goal, and you guys will think you are scoring. You are all saying clever things, "We have gang issues. We have knife crime. We have gun crime". You lot all think you are scoring goals. You are even recruiting people, ex-gang members, to come and work alongside with the police to make a difference to our communities. You are thinking you are doing good work, or you know you are not doing good work and you are pretending. Now I do not know which one it is, and a lot of people on the streets we do not know if you genuinely care or you do not.

Now me, I am not going to stand up here and pretend that you guys are listening, taking in anything I am saying. I am standing here as the author of two books, which talk about parenting. *Mama Can't Raise No Man* talks about the lack of an absent father. It gives you a story. It gives you the solution. It gives you the problems and it tells you what we need in case you do not have that parent, you look past them. *Prisoner to the Streets*. Let us go back to the first book. Who in this room can say that they have been stabbed and stabbed? Who in this room can say that they have been shot and shot? Who in this room can say that that was the beginning of a war, which started in Hackney, Harley Street versus London Fields, and that they are responsible for it? I am. I still live in London Fields. I did not write a book and go to South London or any other area. I am still in the same area, getting the same respect, being the same person I used to be.

I said you are shooting at the wrong goal. "Gang issues". We do not have gang issues. Stop running with this narrative. I have been saying it for years. Funnily enough, I wrote this book six years ago. Now I am hearing people who have organisations about gangs. They get more exposure than me and they will stand up and say, "We do not have a gang issue". I wonder where they got that from. *Prisoner to the Streets* is a mindset. I have explained it. We do not have gun crime, knife crime, we have a mindset. It starts from about five-years-old, when you are on the estate - like I said in the first few pages - and you get hit and your mum says, "If anyone hits you, hit them back". Learned behaviours, emotional immaturity. It goes into the teenage stages. You hear a lot of these rappers, even in their 30s, talking out their backside because they have not emotionally developed, still talking in a way that people did, like Tupac [Shakur], when they were still young in that mindset.

But my whole purpose is this: this book a young man read who killed Quamari [Serunkuma-]Barnes [15-year-old boy]. Who has heard about that in this room? Can I get a raised hand if anybody has heard that? One, two, three. The guy who killed Quamari [Serunkuma-]Barnes read this book and he said to the judge, "I confess my crimes. While I was on remand, I read this book" and turned to the parents in court and said, "I'm sorry for killing your son, Mr Paul [Barnes] ", Quamari's dad. "I'm sorry for killing your son. Had I read this book before, we wouldn't be in this situation, I wouldn't have killed your son".

This is not *Dragons' Den*. I am not trying to sell you anything. Yes, I am not trying to talk wise to get you lot to get behind, but this book was on a curriculum and a young lady from school here, called Jess Hope, put that book into curriculum Key Stage 3. They did it as part of their GCSEs. They learned a hell of a lot. We did a short video. I was told that video was going to be shown. The second I got here and was told that video is not going to be shown, I was about to go home because I said, "What am I here for? You are not seeing the quality of my work". Now what is the solution? OK, we cannot explain *Prisoner to the Streets* in a short period of time. It is a four-hour workshop, so we cannot do this now. I am about to get cut off. But the point is - and it is disrespectful to get cut off and it is disrespectful to get rushed - when I can bring people I have stabbed right now, and put my arm around them, and people who have stabbed me, how many of you in this room can do that? How many of you have walked it, talked it and made peace? Can I get a raise of hands?

You see, if this was *Dragons' Den* you should be investing in me, is what I am saying, because I have the solution you are talking about. It is not coming from just my mouth. It is coming from the mouths of the people. It is not arrogance. It is frustration. We have been here before. I was in the room with Sadiq Khan [Mayor of London] just two months ago. He bought my book. We spoke. Talk is cheap. Get the workshops in the schools, invest, what is the solution? OK, it is not me going to a school, doing a talk, getting a round of applause. What is my strategy? It is simple: let me tour the whole country. Because when my mum was young she said, "If anybody hits you, hit them back". She was disciplining me, but she was not able to discipline your children who were hitting me. There is no point in me going to one school and educating one child. Let us get into the schools on a consistent basis. Scrap Black History Month. Let us put in *Prisoner to the Streets* month. Allow me to train young people, like my brother, Amani Simpson, all these guys who are passionate and understand, it is not a gang issue we face. It is not a knife issue because guns do not kill people, people kill people, and if you keep talking about gun crime what we are going to call it next? Actually, we have acid crime. It is a mindset. It is not the weapon. People want to cure the pain and not the addiction.

Guys, I am fed up with saying things that sound smart to get you lot to believe in the work I am doing. I could carry on but all I am going to say is: please invest in what we are doing, workshops, get this book in the curriculum, as the young children said on the DVD, that is not being shown today, and let us do work.

Sian Berry AM: Thank you so much. We will watch your film, we promise, and thank you for that. That was really great. Mark Blake, at the back, I think you had your hand up.

Mark Blake (Project Development Officer, Black Training and Enterprise Group; Cabinet Member for Communities, Safety and Engagement, Haringey Council): I am Mark Blake. I am a Councillor in Haringey and lead Member for Community Safety for the borough since May [2018]. There are just a few points I want to raise. We submitted a piece of research that we commissioned from the Godwin Lawson Foundation. It is a local charity by Yvonne Lawson who lost a son in Tottenham in 2010.

Yvonne and a team of researchers went out and spoke to young people in Tottenham, and in terms of the themes that they fed back, they want opportunities. They want safe places to go. They want their schools to operate in a different way. We have spoken about the issue of exclusions. We have spoken about how children get labelled and the poor response to those with special educational needs. They specifically spoke about racism in the school system and in the police. There was a lot of scorn for social workers as well.

I just want to make a couple of comments in terms of my observations over the last four months in the job. Firstly, children. As a Borough, we are going through what we call our Borough Plan, which is the corporate plan for the Council for the new administration. We have agreed that preventing the criminalisation of children will be a corporate objective at Haringey Council. That is going to mean real challenge for us as a local authority but also for the police, for schools and for our partners in the National Health Service and CAMHS. Quite clearly there is a pipeline in terms of children into the youth justice system and we need to do a hell of a lot better in terms of diverting young people away from that.

My second observation is austerity. We need to come out and say it quite clearly that austerity is right at the heart of this. I have a 2.00 [pm] meeting back at the Council talking about our youth justice plan for the year ahead, which we have to submit to the Youth Justice Board and to the Ministry of Justice. What has happened in terms of the Youth Offending Service (YOS) in London is that YOS in Haringey is now seeing fewer young people. They have fewer resources and those kids have more complex needs. But what is more worrying, if you think about it in two concentric rings, if you look at the kids who access the YOS and then you look at that outer ring of kids who are at risk, all the services, the youth services, the earlier interventions, they have been absolutely decimated. In Haringey in 2009/10 we had a youth service budget of about £3 million. I am dealing with a budget of less than £400,000 and I am talking to people every week who I know can make a difference, like the people speaking here now. We do not have the resources. We have a pittance to deal with this issue.

My penultimate point is around drug dealing. Drug dealing is now pervasive in London. I have to work with MPS colleagues in Haringey, so I am not criticising them, but we had a Members' briefing with our Borough Commander on Monday. Drug dealing from the prosperous west of our Borough, right across the Borough, our Council estates, our high street, is all-pervasive. The kinds of operations the MPS need to do to tackle this from an enforcement perspective are very intensive. They cost a great deal of money and the resources are not there. The worry I have is the drug dealing culture - anyone who has ever watched *The Wire* - when it becomes embedded in communities, in the people around you in your block of flats and the kids you went to school with. If your role models are in that lifestyle, if on social media you are getting pumped with that lifestyle, it is a very, very worrying trend.

My last point, which I raised with Sian [Berry AM] at a meeting in Hackney, is around mediation services. In Chicago and New York, services have been developed in terms of a public health approach around guys like a lot of people who have spoken here today, supporting them, employing them, and funding them to go out and to mediate in terms of potentially violent situations. That is at the centre of what happened in Chicago. That is at the centre of what has gone on in New York. We need to fund that. It should not be funded through the MPS. I think MPS is currently getting about £400,000 a year for a mediation company that they set up. MPS should not be doing that. The money should be coming to local authorities and we should then be funding guys - like these guys in this room - to do that work on the ground. Thank you.

Sian Berry AM: Chairman, do we have time for one or two?

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman): Two more. Thanks.

Sian Berry AM: Two more, brilliant. This young man at the front here with the white shirt and then the man at the back there.

Kevin Yfeko (Pastor, SPAC Nation): Good morning, everyone. My name is Kevin Yfeko. I have been to prison seven times and I just came out in 2016. Now I am an entrepreneur. I run a big chauffeuring company, a concierge company. The reason why I gave you that kind of introduction is because I am attached to a church called SPAC Nation. I am sure you have probably all heard about it because we make a lot of noise on social media.

Now SPAC Nation, when I came out of jail, these were a bunch of people that just look like me. Do you understand? By me saying they looked like me, it is that they could relate. There were people in that place that could relate to everything that I had been through. Do you understand what I am saying to you? The person that was talking to me was not just somebody that was trying to talk about what was happening with my life. The person that I would talk to had had some kind of experience in what I had been through myself.

Now coming from 2016, I currently run the biggest community unit group in East London right now. I know I have heard a lot of people speak but currently I am the person that has all the young people coming to my community unit at this moment in time. In the last five months we have been running, we have raised £100,000 and we gave it back to the people that we are trying to help. That is just the community unit that I am talking about. The church as a whole has raised over £1 million by itself and gave it back into the community. Every single month, or every two months, we put up the accounts, everything that we received and how much we gave back into the community. That is without any help. Do you understand? Like I said, I am not here to boast. We are here to change lives. Do you understand what I am saying to you?

It starts when you are in your house and you get an education, but when you leave your house, you also get an education. We could all be in this room thinking about what to do and how to help but as we are all in this room right now, there are a bunch of young kids or youths outside that are getting a different kind of education as well, to even harden the kind of result that we are trying to perceive today.

What I am saying is that everyone wants to work together without working together. Do you understand? There are so many different things that everyone wants to do but if we all had one voice -- do you understand what I am saying to you? If we all actually partnered up and we backed one voice and we backed something that is actually working, we would reduce everything that we are trying to reduce. We would reduce it dramatically. Do you understand what I am saying to you?

Now I am talking about, in five months, we have had over 500 people come into Eastside. Do you understand? Over 500 people. That is the community, and I have some of my mentees that I mentor here today. I have some of them here. What we do is practical. Do you understand what I am saying to you? It is practical. We can sit here and talk for two hours, like you said, Chairman. We can talk here for two hours but that is just talking. Do you understand what I am saying to you? The youth have clocked, if I may say "clocked". I know some of you might not understand what I am trying to say. But if I can say that the youth now have clocked that, when we come to places like this, all we are going to do is talk. Do you understand what I am saying to you? They have realised that if we sit in a room, we are just going to talk. Do you understand?

Now, if we can actually get a result and we can speak about something and we can get a timeline of, you know what, we have spoken about this and, "Listen, this is what we are going to do" and we actually do it, then what you will do is you will now win the trust of the young people. At the moment, the reason why we cannot change anything is because they do not trust us. Do you understand what I am saying to you? The reason why they trust me is because I have been there. The reason why they can trust him or him is because we have been there. Do you understand?

The last point I am going to make is this: you have the keys. We are not telling you to do it by yourselves. What we are trying to say to you is this: give us the key and you get behind us and you will see the change.

Sian Berry AM: That was really great and we will be making recommendations to the Mayor for action and getting involved. It is really important. That is part of our job. Just one final brief word from the gentleman at the back there.

Dave Walker MBE (Director of Mediation, Southwark Mediation Centre): Hello, my name is Dave Walker. I am a community mediator and a resident of London all my life. I just want to touch on that point that my brother said over there in terms of community mediation centres. We not only train young people in skills to mediate, we take those teenagers out of school into the community to mediate as well. They are the role models out there.

To the point that was made over there about families that are fractured, I also do work with separated parents. It is not just the fact that the parents are absent. It is the war that they are witnessing between the two parents. It is the parents fighting for contact or residence that they see. What children hear, what children see, children do, so it is also about working with those parents, so they can actually calm that. It is not just about contact. It is the quality of that contact. It is the conflict that they witness.

When we had 40 to 50 youths in the north of our borough in Southwark that were causing anti-social behaviour, when you asked them what they wanted they wanted somewhere to sit. It was about opening up the youth club. You opened up the youth club for one day, the crime rate dropped, and I tell you what, let us talk about pound notes, forget community, forget love, think about money. How much money does it cost to solve one, when you have to deal with one murder? When I was a gang mediator it was £1.2 million to deal with one murder, and that is if you find the person that committed it within a week. That is how much it costs. How many murders have we had? It does not even make financial sense. It is stupidity, what we are doing.

If you want to think about money, invest in those community mediation centres, invest in those schools, and invest in the young people. They are the role models. It does not make financial sense at all and it is as Margaret Mizen [Co-Founder, For Jimmy] touched on. It is not just about that one murder. It is the ripple effect that affects our communities in doing that. Please back your community leaders, your peacemakers. The young people can do it. Get your money into those youth clubs. Get them open. Get them skilled up.

You have heard the answers today. Let us rock on now and do it, please.

Sian Berry AM: Thank you.

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman): Thank you for answering that point around actions. You are here and many are representing a lot of people who do a lot of good work, and you are coming here with ideas that we want to turn into recommendations; that we want to then turn into solutions from this building. You can hopefully go back to the people you represent to say that there was a purpose in this, and it is to be helpful. We have heard some very positive things that we will pick up on, too many now to talk about but we have captured them and I am grateful for that.

We are now going to move into the next section, which is around the police - and welcome today to them - and relationships with the community. I think, Florence [Eshalomi AM], you are leading on that for us.

Florence Eshalomi AM: Yes. Thank you. Good morning, everyone, and thank you so much for the contributions already. In this section we are looking at what the relationship with the police looks like. I think about my own experience with the police as someone growing up in Brixton, in the heart of Brixton in Somerleyton [Road], and some of the interactions I have seen with the police and some of our young people, some of them not always good. Within seconds an incident with the police escalated and that was just because of body language and the way the police were speaking and engaging with these young people. Something could have been addressed. Something could have been dealt with quicker.

Equally, when there is an issue or a problem the police are the first people we call, so why is it that with some communities there is still a mismatch in terms of their relationship and their trust. I touched on the fact of the trust with the police, but these days they actually interact with the police a lot more.

There has been a lot said around the fact that MPS needs to do a lot more in terms of engaging with certain communities and maybe we need to encourage our young black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) men and women to actually join the police, so that the police look, feel and sound like Londoners. But the reality is the police have a difficult job in terms of going into areas that they may not be familiar with. It has to be a joint effort with the police and the communities because, time and time again, people have said that the police cannot solve this on their own. We know that the answers lie within those communities, so how can we work with the police to address and reduce this violent crime? What role can the police play in this and is it just about putting more money into initiatives, like the Violent Crime Task Force that has now received funding of £15 million from the Mayor, or do we want to go back to that good old-fashioned community policing where, actually, the police officer knew the names of the young boys and girls? When we used to run around Brixton market all those police officers knew us by first names. We need to see some of that back in our communities so that we can build up trust.

I want to introduce Thaddeus Brown, who is part of the Hackney young inspirational group leaders. He is going to talk about some of the things they have been doing in Hackney and the young black men partnership.

Thaddeus Brown (Hackney Young Inspirational Leaders): My name is Thaddeus Brown. I am currently a design apprentice at Hackney Council, so that is how I got involved in the Hackney Council for Voluntary Service and the young black men's programme that Hackney Council is pioneering. It is the first council to actually have a programme dedicated to young black men.

My journey started with Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) by me interviewing the youth leadership manager [at Hackney Council], Ayodeji [Adeoshun], and then he put me on to a bunch of workshops and events that that were doing. Some of them are police training; some of them are stop and search meetings that we have with the police.

In terms of what a better relationship looks like with the police, I want to give you a visual. The other day I saw a staff headline that there would be a bike mechanic at Mabley Green on Saturday. I did not know what else was happening. I did not know the context of why there was a bike mechanic at Mabley Green, but I wanted my bike fixed for free, so I went down on the Saturday. When I got there, it was a whole event. There was actually a boxing/sparring thing happening. There was an amateur, turning professional, boxer from the area that had come down to help the kids out and stuff like that.

When we first got there we just thought, "OK, this is like a fair". There were loads of kids around. You could see it was obviously a community event, so the first thing me and my friend did was try to find a bike mechanic because that is what we wanted to do, get our bikes fixed. As we went over we were approached by police, so the police that were at the event. It already sounds like a negative story, which is quite crazy, but it is a positive story. Our first interactions started off positively. They offered us meal tickets to then get food for free at the food stand, so something so simple. I thought, "Wow, OK". I was already anticipating a negative interaction when it first happened. I was probably expecting them to ask me, "Are you guys OK? This is a community event", whatever, to try to mediate a problem that maybe did not exist. That was my kind of anticipation, but what I saw was that they were there to actually serve the community. You actually forget sometimes that the police are actually there to serve the community.

I had to look back in hindsight to my experience in my childhood, because I am 21 years-old, so being a young kid growing up, I do not ever remember having a positive image of the police. I do not ever remember seeing police in my community doing positive things, so that event alone -- there were kids at the event, so I was thinking, "What is this doing for the kids at the event? It is giving them a good positive interaction with the police. You are getting to understand that they are there to actually serve and protect, not just enforce", so that was really cool. That is a visual I just wanted to give to you guys. That is what a better relationship with the police looks like, because I can tell you I do not remember seeing that when I was a kid growing up. It is good that that is happening now and we need more of that.

In terms of what HCBS is doing and what we are doing in Hackney, like I said we are doing stop and search meetings. We are meeting police officers at the police station and we are essentially talking to them about educating or cultural competence, like Courtney [Brown, Founder and CEO, Father2Father] mentioned before, so those are the types of things we were doing.

I believe that this is all good work and this is all bringing us to a better relationship, but the ultimate thing I need -- so what we are tackling there, quickly, is we are tackling the negative perception of the police within the community. That does need to happen within the police and the community as well. By engaging in these events that will happen anyway, so that is why I used that visual because it serves a mutual purpose. The community are seeing the police as people that are just serving, protecting them and keeping the peace, and the police are seeing the community, no animosity. They are seeing how we engage and interact with one another, which is high-energy. We might be loud, but this is how we interact with each other. When I say "we" I mean particularly the black community that exists in these areas where youth crime and youth violence are quite prominent. That is working-class communities in general.

Going on from that, I believe that all this work can be done and it is good but, ultimately, we need accountability. In terms of the community's perception of the police, we need accountability. The situation, like the [death of] Rashan Charles incident. I know that has been resolved recently. It has come out to say that the police officer has not been charged. Nothing has happened and it was justice, I guess, or it was fine. That does not do much for the trust and the confidence of the community in the police. That actually destroys a lot of the work that had been built up in, well, just building that foundation of trust. It absolutely destroys it. If we continue to have incidents like this and there is no police accountability whatsoever, we are basically just doing this work for nothing is what I am saying. That is what I wanted to say.

Florence Eshalomi AM: A range of areas and I think a key question coming out from that - and it is something that we on this [Police and Crime] Committee do - who is policing the police? It is right that police officers are held to account for their actions if there is a wrongdoing. I think the rollout of an introduction of things like body-worn cameras, something that a number of us have campaigned for, is long overdue and it is something that is welcomed. I think it is about making sure that people - not just young people necessarily - know their rights when they are being arrested, in terms of how far an officer can go. If there are incidents, like Section 60 [Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994] is implemented, people know that is happening.

But it is about looking at the wider role of the police as well, in terms of what they can do in terms of helping us. I think the police are crucial. We have to remember that these police officers were young as well. Some of them did grow up in the area, so they have an important role to play. I just want to get some thoughts on, maybe we can hear from former police officers as well - we have a few in the audience - on what role we think that the police can play in helping us to address this issue. Do we have the microphone?

Leroy Logan, (Youth Violence Commission; former Superintendent, Metropolitan Police Service): I am Leroy Logan, a 30-year veteran police officer, and primarily, since leaving the MPS in 2013, I am working with the voluntary sector. I have been doing that since 2001 when we set up a youth leadership programme. One of the things about the leadership programme - which is now a Business and Technology Education Council (BTEC) level two - is they actually get UCAS points at year nine, which the [former] Mayor, [The Rt Hon] Boris Johnson [MP], used to fund but these things move on, so we get our own funding.

The key issue that those young people say on a day-to-day basis, during that 100-hour programme we do, is they feel over-policed and under protected. That is a theme they have said for the last 17 years since 2001, and we have been feeding that back into the MPS. A lot of it is around the leadership of that borough and, in particular, the supervision of the officers.

We know violence has peaked and troughed over the years but at least, say 10 years ago, we had the supervision, more hands-on. Supervision now is very much arm's length. You do not see a sergeant patrolling with an officer, just to see how they interact during that critical encounter and, as a result of that, you are seeing that officers -- most of them are good but there are those who do not understand their impact in that critical encounter, and so that one bad encounter can roll back trust and confidence. Whereas, if it is dealt with respect and dignity, that builds trust and confidence and that builds intelligence, and that for me is one of the keys to good policing, the cultural intelligence. The cultural competence is key to know how to work with your communities.

Another issue is the lack of capacity in policing at the moment. It is firefighting policing we are seeing, and they are just reacting to events. There is no proactivity, so as a result of that you are not getting the partnerships with the community, the voluntary sector, in particular with young people, not recognising the adverse childhood experiences they are going through. Therefore, the narrative is you try to scare them into

submission, “Drop the knife” or “Drop the gun” or whatever you are doing, instead of caring for them and recognising the trauma they are going through.

Until we get that mindset shift, a paradigm shift in how policing is conducted on a day-to-day basis, and how it can have an impact on long-term interventions and preventions, and I will end with this. About five years ago the clear up rate for murders was over 90%. That has now halved. Now you could say to some extent it might be down to fewer officers. Remember, we are 700 detectives down in the MPS alone and we are under 30,000 for the first time in 15 years. You have to then say, “Where is the wall of silence? Where is the barriers?” They are not getting information. Some of it is through fear, some of it is through not really appreciating the impact police have on them but, more importantly, it is because people are thinking, “Well, if clear up rate is half, that person has got a 50/50 chance of getting away with it”, so you have a really negative cycle that policing needs to understand.

Unfortunately, I feel that a lot of my colleagues are in denial. They do not really understand the scale of it. It is not just about police numbers. It is around not working with the communities that we serve in a sustainable way that they believe appeal in principle, the police of the community and a community of the police.

Florence Eshalomi AM: We also have a member from the Greater London Authority (GLA) Peer Outreach Team who has got some thoughts. Is it Georgina Appeageyi? Do you want to share your thoughts with us and then we will come back to some comments?

Georgina Appeageyi (Hackney Inspirational Young Leaders): My name is Georgina. I would just like to quickly mention that I used to go to Cardinal Pole School. I do not know if you recognise me, so hi. While I was at Cardinal Pole School I used to be part of a lot of initiatives that were run by the council and various charities in the local area in Hackney.

One of those charities was an organisation called the Youth Independent Advisory Group (YIAG) for Wick Ward. This was an advisory group that was a youth section for an independent advisory group that had already existed, where the people of Wick Ward could come together and advise the police on how they should be going forward. We had a youth faction where we would meet with the police and we would sample some of the initiatives that they were thinking of rolling out to schools and local youth communities. For example, I remember when they brought out a stack of cards that they intended to use as a game in order to make young people more familiar with the police, their role and their rights, in an attempt to bridge the gap between our community in Hackney and the police.

Unfortunately, services like the YIAG were shut down because of lack of funding. Of course, I was in school during the financial crisis in 2008 so a lot of youth groups that I attended after school were also shut down. People who used to go to the YIAG were people who teachers recognised could either go down one route, which would not be particularly good for them, or another route. I remember a boy who used to go to the YIAG, who used to work with the police, and after it was subsequently shut down, went to the other route.

I am just here to say, like others have been saying, building that relationship with the police, allowing young people to be comfortable, allowing for attitudes to change around the police and the community and allowing for these relationships to develop is vitally important. It is very sad to see that we are losing people to the streets because we are not able to build that relationship between young people and the police.

Florence Eshalomi AM: Thank you. Could we get some more comments? I have Margaret [Mizen MBE] in the front, then two young people at the back there and Alastair [Reid].

Margaret Mizen MBE (Co-Founder, For Jimmy): Thank you, Florence [Eshalomi AM], for allowing me to talk again. I love what you were saying about going back in time because to have the bobby on the beat, if you like, getting to know the community, is definitely what we need. However, I want to take you back to when Jimmy was killed. I am the mother of nine children. My role in life was to be a mum. I had never had anything to do with the police until my son was killed. The day that he was killed the police came around and I was very apprehensive. I was really frightened. They were coming into my house and we were going to be given a Family Liaison Officer. Again, I do not want this person in my house.

But what I found was that these police officers were absolutely amazing. The Family Liaison Officer was a young woman of 30 [years old] who came into our house and we could phone her at any time, this very young woman. I think we have learnt not to trust the police but we know that the majority of the police work incredibly hard and we must recognise that as well. I feel they do a lot more work than we all know because I know when Jimmy was killed they worked 24 hours a day. They did so much work underneath that nobody knew about. We must recognise that. What is going on in society, we have to let the police do their work. We are criticising them all the time while they are out there trying to find the perpetrators of these crimes. Please, please let the police do their work. We know there are some who are not so good but the majority are.

Also, what we do in our charity [For Jimmy] is we have safety conferences. Twice a year we have these safety conferences. We bring about six schools within the Lewisham Borough together with Community Officers, the police and people from our local authority, and we get the young people to talk to the police, to talk to people from the local authority, to question them and to build that relationship. We need to build relationships.

I am going to touch on stop and search. It might be something that you all disapprove of but I have to speak about it because I have always disapproved of stop and search. However, at this moment in time, with what is going on in London, we have to have it. In the short term, not the long term. If you talk to a mother who has just lost a son or a daughter and they say, "If we had stop and search my child's life would have been saved", how would you feel about that? Let us also praise the police because they do a fantastic job, and for those who are not working so hard, they are the ones we need to watch. Thank you.

Florence Eshalomi AM: Hear, hear. No, thank you.

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman): The GLA Peer Outreach Team are bursting to speak. They are towards the back. Do you want to indicate, guys, and make sure you do not miss out? There you go, Florence [Eshalomi AM].

Mwila Chilufya (Peer Outreach Team, Greater London Authority): Hi, my name is Mwila [Chilufya] from the Peer Outreach Team.

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman): Just do one at a time. How about that?

Kismet Meyon (Peer Outreach Team, Greater London Authority): Yes. I am Kismet [Meyon] from the Peer Outreach Team.

Lemarr Nembhard (Peer Outreach Team, Greater London Authority): And I am Lemarr. We are from the Peer Outreach Team and we are all different ages, from 15 to 25, from different backgrounds and different walks of life.

Kismet Meyon (Peer Outreach Team, Greater London Authority): Basically what we do is we work for the GLA and we advocate for young people. We have done a lot of work with serious youth violence, we have done a lot of work with the Mayor. We also worked on his Knife Crime Summit. We sat on the panel discussing the findings that we found working with a range of young people from Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) and Youth Offending Teams (YOTs). We found that there was a range of issues that young people face with the police, one being trust. A lot of the things have been raised. One thing that we wanted to round up is that if you empower young people, then we can know our rights, we can stand up and we can come up with better solutions, but also if we are being stopped at that moment by the police we will be able to handle situations better, as opposed to getting yourself in more mess. Also, the whole thing about support. We do a lot of outreach work with these young people and YOTs so that they can understand that there are different groups out of situations like employability, crime and all the issues that have come up today.

Mwila Chilufya (Peer Outreach Team, Greater London Authority): Yes, and a lot of the things that Kis [Kismet Meyon] has mentioned with the young people that we have done work with, we have found are really important. Not only, as Lemarr has said, have we found it important that young people should be from all different spectrums who have experienced what we are talking about today, people on our team have also experienced and lived through what we are talking about today. That is why we find it very important. We also have done a lot of work with some roadshows and PRUs as well, understanding what young people require and want. We have found in lots of research young people talking about trusted relationships with an adult.

Kismet Meyon (Peer Outreach Team, Greater London Authority): Also, obviously the community should play a part, not just the police. Faith leaders should also play a big role, and like you mentioned about there being bad police, it is about police understanding that you do get racial profiling. They need to hold accountability, as was mentioned earlier as well.

Mwila Chilufya (Peer Outreach Team, Greater London Authority): Thank you.

Florence Eshalomi AM: Before we go on to Alastair [Reid], can we just get the young boy at the back? Then we will come to Alastair and then to this side. Thank you.

Islam Fessih (Young Advisor, Waltham Forest Street Base): Hi, I am Islam from the YIAG in Waltham Forest. We have been set up since 2008 and we have been working really closely with other boroughs such as Newham and Tower Hamlets to set up the YIAG. We have helped Southwark Young Advisors, which are a national network, a national charity, to set up their own YIAG. What we do is we work very closely with young people and the police to enhance community safety. We do a lot of work with the Youth Offending Service. We go out into schools, deliver assemblies and workshops.

I think the most interesting thing that we have found being a part of the YIAG is that by training new police recruits, they come to understand how intimidating it is to be stopped and searched as a young person, especially when you do not know your rights. You feel sort of threatened by an individual who is more knowledgeable than you are.

One of the things that we teach is an acronym called SEARCH. Staying calm, S. E, eye contact. Making sure that you are engaging in eye contact with the police officers who are stopping you. A, asking questions. "Officer, is this a stop and search or a stop and account? Do I have to give my personal details?" R, receipt. Gaining the receipt from the stop and search so you can take it forward if you feel like you have been stopped without enough evidence. Record. "Officer, can I record this conversation for my own proof and my own safety?" C, confidence. Making sure that you are treating it as a conversation rather than a confrontation. H,

making sure that you are holding the stop and search to account. As a young person, if you feel like you are being stopped and searched without a justifiable basis you cannot take it forward.

One of the things that we try to bring forward as the YIAG is that as much as we, as young people, all sat here love to do the work that we do, we do not have enough resources and tools to go out there on a national scale and help these young people who need our help. The thing is I know that you guys are looking for the answers. We have the answers. We need your support to go out there and be the voice of young people. A lot of the young people out there need our help. It is about finding them and providing them with the resources that we have that are already there and have worked time and time again. They are successful.

There are a lot of people who we work with, who are in the YIAG, who are former criminal justice system members. They have been through the criminal justice system. When we go out there to schools and they tell their speech and tell their story of how they have been stabbed or they have sold drugs or whatever they have done that has been illegitimate, there is a pin-drop silence. When it is from young person to young person, peer to peer, it is what really gets to them. It does not make sense for an adult who has not been through the criminal justice system to talk about it and talk about what the solution is. It is about providing young people with a platform to speak, and actually go out there and change the UK and change the world.

Alastair Reid (Lambeth Safer Neighbourhood Board and London Independent Youth Safety Advisory Board): Thank you, Florence [Eshalomi AM]. I am Alastair Reid. I am a retired MPS police officer and, swinging the lantern a little bit, I was runner-up Community Constable of the Year in 1997.

I want to look forward. This is about relationships between communities and police. Relationships are a two-way street. Communities have a responsibility and it is only right and proper that community responsibilities are identified, promulgated and supported. The flipside of that is that Dedicated Ward Officers (DWOs) must be ringfenced and selected appropriately, not just put in place. They need to be the best cops possible on the streets to do the most wonderful work, engaging with communities. The final point I want to make: engagement is not measured. What does not get measured does not get done. Let us have a strategic directive that engagement is measured and that DWOs are fully ringfenced, not just used as some operational pawn on the board. Thank you.

Superintendent Darius Hemmatpour (Violent Crime Taskforce, Metropolitan Police Service): Hello, I am Darius Hemmatpour. I am currently a Superintendent in the MPS and I work on the Violent Crime Task Force. Just a couple of points I would like to make, really. First, about the work that we do, which obviously is quite an important aspect in terms of policing. Obviously, that has its place. I would say that post any event where sadly someone has been assaulted or the subject of any type of violence, whether that is a homicide or perhaps somebody has been stabbed, shot or subject to domestic abuse, it requires, of course, an intervention. It requires a proactive response to investigate that crime and to try to prevent further incidents from happening, perhaps because of community tensions, using our tactics, whether that is stop and search - which I appreciate is a very divisive tactic - or things like working with the community around weapons sweeps, anything at our disposal really to try to reduce the amount of weapons that are out on the streets of London.

Critical to a lot of this is engagement. Of course, we have heard today from many people in the audience that it is absolutely critical that we the police are seen as part of that community. We can only do that by working with people in the room here and by having some of the shackles around performance measures taken off, and I think we are seeing a change in that tide, moving away from perhaps performance measures to working far more holistically with our colleagues. Again, that also includes colleagues in other organisations and agencies in the public sector, where it is absolutely vital that, whilst we are all subject to austerity, we come together for

a common purpose, realign our priorities and make sure that we all have the same objectives, which does not always happen. That could be a key issue.

The final point I would say does kind of relate to some of our powers around stop and search but also some of the powers we use to search people post an arrest, for example. In the last 18 months we have seized 4,200 weapons from the streets or from people in London. Now, I cannot quantify my next comment, but it begs the question, "How much violence could that have caused? Could that have prevented homicides, further acts of violence?" Who knows, but 4,200 weapons is a significant amount.

Florence Eshalomi AM: Thank you. I am just mindful of time. We just have time for one more. The gentleman at the front there has been indicating for a while.

Sergeant Michael Stephens (Community Engagement, Metropolitan Police Service): My name is Michael Stephens, I am a sergeant within the MPS and my actual role is running a project called *#Together* at the moment. I work on the Central Engagement Team and my job at the moment is to work with the Superintendents of each Basic Command Unit around London to empower the communities to come to us with your ideas and solutions, to work with us at the moment.

My colleague here [Thaddeus Brown] spoke about the Community Event Days that he went to when he was younger. That is what I put on at the moment. My job is to plan the Community Event Days, to go to the local Safer Neighbourhood Teams, the DWOs that you mentioned to get everyone to put together a Community Event Day so that people get the positive interaction. They include our Territorial Support Group, who do the convoy stuff for the Violent Crime Taskforce. They go out, they talk to the community, tell them why they go out and do the stop and searches, what powers they have. They welcome the feedback from these days. Then I take the best practice from them and put them into other events.

So far, we have done five or six across London. The first one started off in Enfield and they are beginning to grow, but I need people to come to us as well, and the local officers, who then feedback in to me. On what the gentleman said there in relation to monitoring engagement, the Commander holds a weekly conference all with all of his Superintendents around the engagement that has gone on. I collate all of those returns into one document briefing for him, so he knows about the engagement that is going on in the boroughs. That then goes back to the Commissioner [of Police of the Metropolis].

Any projects, anybody that is in this room or if they know of anybody else outside this room, go to your local police teams and feed it in to us. It comes in to me and I will happily put on these Community Days so that we get all of our blue light partners - Fire Brigade, Ambulance Service - and all the schools, communities and local authorities. But we need the volunteer groups as well. Everyone has mentioned funding and everything else. If we do pull in the same direction we will get there, but we need you to come to us as well. My team is only so big, there are only so many of us and there are many organisations out there. Please come to us. Please tell us who you are and how we can help. I will gladly put it all together and feed it back in to the higher echelons of the MPS as well.

Florence Eshalomi AM: Thank you.

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman): Thank you. Thank you very much. Before I introduce the next section, I am going to use the Chairman's prerogative. I know Councillor Selman has been indicating. I want all the Cabinet Members to have one opportunity to speak. I think you were indicating, Caroline, were you not?

Caroline Selman (Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Policy, and the Voluntary Sector, Hackney Council): I am Caroline Selman, I the Cabinet Member for Community Safety at Hackney Council. It was partly, first of all, just to endorse some of what was said about the importance of the opportunities for the police to speak with, engage with and exchange views with young people and members of the community. You really can see the difference when you meet a police officer who has, for example, been on the Stop and Search Monitoring Group, *Trading Places at The Crib* [Youth Project] or different workshops at schools in terms of the change of perspective.

The real challenge that comes with that is the high turnover you have in officers, which was touched on by Florence [Eshalomi AM]. You also have police officers who are coming from off-borough, often, who might not have had the opportunities to have those exchanges of views. I would endorse what was said before about the importance of ringfencing and also supporting DWOs because some people naturally do it and other people do not. They need support, but how best to do it? It is also about ensuring that there is an MPS-wide commitment. You can be doing lots locally but there needs to be an MPS-wide strategy with measurables in it that sends a clear message that it is not just a 'nice to have' but is fundamental to the success of the job.

The other thing I just wanted to say was slightly picked up on by Florence [Eshalomi AM], about the police reflecting the community that they are serving. Often when that gets raised the answer back is talking about the requirement for people to be recruited locally. That helps but that is not the answer when you look at what the diversity figures are, the workforce diversity figures are still very low in terms of BAME and, in particular, black representation. There was a campaign a few years ago about languages. There needs to be something much more assertive about going out and speaking to the people that the police want to see in the workforce, so that it is genuinely serving the community that they are there to protect.

Florence Eshalomi AM: Thank you.

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman): Right, thank you for that. We are now going to move on to the last session, which is the logical end to the morning, trying to drill down what more or what indeed can City Hall and the Mayor do. It will be interesting to hear from colleagues around that. Susan [Hall AM], I think you are leading on this.

Susan Hall AM: Thank you. Good morning. The question here is, "What is the role for City Hall in helping you to prevent violence?" It has been touched on that it is a case of helping you because there are so many issues here. There are so many reasons for violence and one size does not fit all by any means. Somebody said, "We want to know if you care". I can assure you everybody around this table does care. We are all absolutely in listening mode. Somebody said, "But we want you to do something". This part of this morning is for you to tell us, in very short terms, what you think we can do. It does not all revolve around money. There are lots of other things. I have taken a lot of multi-agency approaches when I was Leader of Harrow [Council] to solving issues and there is absolutely no doubt that the multi-partnership approaches really do work. I am hoping that the gentleman who is going to talk to us next, Kristian Aspinall, is going to tell you what he is doing in Lambeth.

Kristian Aspinall (Lead Commissioner for Crime and Disorder, Lambeth Community Safety Team): I am going to talk briefly about the public health model, partly because I do not think I can speak as eloquently about direct intervention as our previous speakers and partly because it is a current term that is being used a lot. It is key to what we are doing in Lambeth and I think it is key to the long-term solution to this.

First, just so everyone is on the same page, what do I mean when I say “the public health model”? In really simple terms, the analogy I like to use is that if there is a cholera outbreak in a village or town, you do two things: you treat the people who are immediately sick and then you find the dirty water that is causing the sickness in the first place. What we have tended to do is focus most on the people who are currently sick, who are currently vulnerable when it comes to knife crime, and what we need to do is focus more of our efforts on stopping the illness in the first place.

You have to do two things at once. You have to work to prevent the immediate risk. That is the young people right now who are in danger or whose siblings are in danger, those immediate cohorts. Then you also need to fundamentally change the borough and the communities so that it is not happening in the first place, which is a much longer and different thing.

First, in terms of what we are doing in Lambeth, one of the main things is changing the whole system. Traditionally this is the responsibility of a Community Safety Unit working with the police and maybe some specialist Children’s Services Officers. If you are going to try to make a long-term change, it needs to be everybody’s job. It is not just my job as our Community Safety Lead, it is also housing officers, librarians, leisure centres. You have to make every part of the system think about youth violence and about those long-term causes.

Secondly, they have to be locally led partnerships. As many people have already said repeatedly, this cannot be done from the outside. It cannot be done by the statutory services. We all have to be working together. Also, when you are talking about changing communities each community is different. There is no one size fits all solution and you have to have a partnership at a very local level with those communities.

Then finally, underpinning that there is a single Borough approach, which is not just a Council plan or even a Council police plan, it is a plan for the whole Borough of Lambeth involving our charities, our residents, our housing associations and the statutory services.

I was going to speak briefly about what works but being conscious of time, the most important thing I would say there is that if you are trying to change a community, the community has to want to change and the community has to lead the change. That can only be done if the community is not just consulted on what we are doing but part of developing it. That is a really important step. It is quite challenging, especially for people like me in local government and statutory services, but the fact of the matter is we do not have all the answers and only when we have other people around the table, can we write the plans and develop the actions that make the most sense and will have the effectiveness.

They also need to be long-term. It is not just about funding the interventions right now but if you are trying to tackle the things that are causing violence, things like adverse childhood experiences, parenting and mental health, those are not issues that are solved in a one or a two-year programme. Our strategy is for 10 years and to be honest with you, that is an optimistic estimate for some of the things we are looking at here. You need to commit for a long term if you are going to tackle what is causing this in the first place.

Finally, just to finish up on City Hall, I thought of two things where City Hall has a key role to play. The first is linking back to that shift. It needs to shift away from the police and crime agenda. It needs to shift away from the community safety agenda. They and myself have a key role to play but we are not the entire solution here and the role for City Hall, in my view, is to champion this across all aspects of London. These issues that are causing this in the first place are not caused by the police. They are caused by housing, by mental health and things like that. You can only tackle those if you bring everybody in.

The second thing is around that hyper-local approach. If you are trying to change a community the best people to do that are people already in the community, but it is very, very hard for a very small local group to make the leap from working in one estate to then getting funding, getting regional attention or even national attention. City Hall is an enabler of local practice, working in a direct line through the local council, the local police and the local third sector groups, so that we are not asking people who are doing brilliant work and who are trusted very much by those communities to make that huge leap. They can work with their local boroughs and deliver solutions that way.

Susan Hall AM: Thank you. A lot has been said about the so-called Glasgow model and that is correct, but we must all remember Glasgow is a completely different area. It is much, much bigger and therefore looking at it borough-wide may well be the solution. Does anybody else have -- right, OK. Who has not spoken? We have not heard from you. The gentleman at the back.

Nana Benson (Young Advisor, Southwark Street Base): My name is Nana Benson and I am a Southwark Young Advisor. I have my manager up there. One of our projects is called *Street Base* and what we do is we go and we engage with young people throughout Southwark. We want to spread that and do that throughout all other London boroughs. One thing that I think works well is engaging and interacting with young people. Me personally, I do not think you need funding to talk to young people, to interact with them. Normally for me personally when I am out doing *Street Base* it is easy to interact with them because they might see me and think, "Do you know what? I can get along with you, I can relate to you, so I can open up to you".

One of the things that I think works well is conflict resolution. It is just a thought and I would like to get other people's opinions, but can you imagine two opposing gangs, trying to talk to them and end the conflict and get their feelings as to why they are against each other? I feel like effective communication, basic skills like effective communication and active listening can work well. I would just like everyone to give it a try, try to talk to young people and interact with them. Ask them, "How do you think things can be done to tackle the problems in our community?"

Susan Hall AM: The lady next to you. I do not think we have heard from you.

Roni Weir (Young Advisor, Waltham Forest Street Base): Hi. I am from the Waltham Forest Young Advisors. We are trying to roll out the same model as Southwark Young Advisors, to do a *Street Base*. We did a pilot project of *Street Base* for one week when there was a spike in youth violence in Waltham Forest and we had amazing results from it. We engaged with 450 young people in that week alone. We were out there and we were a face that people could recognise and relate to. We thought that that was for us to do, to go out there and support our young people and to direct them into positive opportunities and ask them what they want. A lot of them know what they want if you speak to them and say, "What is it we can do for you? What would be an ideal solution for you?" It is about us being out there and proactively speaking to young people.

We are hoping to roll this out more. Like Nana said, all the boroughs should have this and be able to have funding to go out and deliver *Street Base* for young people, to be there.

Susan Hall AM: OK. Thank you. The gentleman at the back there we have not heard from. Thank you.

Stephen Griffiths (Director, Copenhagen Youth Project): Hi there. My name is Steve Griffiths. I am from Copenhagen Youth Project, based in King's Cross. I have been looking at a number of things here around education, health, early intervention and rehabilitation, all areas that need a lot of concentration.

What I see as probably the biggest problem is trust. The voluntary sector have some amazing projects and we are all front-facing. We are based in the communities. We see the people, we know the problems and we have the solutions. Support is required from the statutory sector. We are front-facing. The statutory sector should be behind us, backing us and unblocking some of the blocks that are preventing funding from coming through. I think about simple things for the statutory sector. Secure emails. Information-sharing protocols. I look at the Bronze Group, the Gold Group, I look at the Magpie meetings. The representation is not good enough from the voluntary sector because there is a lack of trust. For me it is about getting behind the voluntary sector organisations, getting behind a lot of the people in this room who spoke very well about the solutions. They do have the solutions, but they have to be trusted. That is what I would want to leave it with.

Susan Hall AM: We will go back to this gentleman.

Courtney Brown (Founder and CEO, Father2Father): Thank you. One of the things we have done with Father2Father, we used a model called an asset-based community development model, ABC. What we have done is looked in our community at what is available without funding and [can be] just basically approached. Also, what we have done is set up a mini consortium with other organisations: Leroy Logan's organisation, VOYAGE, Manhood Academy. We are all organisations within the community that came together and looked at, "What talent do you have? What can you bring in? How can we use your skillset and just come together?" From that we were able to develop a park festival called A Father's Love where the whole community came in and was able to practice love. It was about talking about empowerment with the young people, it was about parents not feeling that they are on their own and can share their problems but not be judged. We did that in Hackney this year at Hackney Marshes and we had about 400 people there. We are looking to roll it out again.

There is something about the asset-based community development, recognising that the community has people with talents and gifts who are willing to give up their time freely. We just want City Hall to recognise that and the people of stature to recognise that, not look at us as though we do not have the answers. We do. Work with us. That is what I would say.

Susan Hall AM: OK. Thank you. The gentleman in the middle, please.

Alastair Reid (Lambeth Safer Neighbourhood Board and London Independent Youth Safety Advisory Board): The question is: what is the role for City Hall? Empowerment. Just the one word. Empowerment. Encourage and empower all 32 boroughs to have their own Violence Reduction Units, City Hall to have a pan-London violence network and really to commit to the 10-year-plus model that Kristian [Aspinall] outlined, support boroughs in unblocking obstacles, coordinating media, encouraging and supporting information-sharing, and resourcing the borough Violence Reduction Units. That is the role for City Hall.

Susan Hall AM: OK. Thank you very much. The gentleman at the end, please.

Leroy Logan (member of the Youth Violence Commission): Thank you for allowing me to speak again. I just want to highlight the Youth Violence Commission, the All-Party Commission report. The interim report was published in July [2018] and we have a substantive report that is coming out later this month. It is going to parliamentary conferences so we hope that we will get political will because all of this is not going to happen unless we have real political will nationally and regionally as well as locally. We have already spoken about the public health approach and the Violence Reduction Unit, and that is our first recommendation in the report that we did in July [2018]. We need to have that political will. It was very appropriate and we

welcomed the Mayor's announcement yesterday around this, but a lot of it is how that is rolled out and having the right people to deliver it. We want to support that because everyone here can plug into that and get that critical mass of advocates, practitioners and academics to work in all the aspects that have been highlighted, especially what has been done in Lambeth.

Like every single initiative that the public health approach relies on, trust and confidence in policing is a key part of it. I know my ex-colleagues do an amazing job, I do understand that, but it is just like stop and search. Stop and search is a blunt tool but it is sharpened up by community intelligence. Trust and confidence is aligned with community intelligence. The more confident people feel in their police service and other statutory agencies, the more they will give information.

Also, the narrative has to change, as has already been said. I understand the enforcement piece. I understand that they have to apprehend those who are committing these crimes, especially those who are grooming. We have not spoken about those individuals who groom youngsters into this, and it is extensive and very complex. But the key thing is that you have to make young people feel confident and less fearful on the street. They need to feel secure so that they do not fall into the hands of people who groom them into that. One thing also is around exclusions. I remember when I was Deputy Borough Commander in Hackney I used to say to the heads of schools, "Once those individuals are excluded they are my problem, because they are four to five times more likely to be involved in crime when they are outside education".

All I want to know is that we understand those key elements. The elements are there. The Mayor has made the pronouncement yesterday. We have to hold him and his team to account on how he delivers this because we are at a paradigm shift and at that tipping point where we can really make some breakthroughs because the people of London are desperately seeking it.

Susan Hall AM: Yes. You are quite right, they are indeed, and this is why Assembly Members are here. We are here to hold the Mayor to account. Who has not spoken? Has anybody here not spoken? No. In that case I will come to you.

Amani Simpson (Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Aviard Inspires): Hey again, everyone. I have a handful of solutions and I just want to roll them off so you guys can write them down.

I personally believe that essentially you guys need to encourage business from an early age in school. I think we have a one size fits all model when it comes to education and we need to look at the ways that we can engage with young people who are not necessarily going to go through the traditional means of school and go and end up being, I guess, employees. Some of these from early have really entrepreneurial minds. You see it in the way they survive the street. Someone said to me a lot of people in corporate positions could never spend a day on the street, looking over your shoulder, trying to hustle your way through life and make something of yourself. We have to use that in a positive way. We have to show them that these same skills that you guys have that you use to maybe do illegal things, this is how we empower you, which is a word that has been used today. This is how we empower you to create businesses and create different solutions for you and your family.

I also think that we need to think about positive mental health. We always talk about the negative side, depression and anxiety. What we need to think about are the affirmations that we are saying to each other, "I hate you" and these really depressing words. We need to say, "What are all the positive words that we are saying to ourselves and we are saying to other people?" These are things that are going to change the way

that we speak. As they say, there is power in the tongue. There is power in the things that we say over each other, the things that we listen to, that we digest and put into our system. We need to really challenge that.

I also think it is about allowing aspirations to flourish from early, from an early intervention stage. You speak to kids and they say, "I want to be a policeman, I want to be a footballer", for example, "I want to be an information technology developer," whatever it is that they have at an early age, we allow them to be given these opportunities to, as I said before, embrace their superpower. Everyone has something. They all have a purpose. We need to just go and be empowered to really chase that.

Finally, I would say -- not finally. One more point after.

Susan Hall AM: There are quite a few people still.

Amani Simpson (Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Aviard Inspires): Literally I am going to wrap up very quickly. There is a project called the 4MATION Project by a lady called Temi Mwale. She has asked me to get involved in that and that goes back to what Leroy [Logan] said in terms of having something that we can do, almost like a manifesto, something we can present to politicians. Essentially, as we said, this is great, I understand that we have a role to play here, but really to get this changing we have to do it on a political level.

Finally, self-defence.

Susan Hall AM: Self-defence?

Amani Simpson (Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Aviard Inspires): Self-defence. There is an organisation called The Safety Box run by Nathaniel Peat and essentially what they have been doing, they have been working prisons for many years. They have some serious statistics in terms of turning around these violent -- they are violence interrupters, essentially. We have to look at the fact that this is a problem. Yes, as you said, weapons are part of the problem, but we need to look at how we can defend our kids as well.

Peter Whittle AM: What kind of self-defence, sorry?

Amani Simpson (Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Aviard Inspires): I think the best way to look at it is: how do you defend yourself against a knife? Essentially, yes, the first case is run away, but if you are in a situation: how are you going to disarm that person and stop them from stabbing you in that moment so that you can run? Then teaching them about first aid and all these different things that are going to allow them to save lives. We have to empower the young people who are going through this every day. This is not going to affect them for probably about five years, let us be real. We need to think about what we are going to do tomorrow that is going to help these young people to really live and then go to some of the solutions that we are talking about doing, basically.

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman): We will canter through. Make sure you write to us later so that we capture all those because there was loads of good stuff there.

Amani Simpson (Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Aviard Inspires): 100%. I've got you, don't worry. It is fine.

Susan Hall AM: I will come to you in a minute. The gentleman at the back, can I ask one very quick question? You said it would be a good idea to have a mediator, in effect, between gangs. That is something quite different. Exactly who would that be? If you have two gangs as an example, it sounds like a really good idea but who would you have to mediate? Who would the communities think would be a good idea to mediate?

Nana Benson (Young Advisor, Southwark Street Base): People that they will listen to. I do not want to sound rude but if a gang member was to look at you and you were to interact with them and say, "Look, you should come off the road", they probably would not listen to you. That is just a fact. But they might look at ex-gang members or they might engage with them. They might think, "Do you know what? I do not want to die". Do you know what I mean? "I want to stay alive". There are gang members out there who I have spoken to who have said that they have had former gang members talk to them and be their role model, encourage them to come off the road, that there are better things out there.

Susan Hall AM: OK. All right then. Thank you. It is just a different idea and it would be interesting. This gentleman.

Robyn Travis (Author): Cool. Just quickly, briefly, to the young kid over there, loved that train of thought. Please, guys, please stop using the "gang" word. I do not care if they even claim they were in gangs. You have to have a 'prison to the street' mindset before you even become a gang member. Most of them Bloods and Crips have been killing each other from the 1970s. They have a mindset before joining those gangs. If you are going to look at the system of how Bloods and Crips came to be, brother, we went from Black Panthers to Bloods and Crips. Stop using the gang narrative. Eradicate that word from this youth field, please, everybody, because it is not fair. It further reinforces a stereotype of people who dress and look like me, that "gang" word.

Mediation, great. We have heard his points. He is a young man. I have heard his points over 10 years now. I came up here not long ago and said there are people who I have stabbed, who have stabbed me, and we could all be here now and talk about ways to go forward. Can any of you do that? I have asked the question. No one has given me the answer. I am hearing the same old rhetoric and we are sitting here and clapping. No disrespect to anyone here. I really do not mean to undermine anyone. I have been doing this for years. I can bring every person I have stabbed, every person who stabbed me, without going to the police to get justice. We resolved our own issues. Why are we not getting the work done? Because you -- no disrespect. I am not saying "you" as individuals. You guys as a system, City Hall, you are not putting your money where the people who can -- everyone here is talking about talking to the guys.

Susan Hall AM: Well --

Robyn Travis (Author): Sorry. I am the guy you are talking about. I brought guys from --

Susan Hall AM: Right, I --

Robyn Travis (Author): One second. Let me just make a point so you guys understand the work. I did a book launch in Hackney --

Susan Hall AM: We do understand.

Robyn Travis (Author): Sorry, no, I do not think you do.

Susan Hall AM: But we are just asking --

Robyn Travis (Author): Sorry, one second. I will leave in one second. Sorry, just one second.

We did a book launch in Bernie Grant's (purpose-built multi-arts centre in Tottenham, North London). I am just trying to show you the evidence of the work. I had Hackney and Tottenham boys in the same room. Fact. You know I am not lying. I do not see people putting this in the media. You lot are talking like this is something, a new idea, a fresh idea. Temi Mwale, she had a company called Get Out of the Gang. It was only from reading *Prisoners to the Street*, but she understood things about child trauma and [she] learnt and I was able to speak on the things that I am educating [people about]. I am saying stop silencing me out, stop putting me on the same level as people who only started work the other day, and hear a message that has a solution. I am begging today. Whether you do not fund me or not, I need to be allowed into the schools with people who understand this concept.

Susan Hall AM: OK --

Robyn Travis (Author): I know you are trying to cut me short but I will finish right now. I need the support. I do not care about the money, just let us into the facilities --

Susan Hall AM: Stop that. No, no, if I could just stop you because we definitely got that message in the first and I shall be, for one, looking at the book to see. We are all interested in any solution because every single one of us in this room wants to put an end to this violence.

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman): I have your book.

Susan Hall AM: Right, who else is --

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman): I have your book. We have your book.

Robyn Travis (Author): Let me give it to someone who can actually --

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman): No, I have this. Now you sit yourself down. I want your book. I want to take it home.

Robyn Travis (Author): I do not want to waste my time, mate, like, we are talking about serious --

Susan Hall AM: This gentleman.

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman): This is fine. This is cool. Right, next one. Go on, Susan.

Dwayne Vincent (Musician, So Solid Crew): As the brother said --

Robyn Travis (Author): --

Susan Hall AM: Excuse me, could -- look, let us listen to everybody because everybody has a different angle to come from.

Dwayne Vincent (Musician, So Solid Crew): Once the brother's got it off his chest because he is right, a lot of people have spoken today. There are many solutions.

Susan Hall AM: Yes.

Dwayne Vincent (Musician, So Solid Crew): One of the situations that I have seen in our communities is that there are a lot of new builds, there are a lot of new things being built in our community. I am not sure whether the people who have lived there over 20, 30, 40 years have an invested interest in these builds, whether it is a new gym, a new community hall, a café, whatever it is. There has to be some way where we can -- like I say, prevention is better than cure.

If it was a community centre that was built and family members and local charities actually earned from these new builds, from these new gyms, then we might see a lot of change. We might see an incentive for families to send their kids to these places, where in turn it is invested back into the families and the communities. I see a lot of new things being built up in these communities but the people who live there do not have any communication. We do not necessarily need money from the Government. People can come to me, people can come to a lot of our peers who have a lot of money now. Like I say, we are successful as well and they can come to us but we do not have the jurisdiction, we do not have the authority and we do not have the access to take over these places and in turn utilise it for our communities. That might be one solution that we could look into. A lot of these private companies have access to our communities and are building things that we did not necessarily ask for, but if they are entering our communities we need to have some sort of invested interest which in turn delivers income and support for the families in the community.

Susan Hall AM: We have time for one other person.

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman): I just thought it would be really great to hear, for the last voice, from the GLA peer guys, youth. Come on. That would be nice to finish on a good note, if it is fine with you guys.

Kismet Meyon (Peer Outreach Team, Greater London Authority): Yes. We are the Peer Outreach Team. Firstly, I want to say thank you for City Hall for giving me a platform, for helping me out of my situation and whatever I went through in life. What I wanted to say is obviously we are a team of young people helping these young people. We need ammunition as well from City Hall. I think what everyone has said today and what that man has said, that is just passion. At the end of the day, obviously it is a build-up of a lot of feelings and a lot of things that need to be said out, but all in all we want to talk about solutions and I think that one thing you could do - because it is not all just people on the streets, there are also the young people who have severe mental health issues, who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, all of these issues - is to try to access them as well.

One thing that I have not heard today is online services. Maybe do an online directory of services that are already existing. Get some people to do some mapping. You have the Peer Outreach Team. We can take that work on. Maybe you can map services around areas so young people can go online themselves, be proactive and find things that help them, so it is not all down to the Government. Then they can find these local organisations helping. That is about it. Thanks.

Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman): That is brilliant. Right, I would like to thank you all for that. I think all those who wanted to speak did have the opportunity and we are grateful for that. I am just going to finish briefly a tiny bit of business here.

Lastly, again, massively thankful for what you have done today. If you have not been able to say something you wanted to, write to me. We are going to be publishing a report and we are going to be using this stuff, so watch out for it and please do keep in touch with us. Thank you very much.

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MINUTES

Meeting: Police and Crime Committee
Date: Thursday 4 October 2018
Time: 10.00 am
Place: Chamber, City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London, SE1 2AA

Copies of the minutes may be found at:

<http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor-assembly/london-assembly/police-and-crime-committee>

Present:

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair)
Tony Arbour AM
Sian Berry AM
Andrew Dismore AM
Len Duvall AM
Florence Eshalomi AM
Susan Hall AM
Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM
Peter Whittle AM

1 Apologies for Absence and Chairman's Announcements (Item 1)

- 1.1 An apology for absence was received from Steve O'Connell AM (Chairman).
- 1.2 In accordance with Standing Order 2.1B, Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair) chaired the meeting.

Deputy Chair in the Chair.

2 Declarations of Interests (Item 2)

2.1 Resolved:

That the list of offices held by Assembly Members, as set out in the table at Agenda Item 2, be noted as disclosable pecuniary interests.

3 Minutes (Item 3)

3.1 Resolved:

That the minutes of the Police and Crime Committee meeting held on 5 September 2018 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

4 Summary List of Actions (Item 4)

4.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

4.2 Resolved:

That the outstanding and completed actions arising from the previous meetings of the Committee, and additional correspondence, as listed in the report, be noted.

5 Responses to the Committee's Report, A long way from home, Improving London's response to women in the criminal justice system (Item 5)

5.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

5.2 Resolved:

That the responses from the Mayor and the Metropolitan Police Service to the Committee's report, *A long way from home, Improving London's response to women in the criminal justice system*, as attached at Appendices 1 and 2 of the report respectively, be noted.

6 Question and Answer Session with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and the Metropolitan Police Service (Item 6)

6.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat as background to the questions and answer session with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS).

6.2 The Chair welcomed the following guests to the first part of the meeting:

- Sophie Linden, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime; and
- Craig Mackey QPM, Deputy Commissioner, MPS.

6.3 A transcript of the discussion is attached at **Appendix 1**.

6.4 During the course of the discussion, the Deputy Commissioner undertook to provide:

- An estimate, when available, of the cost of running the Airwave contract and the delayed Emergency Services Network (ESN) contract simultaneously, as part of a phased implementation of ESN;
- Monthly data for the last 12-month period on the number of calls that were not graded "I" or "S" but where a police officer was required to attend a scene; and those that did not require a police response;
- Findings, when available, for the reasons in the increase in 999 calls both nationally and in London; and
- Monthly data for the last 12-month period for the number of 101 calls which were abandoned.

6.5 The Deputy Commissioner undertook to review why 739 cases of possession of a weapon had been screened out in the last 12 months. He also agreed to contact Len Duvall AM about a matter he had raised in his constituency concerning the way in which neighbourhood teams gave briefings.

6.6 The Chair stated that he would write to the guests with the Committee's questions relating to anti-social behaviour.

6.7 At the end of the discussion, noting that this would be the last meeting of the Police and Crime Committee at which Sir Craig Mackey QPM would lead for the MPS, the Chair paid tribute to Sir Craig Mackey QPM for his contribution to policing. Other Assembly Members then added their tributes. The Chair wished Sir Craig Mackey QPM well in his retirement.

**Greater London Authority
Police and Crime Committee
Thursday 4 October 2018**

- 6.8 The Chair welcomed the guests for the second part of the meeting:
- Sophie Linden, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime;
 - Rebecca Lawrence, Chief Executive Officer, MOPAC: and
 - Siobhan Peters, Chief Finance Officer, MOPAC.
- 6.9 A transcript of the discussion is attached at **Appendix 2**.
- 6.10 During the course of the discussion, the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime undertook to provide:
- A list of publication dates for MOPAC's Quarterly reports, together with a list of MOPAC's dashboards and note of how regularly they would be updated to all Assembly Members;
 - The current number of MPS police officers;
 - A timeline for the Greater London Authority's procurement of a case management and correspondence system, of which MOPAC would be a part; and
 - Examples of work that has been undertaken, following feedback from Independent Custody Volunteers, to improve the experience of those in custody.
- 6.11 At the end of the discussion the Chair thanked the guests for their attendance.
- 6.12 **Resolved:**
- (a) That the monthly report from the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime, attached at Appendix 1 of the report, be noted.**
 - (b) That the report and answers given by the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and the MPS to the questions asked by Members be noted.**
 - (c) That the Chair write to the guests requesting the follow up action.**

7 Police and Crime Committee Work Programme (Item 7)

- 7.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.
- 7.2 The Chair stated that the Committee's next meeting slot on 16 October 2018 would be used for informal activity.

7.3 **Resolved:**

That the work programme, as set out in the report, be noted.

8 Date of Next Meeting (Item 8)

8.1 The date of the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, 31 October 2018 at 10am in the Chamber, City Hall.

9 Any Other Business the Chairman Considers Urgent (Item 9)

9.1 There was no other business the Chair considered urgent.

10 Close of Meeting

10.1 The meeting ended at 12.42pm.

Chairman

Date

Contact Officer: Teresa Young; Telephone: 020 7983 6559;
Email: teresa.young@london.gov.uk; Minicom: 020 7983 4458

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London Assembly Police and Crime Committee – Thursday, 4 October 2018**Transcript of Agenda Item 6 - Question and Answer Session with MOPAC and MPS – Panel 1**

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): If I can now move to the main part of the agenda, which is the question-and-answer session with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC), welcome to Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime Sophie Linden and, from the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), welcome to Sir Craig Mackey QPM, Deputy Commissioner, and Assistant Commissioner Neil Basu. We have a set of questions on a number of issues. One set of questions has been withdrawn on women in the criminal justice system.

In the light of recent events, in particular the Westminster [Bridge terror attack of 22 March 2017] inquests, can I invite you, Sir Craig or Assistant Commissioner Basu, to make a statement? Then Members may have some questions to follow your statement. We are also grateful for the written statement that you provided to us, which was given to us just before the start of this meeting. Thank you.

Neil Basu (Assistant Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Thank you, Chair. I will make a statement. I will just caveat it. As we sit here, a jury is being sworn in for part two of the inquest into the shooting of Khalid Masood and so, in terms of answering questions, I am somewhat limited by what I can say.

I would say exactly what we said yesterday: it is the MPS's position that all of our thoughts - and certainly of everyone who works for me - are with the families and the victims of that terrible attack on 22 March last year [2017]. It was the first of a series of attacks; this is the first inquest and part one finished yesterday. The dignity and sheer resilience of all the family members involved was unbelievable for the four weeks of that first part of the inquest. They have demonstrated that throughout.

I said it yesterday: we unreservedly accept the Coroner's conclusions. The Chief Coroner should be commended for what was an incredibly rigorous examination of the entire process. I will read what he said. He said:

"Due to shortcomings in the security system at New Palace Yard, including the supervision of those engaged in such duties, the armed officers were not aware of a requirement to remain in close proximity to the gates. Had they been stationed there, it is possible that they may have been able to prevent PC Palmer suffering fatal injuries."

Yesterday I said the merest possibility that we could have prevented Khalid Masood murdering Keith Palmer is a matter of huge regret and the MPS is deeply sorry. To the family of PC Keith Palmer, I repeat that apology today.

We still await the detailed narrative from the Chief Coroner in terms of why article 2 was engaged in this inquiry, but we do accept his conclusions around the failings of supervision, but, as I said, we do await his detailed narrative.

To go further in terms of the MPS's position about what it has done as a result of Khalid Masood's acts last year, the reviews into parliamentary security have been extensive. We of course did not wait for the inquest before we put those reviews into place. Sir John Murphy [QPM, DL, Professor of Advanced Policing Studies, Liverpool John Moores University] was also brought in by Parliament to look at security in the parliamentary estate. We have taken his report very seriously. In fact, Sir John has been back to look at what we have done. We have disclosed that to the Chief Coroner; we cannot disclose it in a public forum because it contains matters of national security, but there has been extensive work put in place after Keith Palmer's murder to make sure that we are properly protecting both the public seat of democracy and of course our officers who work within that environment.

There were a number of other issues raised at the inquest which did not engage article 2. I was not going to cover those today; you may have questions on them. One of them which is pertinent to our all of our officers is the issue of body armour and that was dealt with during the inquest. It did not engage article 2. The body armour that is currently worn by police officers in this country is effective but is only effective where it covers you, and where Keith [Palmer] was murdered the body armour was not engaged. Unfortunately, in order to protect somebody entirely - and there is body armour available to the military - it would be completely inappropriate for a police officer to wear. You simply would not be able to function as a police officer if you were wearing that kind of body armour. Expert evidence was called. There is work trying to find the next generation that will help better protect our officers, but the current armour is the best that we have. I thought I would make that point as it has not really been made publicly since.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): Thanks, Assistant Commissioner Basu. Craig, do you have anything to add?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): No, that has covered it.

Andrew Dismore AM: Thanks for that, Neil. It is important to remember that the murder was committed by Masood, whatever the failings may or may not be of the MPS or anybody else. He is the one responsible for the death.

The question I am going to ask, though, is about the inquest. Commander [Adrian] Usher [MPS] had to apologise for giving misleading information to the inquest. I just wondered if you could say how that came about.

Neil Basu (Assistant Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Commander Usher faced somewhere in the region of 10 hours of incredibly intensive questioning. Our counsel described it as 'pitiless'. At one point, he gave a very fulsome account of all of our security procedures, policies and processes. He was questioned on a particular piece of detail. On that detail he was uncertain. He gave an answer. He was required to come back and talk about that answer later on. He had been shown many thousands of documents during his preparation for his evidence. One of those documents was effectively a piece of paper which was part of a supervision system that was put in place by a particular Inspector. That was found very late in the day. It was one of those perfect storms. That Inspector was on paternity leave for an extended period of time. The supervision system he had put in place for post notes was on his own personal drive, not on the MPS shared drive, and so when it was being searched for by inquest teams they could not find it. It was found late in the day and then, when it was found late in the day, it was put to him. That is how it came about.

The second part was about the use of the ADAM system. The ADAM system is a computerised system which holds all of the post notes for armed officers. He was asked a question about how often that system had been

used. He gave the answer that 83% to 84 % of officers had accessed that system. That was correct, but he was not aware from his original briefing about the time period when that inquiry had been done, which was from 2012 to 2017. Again, he had to come back on the Thursday and clarify that statement. Those were the two issues in question.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): Thank you for coming along, Assistant Commissioner.

Neil Basu (Assistant Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Thank you for the opportunity.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): Before we come to the substantial body of questions, there are couple of questions from Members on the Emergency Services Network (ESN). Can I bring in Assembly Member Pidgeon, please?

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: This was in the news only yesterday and we have looked at this in the Assembly before: constant delays, complications with it. The full rollout of this new ESN is delayed by another three years and so you are going to have to run and extend the Airwaves contract.

The National Audit Office has said that delays are costing United Kingdom (UK) police forces around £330 million annually. I was wondering what you have looked at. What is the cost to the MPS of running two systems side by side? This new extension of Airwave is beyond the existing contract and so it is going to be costing you a lot more.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes. Thank you. Let us start with the first thing: we need a radio system to operate in London. We just heard from Neil [Basu, Assistant Commissioner, MPS] about things that are at the most extreme. The ability to communicate is a key bit of what we need. Part of what is going on at the moment is to make sure that any switch to a new system gives us at least what we have now in that critical area of push-to-talk; ie when I press the button, can I talk to someone? That is the absolute basics with it.

We are worried and concerned. This is one of those major programmes that both has an impact on our budget and also has a real operational impact in terms of what it does. I was with fellow Chief Constables yesterday at the Chief Constables' Council. This was one of the main items on the agenda about the continuing slippage of the delivery of this system and what we can do as a service to influence the delivery patterns.

It hits us in cost in a number of ways. Through the Deputy Mayor at the moment, we have just approved the replacement of existing handsets. The radios officers carry at the moment are reaching end-of-life. We had thought we were going to have a new system and so we have had to start investing money already in replacing them until we get to the new system. At some point - you are right - we will have two twin-run and twin-track. Realistically, for us, I suspect that is somewhere beyond 2020 now in terms of timescales. Clearly, that will drive real cost into what we are doing.

The other issue that we will get proper visibility on only when we see the settlement in December [2018] for 2019/20, of course a lot of central savings across policing were built on, "When you get this new system, you will get data. You will get this and you will be able to take savings out of your key budget lines". Of course, with the delay, that is at least another two years before those sorts of savings arise.

Therefore, all in all, it is an incredibly complicated picture. Delivery confidence is something we as end users - as in the [Metropolitan] Police Service - are pushing quite hard to say that we need much better delivery

confidence and visibility on this and on where costings are going to fall and, probably more important, for Londoners who is going to be responsible for those costings.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: Yes. We do not know who will be responsible for this additional cost. One would hope it is the Government that is leading on this project.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I would absolutely agree with you, but the challenge will be if it just comes in to the Home Office top slice and then, all right, it is on a different budget line, but our budget line goes down anyway.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: Have you worked out any estimate yet of what this cost is?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): No, not an exact cost because until we have a firm delivery date - and the programme for the Emergency Services Mobile Communication Programme (ESMCP), ESN, the replacement radio system, is still to be approved in terms of the delivery date and there is a final business case on it in circulation at the moment - I would be speculating on the numbers because they keep moving all the time.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: Do you have a rough idea? It is how many years?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Realistically, across England and Wales, you are talking about hundreds of millions of pounds to keep dual-running systems.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: Yes. You are just not sure how much of that is going to fall to London.

What about the actual resilience of the system? You have said you are having to replace some of the handsets. Can the existing system survive for the next few years and give you the coverage that you need?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): That was part of the work that the Home Office and the current suppliers have done. I believe that the issues around a contract to continue the existing system do involve putting investment into core systems because this is a system that has been with me for most of my policing service and so it is going to need investment to keep it going. That is why we are talking about handsets and those sorts of things, but this is not where anyone designed to be. In an ideal world, we would all have been talking about how we are on a new system by now. The reality is that we are going to continue working with this system for at least two to three more years. There are still then some big unanswered questions that will impact both London and elsewhere: things like whether it will work on the Underground.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: Yes, absolutely critical.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): We are not going to move to a system where we go back to having to have two radio systems between above ground and below ground.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: The announcement said that they are looking at phased implementation so that you can test and choose which products you are able to use and trial. Are you happy with that or not?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): On radio coverage, it is very hard to do a phased implementation. If you think of trying to manage the risks and these are real risks. Let us say we are running a proactive operation against a kidnap gang with firearms that is moving around southeast England in and out of London and has actually kidnapped and there is a threat to life and the two radios do not work. I do not know how you would begin to manage your way through some of that. How sharing works; how we allow what they call 'roaming coverage'. Therefore, on radio, it is really hard to see how phased implementation works. We have to work through that.

In fairness to the programme, the other phased implementation they are talking about is, as part of the deal, they have negotiated a package for data and data transfer that might be better than the current rates we are paying in Force X or Y; take that as part of the early deal.

It is also important to remember that there is a whole range of users on this system and, whilst we are heavy users of push-to-talk, for some services they use that very little. It might be that they can take what we call 'silent dispatch' digital transfer and will be quite happy with that. I do not mean that it is not a complex service they run, but it is not as complex a service in the way they command and control it as policing is.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: It would be good if you could perhaps come back with some of the figures when you can.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Absolutely. I would certainly recommend it is one you perhaps in one of your themed meetings have a deeper look at. Also, if I may, I would involve colleagues from the British Transport Police and the City of London [Police] because we often talk about the MPS but we take the great system we have at the moment sometimes for granted. We can all talk to each other. We do not want anything that goes back from that.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: The GLA Oversight Committee is going to be picking up on some of this.

Can I just ask the Deputy Mayor? Last year you approved the release of £7.3 million in capital funding for this project from 1 November 2017 to March 2021. Given this update, are you concerned that you are going to need to invest more funding? I know that you have a seat on the National Programme Board. I am wondering when you knew that this was going to get delayed further and about any additional cost.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): I get regular reports on ESN at our investment advisory meeting that I hold. In fact, we met last week and I had this report. I have had regular monthly reports about delays and it is a moving feast all the time about how long it will be delayed for and what the consequences are.

Just for your assurance, it is something that we are keeping a really careful eye on. MOPAC does have a seat on that board, which is taken up by the Chief Finance Officer, Siobhan Peters. She attends that.

Yes, I am concerned that we are going to have to invest more money because of this delay but, as you have already said, it is a Government-led IT project that is causing massive delays. I am about to write to the Minister to put another marker in the ground: the MPS is not picking up extra costs because the Government has failed to deliver.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: Thank you.

Andrew Dismore AM: Just a quick one. Craig, presumably, the same problems apply to the London Ambulance Service and the London Fire Brigade?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes, absolutely, for any of you who sit on their oversight bodies. Of course, their usage of particularly voice, which is the challenging bit, is slightly different. Ambulances do quite a lot of silent dispatch and data. In fairness to those trying to deliver the programme, there are a complex group of stakeholders. We recognise the three emergency blue-light services, but you then get into Mountain Rescue, Coastguard, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI). The list is quite large.

Andrew Dismore AM: I suppose the \$64,000 question is: is this actually ever going to work or is it one of those Government IT projects that gets dumped after spending £1 billion on it?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Gosh, I genuinely do not know. That is the honest answer to that. It goes back to the answer to your colleague. We as a police service need our delivery confidence raised in this. If someone keeps presenting a programme to me that keeps slipping to the right and going further and further out, I get less and less confident. I would rather be told earlier on that it is going to take three to five years. I do not like being told something is going to take six months and 18 months later I am still waiting.

Andrew Dismore AM: Do you think that in the end it is potentially going to happen?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): In fairness to everyone, there is a real challenge around it. We are working on an older system, albeit there will be some upgrades for it, and then you have all the stuff around spectrums moving and things that are going on with telecommunications generally. At some point, we would have to upgrade. It is going to be getting to the point where this can do it. Particularly the bit that seems really hard for everyone is getting push-to-talk and coverage and building penetration, which are very technical issues, to a state where they will work and work in reality.

It is worth reminding and I can probably do this with my age, if you like. I was here when we rolled out Airwave. You will remember that we tried to roll it out as a police service and did not get that right the first time. We have learned a lot of lessons over the last 20 years about what we need, why we need it and why it is so critical when things go wrong.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Just as an aside, this issue about ESN and the whole issue about communication is in itself incredibly worrying and what the costs might be to the MPS and the national policing service.

However, what is really interesting and may be something you want to delve into further is that the Home Office and Ministers at the moment in relation to the spending review are indicating very strongly that they are really minded to look at more national projects and this will enable police forces to have more savings. That is the direction of travel on the spending review. That fills me with real concern because they cannot deliver this and they have been trying for years to deliver it.

Andrew Dismore AM: Certainly, the King's Cross fire recommendation 30 years ago was to have a system that worked underground, and we have seen with Grenfell [Tower fire of 14 June 2017] the problems of not being able to communicate within buildings.

Len Duvall AM: Chair, my question is not related to this; it is about response time. On 3 October [2018] the *Evening Standard* carried an article which was triggered by my colleague Caroline Pidgeon's [MBE AM] freedom of information request. Really, the story was on the significant calls (S calls) that need to be responded to in 60 minutes and that the MPS was failing to reach its targets. Are there concerns around that and are monitoring arrangements in [place]?

Then it just begs the question. On the calls that require no officer response (R calls), am I right in thinking that they should be very few in number or how does it work from your knowledge around that and those systems? The reason I ask that question is that this is about trends and we can all argue about why we think this is occurring and why we are not meeting these targets, but I am quite interested in screening out crime. We have talked about this before. There is an element about those R calls and supervision. Are they really R calls or are they 101 calls?

I am aware we have problems in the call centres - you are trying to recruit to those - and the pressures on the service and I just want to understand a little bit more.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Thank you. There is quite a lot in your question, understandably. In fairness, the article covers quite a lot. Let us deal with the peaks or growth in 999 calls.

Clearly, not all 999 calls require a police response and you will have seen some of the campaigns that other places have done from the strange and the bizarre through to those where people genuinely require a service. The one I always look at is how we are doing on immediate response calls (I calls) where we hit our target within 15 minutes. That is when something terrible is happening, in my simple language, and you need to be there immediately. That is the really important one.

We spoke probably earlier in the summer. Over the last 12 months policing - not just in London - has seen 999 calls starting to go up and has seen some quite strange fluctuations. We have spoken, and the *Evening Standard* article talks about the handling of 999 calls with what we call a 'national overflow'. Basically, if London gets full, if you are sitting in Leicestershire or wherever, they will start to spill out, and vice-versa. The 999 system is a national system. Therefore, there is a challenge with the pure volume that is being poured in.

If we then go down to those calls that are requiring immediate assistance, as I say, the performance is holding, but there are fluctuations depending on which part of London, but we are staying within our average of 15 minutes response time for I calls. We are also answering them. For 999 calls, over the summer months 65% were answered within the target time of 10 seconds. They are getting answered. They are going through.

You will remember we have spoken here before about 101 and the challenge. Whilst we see them as quite separate, if you are a member of the public, you might say, "That is a 999 call", but I might say to you, "It is a 101 call". There is almost a classic Venn diagram. There is quite an overlap between the two. We have done a lot of work with 101. Whilst it is probably too early to report it in detail, we earlier on in the autumn put in what we call intelligent voice routing (IVR) on the front end of 101, and the performance around 101 has got an awful lot better. Having been in one of the rooms quite recently, we do not have a lot of waiting time. We are getting that 101 to a much better place, which is part of the solution to addressing the problem.

You also spoke about the recruiting. We are recruiting massively to put people into there. Then you get to the vexed question of what we do around those that are not graded immediate and those that do not require a police attendance. There will always be some. I could not give you the exact volumes. I do not have them

here. I will give you a breakdown outside of here in terms of what we have. There will always be some calls that come in on either 999 or 101 that do not require a police attendance. We will make an assessment. It may not be a police matter. It may be someone sometimes just searching for someone to take the challenge for them and absolutely be part of that.

On the 60-minute response time, the response within an hour, yes, we were worried about that and you will know from talking to colleagues that we have done quite a lot of work in terms of doing it. Long term, there is probably a debate about whether you have that target time. I am not suggesting you get rid of it, but it is whether you should have that target time or whether you should have something that is more negotiated in terms of what you are dealing with. I can see a quizzical look, but I can see how that could work. It is about managing that increased demand and volume going through there.

The reality is that we are not really sure both here and nationally about why 999s have peaked. I have reported before and I have sat with colleagues recently in other parts of the country who will talk about a Thursday in August being as busy as New Year's Eve for them in terms of call volumes, and we do not genuinely understand why. We are doing a piece of work internally at the moment - and when it is done I am more than happy to share the findings with you - to see if there has been any shunt of services. I have spoken before and I will not name the borough, but we know one borough where they shut a call centre service and we saw our 101 calls go through the roof in that area. We are doing a bit of work to see, where we are being asked to step in, whether there is some shunt behind these.

Len Duvall AM: I would be very grateful for that report if we could have it. If we could come back on the immediate cause, we are slightly slipping but you are right to say that there are peaks and troughs.

If we can come back, just tell us over a 12-month period what those R calls requiring no response look like so that we can see that. We would welcome the other analysis about the nature of that because, of course, we know there is a significant number of crimes that do not get reported and people do not ring in. Should we be pleased that we are getting increased calls? It would be interesting to see your breakdown and analysis of that. Chair, if we could have that information back but particularly about some of the issues and the trends over 12 months, I particularly want to see if there has been a rise in no response. I just would like to see that and see what happens.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I am more than happy to do that. The other thing I would suggest as well is that it might be worth when you do one of your visits coming into one of the rooms to see it. The other thing that of course you now have to see in the light of what we might call 'telephony' is the digital offer. Slightly over 10% of all our crime now is coming in online. You will see how the online team is working alongside the telephone team. It is worth seeing because that presents some opportunities but also some challenges for the future.

Len Duvall AM: I would be right in thinking that for the online team, the bulk of those inquiries are going to be fewer I calls? There will be a small number, yes?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes, although, in fairness, as the Deputy Mayor knows, we monitor them live because you might think that this is not something the police would be worried about but we might look at it and go, "Gosh, you do. We are coming". They are much fewer and further between.

Len Duvall AM: Thank you.

Andrew Dismore AM: Just a quick one. Can we also have some data in what you are providing on abandoned 101 calls?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes.

Andrew Dismore AM: That feeds through into some of the crime figures. We are going to be talking about antisocial behaviour going down, but it may be going down because people cannot get through on 101 to report it.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes, although, as I just said, it would be worth looking at both the September and the October data. The 101 call data is getting much better. The wait times are coming right down; the volume is going through. There is much better news ahead on the 101s.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): Thank you. If we can now turn to the main body of questions - and I am aware of the time limitations, Craig - we have two sets of questions. One is around tackling violence and the other is around antisocial behaviour. A third set of questions around women in the criminal justice system has been withdrawn to another meeting. Tackling violence will be done in two sections: enforcement, which I will lead on and then my colleagues can come in, and then tackling violence in terms of prevention.

If I can start off with you, Deputy Mayor, are we beginning to see some stabilisation in violent crime? That is what the Commissioner [of Police of the Metropolis] says. If you do agree with her, can you put those remarks in some context?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): At the last Committee meeting, the Commissioner said that in terms of the figures it looks like we are beginning to see a stabilisation, but she is very clear and we are very clear that, even with that, it is totally unclear at the moment whether it is a trend. When you look beneath the figures, it does look like it is stabilising but it is stabilising at a high level and so we are not in any way complacent. When you look at murder figures, again, we are watching them very carefully. It does really look like we are getting to the point where we are stabilising, but from my point of view and I know from Craig's and Cressida's [Dick CBE QPM, Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis] points of view, still that is not good enough because we need to see it decreasing.

The context of that is that the Violent Crime Taskforce and its work on the streets of London since April [2018] has had an impact in terms of the number of arrests - which were announced yesterday - and the number of knives that have been taken off the streets, but we are not complacent in any way. We know that the MPS has to keep up that level of enforcement in order to make sure that we start to see not just a stabilisation but a reduction.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): That brings me on to my next question, which is about the Violent Crime Taskforce, but I also note your comments about not being complacent. That is a message that Londoners would welcome.

In terms of the Violent Crime Taskforce, you have now an additional 122 officers working in the team. Was that a resourcing decision you made or the Commissioner made and, if so, how was the decision reached? Can you just tell this Committee of the dynamics?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): The Violent Crime Taskforce started off at about 150 officers from the MPS. In discussions between the Commissioner and the Mayor, a decision was taken to prioritise some officers from the Roads and Transport Policing Command and put them into the Violent Crime Taskforce. They are there on a temporary basis at the moment for three months and they have been out. I know even on their first days out they made some significant finds and made some significant arrests.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): We have a set of questions on that. To both of you, why are these officers being placed for three months only and how will you decide if that period should be extended?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): In three months, we wanted to see what impact we could have with that number of officers. Clearly, if it is having the success that some of the early signs show, we will look to how we would extend it, but we are also conscious. I am sure one of your questions will be about how we cope with pressures in other parts of the organisation. The reality is that it goes back to the earlier point around how we are clear - and if the Commissioner were here she would say - that violent crime is the number-one priority. It is the thing that Londoners are talking about no matter where you go. That is why we put the focus around it. It gives us enough people to have syndicates where we can make a real impact. If we said that we will move 20 people, in an organisation the size of London you probably would not notice it.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): I note what you said about violent crime being the main priority right now and clearly something has to give, but why have these officers been taken from the Roads and Transport Policing Command?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): It is a large command.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): Yes, 2,300 officers.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): We have discussed some of these things before collectively. There is a belief that somewhere sometimes there is a bucket of people sitting in a back office doing nothing that we can roll out. Sadly, that is not the case and so they are always going to come from somewhere in the organisation. It is one of the largest commands in the UK at over 2,000. We felt that this level we can deal with and we can cope with for three months.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): How is the team managing the impact of this decision, even if it is for three months?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): First of all, it is around making sure that when we run the selection process we do not do something like take everyone's accident investigators or collision investigators away and leave them with nothing. It is about making sure we pick the right people with the right skills into the team and then it is about how the two commands work together to minimise the impact. They do try to minimise the impact. They cannot mitigate it completely and 122 people will be doing a lot of real work, but it is around minimising the impact.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): Some of us have been on patrol with the Violent Crime Taskforce in south London and we were very impressed with the operation. I can see colleagues nodding in support. However, clearly, if these officers go back to the Roads and Transport Policing Command - and we

know the statistics out there in the public about the number of weapons seized, arrests and so on - there is a question that the public will want to know: how do you sustain the positive impact?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): That is why, in an ideal world, we will get to a position where violent crime is going down and consistently going down and knife crime in particular. This is about seeing what effect we can have by putting these extra syndicates, as we call them, or groups of officers out in sustained periods of time to tackle some of those areas that with the existing cohort of the Violent Crime Taskforce we just have not had the scope and scale to do. If it is positive when we get to the three-month evaluation, we will have a look at whether we can continue rolling it forward. If it is not having the impact we have, we have to change tactics and do something else.

Len Duvall AM: It does beg the question of the history of dealing with spikes in crime and appropriate action. Then we come away and then there is another spike and we have to re-establish issues. At some stage, what is the sustainable approach? It would be quite interesting to see some of that thinking now while we are dealing with the spike in particularly violent crime at the moment.

Of course, there are variations in the violent crime that we are looking at. We are concentrating on the knife crime and rightly so, but there is other violence in this city that needs to be dealt with in a sustainable way.

My point comes on the question of engagement, really. Does public engagement have a role in enforcement and tackling violent crime or you could say in police *per se*? Fine.

I am going to give three instances in my borough that have some resonance in other bits where we need the strategic thinking about what we are trying to do with that public engagement and just think it through. Even on the basics, we are losing our way. In a part of my borough that has had a history of neighbourhood police officers [giving out] briefings, it has just suddenly stopped. It has never been consistent in the borough and that is the problem.

If there is a change in policy, how do we communicate that? What is the policy? That is why I say we need to strategically look at the menu that the police are using around that engagement issue so that everybody knows what the rules of the game are. Officers know where they are. Of course, this engagement is not soft policing; it is for a purpose. It is about reducing crime or picking up information that will enable you to do a better job. That is just one level of neighbourhood policing.

If it goes to the Violence Crime Taskforce - and there has been publicity on this - there has been a series of exercises and I understand what the thinking is, which is about creating a presence. You descend on an area or a neighbourhood, blues in twos, lots of noise, and the whole plethora of specialist things that can be accessed by the Violent Crime Taskforce are there from armed coppers to dogs barking to everyone else, and of course everyone comes out of their doors and they think there is an incident. Actually, the response from the police is, "We just want to talk to you". They do not believe that; they think there was an incident.

Somehow, you are damned if you do and damned if you do not. I am one of those who want you to do things, but there are times and places for that type of police presence and a time and a place when you do genuinely go - and the Taskforce should not be immune from that - into areas and explain what they do and if they are operating in areas what is going to happen and we want to engage on that.

Where that thinking is being discussed, somehow it is not being shared or that bigger debate with other partners that you have had. Even elements of the local police team have not been fully exposed because it

could disturb some of the local issues that are going on being there, as a case in point. I just wanted to put that market down. Where is the strategic discussion taken and is it at different levels?

Finally - and I have given you notice that I am not going to talk about the area because it is an area of stress and I do not want to do that - we are all working with very short resources. You have limited resources. Therefore, partnership working comes to the fore. When people are doing activities in different areas, it is about how we share that with others.

For instance, it came to my attention yesterday of a meeting that is being sponsored by MOPAC - I am not sure at the moment - and also with the MPS logo in a neighbourhood area. There is a public meeting that our own Community Safety Board does not know is taking place which is MOPAC funded. The council does not know that it is [happening] there and I suspect if we talked to some other police officers they would not. There is no doubt that this meeting is very important, but it is about how we tell people in this area of where we trying to work co-operatively with other agencies what is going on and what the thinking is. How do we do that?

I am not moaning, but is it not time that we got a strategic plan about engagement, why we want it, what we want and how it looks at different levels of the MPS, covering all of those issues?

We have talked also before about the Violent Crime Taskforce. If you have that level of resources going into an area and some of it is intelligence-led, how do we increase even further intelligence to drive it down? I was particularly interested in information flows and not just flowing back locally, not just flowing back into the police, but who people would talk to - whether it is Crimestoppers - whether it is the council, that will maximise the impact that you are having in those areas. Your results show us that. Is there more to be had out of this with a different way of thinking?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Shall I begin? I will let the Deputy Mayor do the engagement piece.

The points you make are valid in terms of what you are saying. One of the big challenges is getting consistency and of course what looks like consistency at the centre feels very different if you are in the various parts of London. Whether it is your part of London or west London or north London, people genuinely want something quite different across the piece. It is something we are working with and are alive to.

The Violent Crime Taskforce is led at a chief officer level by Deputy Assistant Commissioner (DAC) Graham McNulty. It links in closely with the work of Commander Mark McEwan, who leads for us on engagement. Part of the work he is doing is trying to get a proper framework across engagement, which I hope will pick up some of the points you made.

On how we deploy the Violent Crime Taskforce, I have heard both good and bad feedback about the columns going into areas. That is done and should be done - and I have seen examples of it and so I know that this does happen - where you arrive and there is a local member of the senior leadership team, there is a street briefing for people as to why we are there and what we are doing, and some local partners are part of that and some are not or have not received a message in relation to it. No, we are committed to getting that consistency right and an explanation.

In relation to the changing practice in the neighbourhood team, I would be more than happy to pick that up. We have not changed any policy. Whether some personnel have changed or something has fallen off, I will find out for you.

Len Duvall AM: Do you think that in terms of where we are really short of resources, we see that suite or the menu at different levels of where police engagement is taking place and what minimum we can expect over and above that?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes.

Len Duvall AM: I get to the view that things can be done differently and we can have a discussion, but there is a bit about the police leadership and saying, "This is what we can do and this is how we do it as an organisation". If there are variations to it, that is a plus programme, but it is more about understanding what you are willing to do and what you are not willing to do. Yes?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): The consistency, yes.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Thank you for the notice you gave me when I came in around this meeting, but that is the piece of work that this meeting is trying to support. That is a piece of work being undertaken through MOPAC with Commander Mark McEwan around what public engagement from the police looks like, what the public should expect, what standards you should expect and how to ensure there is consistency across the MPS. We talk about public engagement all the time and it is so vital not just for intelligence but for confidence and trust and building that and policing by consent.

Just one little point in terms of how you ensure there is sustainability around the enforcement around the Violent Crime Taskforce and officers and Roads and Transport Policing Command going through. Of course, this is reprioritising officers we have. My answer to how to ensure sustainability is to increase officer numbers so that you do not have to move officers around from different commands in order to prioritise violence. The Mayor has put in extra money for 1,000 additional officers. We are lobbying very hard the Government to put a substantial amount of money into the MPS so that we can sustain this really good enforcement action.

Len Duvall AM: Just very quickly, just on the MOPAC meeting - and I have given you a copy of the leaflet - it is more about, if you are working with other agencies in the area, alerting them that it is taking place --

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): I will check what is up, yes.

Len Duvall AM: -- and making sure that you understand that maybe some of the answers you get are because there are some local issues going on.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Fine.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: I wanted to pick up the work the Violent Crime Taskforce is doing, looking at knife crime and firearm crime. We discussed earlier that the MPS has a screening-out policy so that you can focus your resources on serious crime, but I have just had an answer through to one of my mayoral questions and that shows that 739 cases of possession of a weapon, including firearm offences, blades or points, were screened out during the last 12 months. That sounds really surprising from those figures. It is a serious crime. I am wondering if you can give any explanation to that.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I do not have that.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): It is not in front of me.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: No, I am just flagging it as an issue. Surely, I would have thought you interrogate the data in terms of screening out. It came through to me as a mayoral answer in the last week or so. Maybe you can just comment generally, then, on the fact that 739 cases of possession of a weapon have been screened out in the last 12 months.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I can see a scenario where you could screen something out. Someone could report that they saw someone with a weapon on the Tube today and call it in and we cannot find them.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: It could be a case like that? You are saying it would not actually be someone out there with a knife or a gun that is being screened out?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I genuinely do not know. I have not seen that data.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: Could you perhaps look at it? It is extraordinary given that we have been flagging the issue of screening up.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I will by all means have a look at it, yes.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: Thank you.

Sian Berry AM: Just to go back to one of the points Assembly Member Duvall was making about chasing the spikes around, one of the things we talked to you quite a lot about was moped crime recently. Presumably also, the Roads and Transport Police Command was useful in raising intelligence towards violent crime by, for example, looking for untaxed and uninsured vehicles. We have had data on that before that shows significant numbers of people with warrants out against them get captured in sweeps like that.

My question is twofold, really. Are we taking the foot off the brake as far as moped crime is concerned by the movement of these officers?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): No.

Sian Berry AM: Secondly, is that part of the reason why you chose those officers: because they were already slightly more integrated with violent crime investigations?

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes to the second one and no to the first one.

No, we are not taking the foot off. The Violent Crime Taskforce will pick up because a lot of these moped robberies are violent and we know that knife-enabled robbery is a key part of this and so they will pick up some of those.

Yes, we have gone for officers as part of the selection process who are in that area of work already, who do some of that targeting and who know some of the people we are looking for. Those colleagues who have been out will know the type of officer with the set of skills we are looking for. They usually have a broad range of skills. They will be very proactive in terms of their ability to do it. They will probably bring some other specialism with them as well. They might have been on the Territorial Support Group (TSG) or Roads Policing. They will bring a range of specialisms that assist in that area. That is exactly why we do it.

Of course, there is a challenge when we prioritise resources, but I am comfortable that we have the systems to be able to manage those sorts of risks and challenges.

Longer term, the work that we have done with the move to the Basic Command Units (BCUs) is about trying to create a proactive capability on each of the BCUs because, going back to Assembly Member Duvall's point, we do need a long-term solution to this. The work and training we are doing with officers around things like stop-and-search and proactive street interventions and the work around creating a proactive capability on BCUs is part of this.

Then, as part of the work as we prepare for budget rounds and the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR), when we talk about the areas of the organisation where we know if we had more money we would invest it, one of those debates is whether we would put more money into proactivity.

Sian Berry AM: One of the things I worried about is potentially the lower-level moped crime, like a stolen moped or an abandoned moped. It seems to me that if you take your attention off those, that might contribute towards a resurgence.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Absolutely. The theft of powered two-wheelers is one of those lovely graphs that has peaked and then has been going down. You are absolutely right that that is the precursor crime. On that one, there are two bits that give me hope for the future: one is that it has come down and continues to come down, and two is the work that we are doing nationally with the industry, which offers some real chances to design that crime out, as we did in the early days of vehicle crime. There is a lot of work being led by DAC Graham McNulty, who is doing some of that work nationally as well, with the moped industry about how we improve the basic security.

Also, there are some of the things that are just on the horizon. What will it mean when scooters become electric and you can remove things like the battery pack? There is some real potential just over the horizon. Designing out the crime and the prevention of the crime are as important for us as the investigation.

Sian Berry AM: That is great in the long term, but will you be monitoring over the next three months just for signs of any kind of --

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes, absolutely.

Andrew Dismore AM: Just quickly on moped crime, Craig, Chief Superintendent [Dr Iain] Raphael has had enormous success with his proactive team in Camden. They have really got to grips with it and it has come down dramatically over the last few months. Will you be rolling out that sort of programme and sustaining it across London?

That is one question. I will give you my other question as well so that you can do them both in one go.

The other one is about these comments that have been made by the Commissioner and others about middle-class cocaine-using drug crime fuelling it. It is all right making statements, but what are you doing to catch these middle-class people? I do not see much stop-and-search of bankers going on. Are you going to have sniffer dogs at the Tube stations? That is probably a good way of catching people.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): I must say that I was at a meeting of 50 tenants last night in Bethnal Green and that issue did come up.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes. Shall I deal with the mopeds one and then we will come on to sniffer dogs on the Tube?

On the mopeds, what Iain [Raphael] and the team have done there is a really good example. Going back to your colleague's questions, by the rigorous application of tactics that we know work, they have seen some real falls in that [moped enabled crime]. That is what all the BCUs do in terms of the challenge around it. As you know, they do borrow from Camden and Islington where they have had some real success in doing it and a lot of sustained hard work.

On the wider issue around the drugs issue, you will know that with the rise in violent crime a lot of people have asked what lies behind the rise in violent crime. Has society suddenly got up one morning and become more violent? It is far more complex than that. We can see links to how drugs markets are functioning and working across London. That is generating violent crime both here and outside of London. That is why we have started to talk more about a long-term drugs strategy.

Part of that debate, which is probably part of the debate police cannot lead, is where we sit on the social acceptability of drugs and drug use.

Andrew Dismore AM: What are you doing to catch the cocaine users? The storyline of *The Archers* has probably been quite helpful.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): The reality is that we are interdicting day in and day out in the supply chain of drugs both within London and coming into London. That is what we do to try to drive that down.

Andrew Dismore AM: What about the users? It is the users who are driving it, too.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Andrew, you have a really salient point here. The Home Secretary has talked about it. The Commissioner has talked about it. The Mayor has talked about it. There are some people who think there is a victimless way to take drugs. There is not. When you are buying drugs off an illegal market, somewhere down the line there is violence. Those who are buying cocaine or whatever type of drugs need to understand that and to take that really seriously. They are part of that violence.

Andrew Dismore AM: To get the message over, we have to start arresting and prosecuting these people. When they start losing their jobs, if they are several hundred thousand pounds per year bankers, then that message will get over. Until we start getting the users as well as the suppliers - because the suppliers are dependent on the users for their market - we are not going to get anywhere. Are we going to start targeting the users?

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): A yes or no answer will suffice.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I cannot tell you that we are doing many banks this afternoon. We will go where the threat and harm is with drugs and drugs crime and chase it relentlessly without fear or favour.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): I think that was a yes answer. Thank you.

Peter Whittle AM: Can I just come in? I am amazed at the levity with which people talk about this and the laughter and everything. The fact is that these young guys, these 13-year-old kids in London, it seems to me from what we have talked about, are the shock troops or the kids on the ground who get murdered because of these people taking cocaine and taking whatever it is they are taking. They are not all bankers. Half the establishment are doing it. Probably some of your guys do it as well. Surely you as the police have to really put out a strong message saying, "These things are illegal". It should not be fun with laughing about it like we have been this morning. It is up to you and you say, "It is where we sit the social acceptability of these things". They are illegal.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): You have made your point, Peter.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Forgive me. I know they are illegal, but you have to start by changing attitudes and enforcement is part of that. Also, police alone cannot change society.

Peter Whittle AM: All right, yes, but you can start off.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): [As] Police [we] alone will do our enforcement. We will lock people up. We will try to get prison sentences. We will try to get custodial sentences. However, when people treat hard drugs in the way they do - I see the effect that it has on those 13-year-old youngsters. I know the effect it has on them. I open the daily bulletin each day to see the effect it has on people. We need everyone in society to start talking about drugs in a completely different way.

Peter Whittle AM: Perhaps in one of your meetings with the Home Secretary or something, you could suggest that the Home Office and the Home Secretary start making real announcements and pronouncements about this. That would be quite useful. People are not making the link. The average person outside is not making the link between the way in which these 100 people have been killed this year and the supply and all these people doing drugs around dinner tables in Islington. That link has to be made. Maybe you could suggest to the Home Secretary that he does it.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): If I can --

Tony Arbour AM: I wonder, Chairman. It cannot be right for a Member to blame a serving police officer for this. This is our job. This is the politicians' job. This is the Deputy Mayor's job to see that this is done. It is not Craig's job.

Peter Whittle AM: No, I am not blaming him. In fact, I was actually blaming us more for laughing about it.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): I have said very clearly--

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): The point has been made.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): To reassure --

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): No, Craig, the Commissioner has been very clear on this topic. We cannot take this any further.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes. I did not take anything as blame, I can assure you.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): You have made your point, Assembly Member Arbour. Can we now move on? Thank you.

Look, I am going to suggest, Craig, because I know you have to go soon, that we have a set of questions on violent crime prevention. There is one question around antisocial behaviour, but we will not detain you for that section. We will put that to you to get back to us with a written response.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): OK.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): If I could hand over to you, Florence?

Florence Eshalomi AM: I just wanted to focus on the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), which the Mayor announced two weeks ago or a week and a half ago for London. We have seen a number of boroughs including Lambeth leading on that model. I remember visiting Glasgow back in 2012 to look at the VRU there and what lessons we could learn.

I just wanted to know how that decision to set up a London-wide one was reached and if you think it is the right one for London. One of our concerns initially is that there are many challenges across London, which we all know, but London is not Glasgow. Even if you look and drill down and within local wards and local communities, a young person in Brixton sees themselves as a Brixtonian, not as a Londoner sometimes, and so we do need to be careful in terms of this pan-London [VRU].

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): The Mayor made an announcement of his intention to set up the VRU and it really goes back to the question that Len [Duvall AM] has been asking as well around sustainability. This is a question not just of sustainability of enforcement but ensuring that you can get violent crime to come down and to stay down. For me, the VRU is to ensure that there is that long-term preventative approach, learning lessons from Glasgow and learning lessons from Scotland, but also learning lessons from elsewhere. You are right about those lessons being learned for a number of years in London and in individual boroughs. When I was in Hackney we learned the lessons and set up the Integrated Gangs Unit very much on that model.

However, you are absolutely right that Glasgow is very different to London. It is not a lift-and-shift of the model from the VRU in Scotland to setting up a VRU in London. We know that London not only is far bigger but is more complex and much more diverse. There are different drivers to the crime and the violence that is taking place in London compared to Glasgow. Those involved in violence in Glasgow at the time were a little bit older. Alcohol was a much bigger factor than probably drugs. Guns is not such a big factor in Scotland as it has been in London.

I was talking to the current Director of the VRU in Scotland. I went up for the Conservative Party conference to speak at a panel and we were talking about social media. They do not have those issues at the moment in Glasgow with social media inflaming violence in the way that we do in London. It really is not a lift-and-shift but it is about learning that lesson around what is needed to really embed a long-term strategy around violence reduction.

That is why we have taken the decision to set up this unit. It is not to ensure there is an absolute pan-London approach to violence because it is different in different parts of London. Lambeth is tackling it in a different way to Haringey or to Hackney. It is to add some extra capacity, facilitation and support to those boroughs, partners and community organisations that are out there already doing a very good job but are asking me when I go out to talk to them, "Where is doing it well? Where is the expert advice? What more can you do to support us?" That is what that VRU is going to do. It is very much in that public health mode of diagnosing the problem, doing the enforcement, which is part of a public health approach, and then treating violence as a disease. How do you prevent it and how do you prevent its spread?

Florence Eshalomi AM: That is welcomed because some of the frustration when you speak to the boroughs is that sometimes they do feel that there is not an overarching strategy across London. We all get fixated on wards and boroughs, but the people dealing drugs and the people going out and committing the crimes do not.

On that, what discussions have you had with individual boroughs in terms of scaling up the VRU across London? Where would you like to see the unit being placed? Is it going to be with MOPAC? Who is going to lead it? Have you had those discussions or is that still ongoing?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Before we launched the VRU, we had discussions with London Councils and the Chief Executive and the lead member for London Councils who leads on community safety, and we are continuing to have those discussions because this unit is not a City Hall-imposed unit. It is a partnership unit and it will be successful only if it is a proper partnership unit, not just with London boroughs and London Councils but with the National Health Service and the other organisations and, crucially, the community and the voluntary and community sector as well. It is a partnership unit.

Now that we have announced it, we are going out and having those discussions about the best way to develop it and build it. We are doing that very quickly because we want it up and running very quickly because the problem is now. We need to make sure that we build on the London Knife Crime Strategy and the public health approach within that to make to add extra capacity and expertise in working with all the partners because it really is a partnership unit.

I do also have to say and we were very clear and the Mayor was very clear when he announced this that the VRU will make progress and will do that long-term intervention, but it cannot make up for the huge cuts to services. However well partners are doing or community organisations are doing, it cannot make up for the youth services that have been cut. It cannot make up for the fact that if you are somebody who has suffered from trauma, to get into Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, you have to be at crisis point. There is very little early intervention and prevention. We cannot make up for that. The Government really does need to step up, but we are doing our bit in terms of supporting, facilitating and ensuring that there is consistency of good practice, people understand what works and supporting those who need a little bit of extra help as well.

Florence Eshalomi AM: On that, again, we know the financial pressures facing the MPS and a whole range of public services. There was an initial announcement of £500,000 attached with the VRU. I want a little bit more information about where that money has come from and how it is going to be spent because, again, some concerns would be around whether it is just going to be spent on commissioning or additional consultation. It is a very small pot for a very large problem. You are saying that you still need to find out where that unit is going to sit. It seems quite an ambitious target and an ambitious pot for a very large issue facing Londoners. In essence, will there be any more money attached to the VRU going forward?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Just briefly, the VRU will sit within MOPAC initially and will be built up from within MOPAC. It will be across City Hall but it will be initially under the umbrella of MOPAC.

Florence Eshalomi AM: There is capacity for it to sit within MOPAC?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): There will be capacity and that is what some of that £500,000 is. I would take it that that would not be enough to tackle the problem. It is not that there is £500,000 to tackle violence reduction. This £500,000 is to set the unit up and set some of its early work up. Also, I am very keen that we have outreach workers who are out there in the boroughs working locally and engaging with people locally. That was very much for me a lesson from Scotland and continues to be a lesson from Scotland. It is about the unit. It is on top of the London Crime Prevention Fund and the £45 million into the Mayor's Young Londoners Fund. It is on top of all the other funding streams that are coming out of City Hall and also on top of the extra money that has gone into the MPS that we have already talked about around the Violent Crime Taskforce, which is there and is sustainable. It is there for the forthcoming future around ensuring that we continue that work.

Florence Eshalomi AM: What would make the VRU different? Again, we signed off some of the Mayor's Crime Strategy earlier this year. For example, we saw additional funding and additional capacity going into the Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy. How will that differ to what you are going to be setting up with the VRU?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): The VRU is building on the [London] Knife Crime Strategy and also building on the Mayor's Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy. It is a Violence Reduction Unit. It is not just a knife crime reduction unit. It is looking at all forms of violence in the way that the Commissioner does: looking at knife and gun crime but also, really importantly, domestic abuse and sexual violence because that is violence but also we know from research and from case studies and reviews that they are drivers as well for young people getting into violence. When you look, there has been domestic abuse in the household or there has been sexual violence. It is to cover all forms of violence.

What will be different is, as I outlined previously, it is extra capacity and support to go out into communities and into boroughs to engage with them, spread what works, do training, bring out the expertise and the research and make sure that there is more consistency across London, a consistency but not necessarily that everywhere in London will be doing one particular thing because, as I said before, different areas have different problems and issues. What I have found when I have gone and discussed with boroughs or discussed with communities, they have asked me and they continually ask, "Where is doing it well? What can you do to help us support this?"

We held the summit at the end of June [2018] this year, which brought together every Chief Executive in every local authority and it was extremely successful and extremely useful. The feedback was that it was useful, but

the feedback also was, "Can we do this locally? What can you do to support us locally?" This VRU will enable us to really take that forward. Pan-London, we can only do so much; we really do have to get down into the detail. This unit will enable us to do that.

Florence Eshalomi AM: Just lastly before I move on, we had a number of reports on the rise of moped crime. Again, there is a level of violence carried out by some people on those mopeds, wielding knives and shooting shots as well, has been on the increase since 2015. It is good that the VRU will be looking at a wide range of violent crime.

I am sure you saw the BBC programme on Monday on *Inside Out* which focused on moped crime and the massive increase. It reported figures of over 60 thefts or burglaries on mopeds in London every day and that is going on the increase. You have touched on the areas that the VRU is going to focus on. Are we saying that they may drop and you will focus on moped-enabled crime on the back of this specific focus on violent crime?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): I did not see that particular programme in terms of the figures, but Craig has already outlined that the focus on moped crime will continue and also the theft of mopeds because of the violence aspect in that. That will continue.

The unit is looking at the long-term preventative measures that will stop and enable people not to get involved in violence. Whether that is violence whilst robbing people on a moped or it is violence with a knife or it is domestic abuse, it is about what is causing that violence and what is causing that individual to perpetrate acts of violence. Our focus is on what works and on preventing and putting long-term strategies into dealing with the reasons and the drivers for violence. It is on top of the enforcement work that the MPS will continue to carry out.

The other thing the VRU will also do - and we are doing already but it is to build on it - is to take what is happening locally that sometimes we need to unlock across London. Probation is a pan-London service. Local authorities and boroughs are busy really trying to influence - as are we - probation services. We want to be able to do that on a pan-London basis and to continue to do that on a pan-London basis. The VRU will enable us to put more capacity behind that to ensure that health, probation and every part of the system is prioritising tackling violence across London as well as locally.

Florence Eshalomi AM: Sorry, just one thing. I am not sure if you came back to me, Deputy Mayor, on where the initial funding for the VRU came from, the £500,000.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): That is additional Mayor's funding that will be allocated to MOPAC.

Florence Eshalomi AM: Thank you.

Sian Berry AM: I want to give this time to get set up and do some work before we start properly holding it to account, but just one question about independence, really. One of the recommendations of the Youth Violence Commission was that VRUs that are trying to do this co-ordinating work potentially should not be tied too closely to the police, and MOPAC is tied closely to the police.

We have discussed the public health approach before with you and you have pointed out various places in your [London] Knife Crime Strategy. You have been holding summits. You clearly have had staff looking at crime from a public health perspective in MOPAC before.

In announcing the unit and in announcing additional funding and bringing in more staff, does that mean you are also going to be bringing more independent people into MOPAC to work on this alongside people within MOPAC? That seems to be what was slightly missing before and might be what is novel here.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): There are a few things in that. We are the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime, and I know a lot of people think that we are only about the MPS or policing, but I spend a lot of my time working with partners. I chair the Knife Crime Executive Board on which we have the local authorities, probation and courts. Therefore, MOPAC works across the piece in relation to policing and crime. We must not forget that "and crime" element.

In terms of the unit, it will be set up under MOPAC. If in the future it would be better and more successful or there are thoughts that it should be placed elsewhere, I am very happy to look at that because what for me matters is that it works and that we do the best for London in terms of reducing crime.

I would also just refer to Scotland's VRU. That was set up by the police. Niven Rennie is a former police officer. He was a Superintendent in Strathclyde Police. A number of former officers are in the unit.

This divide between either having policing or doing public health is a false divide. We have to have both because the police bring with them expertise and professionalism that we do need and that is why I am so keen that it is a partnership unit, but we do need to have other experts and other professionals in the unit. Part of our discussions with health and London Councils is about how we bring that expertise in and who are those people who can come in to do that.

Sian Berry AM: When will we hear more about the structure of it? One of the things that has been brought up is whether a whole-London approach is right and whether we should have subunits. That is presumably going to be looked at. When will we see more about who is working there, what their remits are, what areas they cover and all of that?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): I have my idea about what the unit should look like and what the structure should look like, but for me the most important thing at the moment is to get very quickly out to recruitment for the Director and to work with whoever is recruited to be the Director to build it and to ensure that the structure is right because they are the discussions that we need to have with partners and we need to build it so it is right for London. It is not right for me or MOPAC to say, "This is the structure. Come in and deliver it". It is to build it and build it quickly in consultation and in partnership with those who have the expertise out there in London.

Sian Berry AM: When do you think that would be? That was my question.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): As soon as possible. We are working very hard.

Sian Berry AM: Thank you.

Len Duvall AM: First of all, thank you in terms of the approach you have outlined this morning. Sian is right about when we hold you to account, but there are some things that are pretty fundamental. There is some crazy thinking out there - and you have dispelled some of it - about the public health approach. It is insulting to say that there has not been a multiagency approach. The key issue to this is that more of the same is not

what is expected. It is a change in the way that we work and in approaches. All of the organisations that have been part of this need to look at what they are doing and think about what changes can be made.

There is a problem. There are natural things in London - they are called boroughs, the units that we operate within - where you can get increased differences of approach about bringing people together and there is a London-wide perspective to beginning [the VRU]. There lies one of the problems that I have.

In all the evidence we have taken as a Committee and all the conversations that have taken place, education is key. The commitment to this change in the way of working is from the top. Some of the missing people here are the Government in the sense of education. You can talk to local education authorities (LEAs) and get the council to say, "This is what we are going to do", but there are a number of schools that do not come anywhere near the LEA and the Government needs to come to play an input.

If one of the issues is that we are going to look differently at exclusions and what happens during that process of exclusions, the question is do we take people and exclude them for a long time or do we bring them back into the system in a different way or in some cases, as someone said, just get rid of these [pupil referral] units, which I do not advocate but that is some of the thinking? It seems to me that you have to have every school come and play. We were in the West Midlands at an academy school where the headteacher was quite clear, "I am aiming for minimum exclusions". Of course, there are times when pupils and staff might need to be protected and have that period of time [out], but that was his ethos and his whole objective about looking towards that [issue].

If we are going to get a London-wide approach, we need the Government to come to play to make sure that they are on board with those policies, including the health service. I thought you said a very important point, Sophie, about the mental health services and that preventative role in a timely manner to try to intervene where it is required. There are some elements that are just missing on that.

Lastly, the public health approach does not say that the police walk away from this. The police have a very important role to play in it because they have to also bring their preventative role that sometimes gets lost on the police enforcement side and think how they do it. In London we have to tackle some of the issues about reoffending and our young people, which tells me - and I do not want to be critical because people are working very hard in boroughs on it - that there are some youth offending teams that need to be challenged appropriately and need to change the way they work because, clearly, it is not working.

There is a whole host of things and I welcome your approach and the way that you are doing it. There is not a silver bullet that is going to deliver it instantly. It is going to take time, but we should not lose sight. It is about a different way of working for individual organisations and collectively how we bring this to bear on the crisis we face.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): I could not agree with you more. I absolutely agree with you. In terms of the Government's role, I totally agree with you on education and that is one of the reasons that we have been engaging and working with Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) very closely. They have a thematic review coming out probably in the new year around schools' approaches to knife crime. It is also why the Mayor wrote to the Home Secretary in August [2018] asking for new powers and duties over partners to tackle serious violence. I am really pleased he has followed suit this week and announced he is going out to consultation on that.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): Thank you. Because of the ongoing importance of this issue, I did give Members leeway in terms of the time that they wanted to make their contributions.

Thank you, Craig, for staying on. I do know that you wanted to leave just after 11.00 am. However, before we move to the second part of our meeting, I would just like to thank you, Sir Craig Mackey, for attending today.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Thank you.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): I understand that this is the last of our meetings where you will be leading for the MPS. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Committee to pay tribute to you for all the work you have done since you became Deputy Commissioner in January 2012 to keep Londoners safe and not just Londoners. You have had a very distinguished career in policing over the last 34 years, having been Chief Constable of Cumbria, and also you have played a pivotal role in national policing. As Acting Commissioner, you also oversaw a period of transition and dealt with a range of serious issues during that time. Personally, as someone who has been on this Committee for two years now, I would like to thank you for your openness and willingness to answer many often challenging questions on diverse policing matters at our monthly question-and-answer sessions and indeed in other forums as well. I would like to wish you a very happy retirement in December [2018] with your family. I know that other Members also want to say a few words in tribute and so I would like to invite representatives from each of the political groupings on this Committee to say a few words. We can start off with you, Caroline, followed by Sian [Berry AM]. Len [Duvall AM], as former Chair of the Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA), I would like you to say a few words, and then Tony [Arbour AM].

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: I had not really properly prepared anything because I thought I am sure I am going to see you at some point between now and December but --

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): To reassure you, Chair, Members, I am hoping that I will see you. I probably will not appear before a Committee again. We hope to make an announcement about my replacement in --

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): If you are here again, we will give you a second round of tributes!

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Fair enough.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: Thank you. We have already discussed this when I bumped into you outside but thank you for all your work. You have been great to work with for all the time you have been Deputy Commissioner. I have certainly enjoyed working with you and your openness in answering things. Thank you and enjoy your retirement, but we do not really want you to go, as you know.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Thank you.

Sian Berry AM: Thank you. I cannot recall when you have ever tried to avoid a question and so that is really good. You can pass on some similar advice about how we are a friendly Committee and people should be open with us to your successor. That would be great. We will be seeing you again soon.

Len Duvall AM: I would like to echo all of that and to say that there have been some robust exchanges here over the years and for the way that you have conducted yourself and interacted with this Committee we should

say thank you to you. This has been an unprecedented period of difficulty that the MPS has gone through and you have been there, and it is good that you have been there, and you have made a difference. Without you, we might have been in greater difficulties than we are. You have made a great contribution to the MPS and a great contribution to the safety of Londoners. It is a difficult job as we know, but we owe you a great debt of gratitude for that.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: Hear, hear! I agree.

Len Duvall AM: We ought to say that quite frankly.

Tony Arbour AM: Very briefly, if ever I was to be asked for a definition of ‘safe pair of hands’, I would say “Craig Mackey”, and thanks for that.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): Thank you for all of those tributes.

Len Duvall AM: Chair, I think we should clap for Craig and we should stand to do it because of his service to us and because this is his last time in front of us.

(Standing Ovation)

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): Thank you.

Sir Craig Mackey QPM (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Chair, I could not let that go unsaid. I would just like to thank you and all of the Members and I certainly send that to the Members who cannot be here today and I will get the chance to thank them personally. You have always treated me with dignity and respect. I hope I have shown the same to you. I am very proud of what we have done collectively for London. I am very passionate about London. I am very passionate about policing. Thank you and I look forward to seeing you. Thank you.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): Thank you very much.

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London Assembly Police and Crime Committee – Thursday, 4 October 2018**Transcript of Agenda Item 6 - Question and Answer Session with MOPAC and MPS – Panel 2**

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): I will now ask Rebecca Lawrence and Siobhan Peters to come to the table. The Deputy Mayor [for Policing and Crime] is going to stay on for the second part of our question-and-answer session, which is going to be on the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime's (MOPAC) Annual Report. Thank you for attending, Ms Lawrence and Ms Peters.

We have a number of questions to ask you, starting off with MOPAC's administration and spending and I will hand over to my colleague Assembly Member Arbour.

Tony Arbour AM: Thank you so much. Really, these are questions initially for the Deputy Mayor.

I took great pleasure in reading your report and I really wanted to compare and contrast a MOPAC report and the way MOPAC operates with that of the Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA). Within your report, there are three lots of statistics which relate to my patch and which show my patch in a very bad light. I am not suggesting that they are wrong because these are statistical facts showing things like the declining rates of sanction detection, the increase in various kinds of crimes and the delay in answering various calls. I have to say to you that MOPAC, I think, takes pride in being the invisible force behind the democratic answerability of the police and we specify - and I have the phrase here - that the 'democratic accountability mechanism' of the police is exercised through this Committee, through you, Deputy Mayor, and through the Mayor.

In the old days - if I could call it that - under the days of the MPA, if a bunch of statistics was going to be released which reflected on a particular geographical part of policing in London, the appropriate Assembly Member would have been informed and would have been apprised of this and these things would have been drawn to his or her attention. Those of us who have memories of the MPA will know that in fact there would have been a member of the MPA staff whom we would know and who would deal specifically with any difficulties, which would be flagged up to us before they had a public outing as they have had today. That appears to have gone.

I say this, Deputy Mayor and Rebecca [Lawrence], really in sorrow rather than anger that that link has gone. If we are to be part of the democratic accountability of policing in London, which is defined in one of your documents, this is an occasion when it should happen.

Anyway, after taking you to task on that one, I will stick to the questions that have been assigned to me. This again is to you, Deputy Mayor. We are now halfway through the mayoralty and two years into your tenure as Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime. What do you see as your successes and what areas are there where you need to do better? That is probably a patsy, really.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Can I pick up on what you were saying about the glory days of the MPA? I am sure it was incredibly good in terms of accountability, and was democratic, but MOPAC has been in existence for a number of years now. A lot of the information that is in this Annual Report, you will know, is on the MOPAC website and is on the dashboard and it is regularly updated and goes down to ward level. We can send you links if that would make it easier for you to find, but it is out there on a

monthly basis and also is reported to you as a Committee regularly as well. We are two years into this mayoralty, we are one in --

Tony Arbour AM: Please forgive me. On that point, once it is on the web, once the thing has been published, it is published and is out there for everybody. The point I was making was that we would have been warned, we would have known, because once a thing is out there, people ask us about it. Indeed, I have seen criticism of what has been happening on my patch, exercised by a political party that is represented here, when, in effect, I was blindsided. If I had known beforehand, I would have been able to make a riposte.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): I am very happy to let you know and give you a list of the publication dates of our quarterly reports and send you the link and send all Assembly Members the links to our dashboards and how regularly they are updated so that you are aware of that. That is a regular occurrence. These figures, as with Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) figures and Office of National Statistics (ONS) figures, are regularly updated.

In terms of what is next in terms of achievements, it is two years into the mayoralty and one year into the Police and Crime Plan. Am I satisfied with where we are? No, I am not. How can I be satisfied when we have had this discussion on previous occasions, when violence is where it is at the moment in London and across England and Wales? We are seeing increasing crime. It is a difficulty that, in terms of what is happening in London, is mirrored outside. It gives me a small degree of comfort that it is mirrored outside. In some cases, when you look at crime, in terms of burglary in the MPS and the London area, it is increasing but not at such a fast rate as outside of London.

In terms of things that I am proud of and pleased of, in terms of what MOPAC has delivered for this mayoralty, we have delivered two Dedicated Ward Officers (DWOs), we have reintroduced and restored neighbourhood policing, which is incredibly important and is the bedrock of policing. It is, as you know, a system that goes from neighbourhood policing right up to counterterrorism. I am really proud of the fact we have gone quite some way to restoring real neighbourhood policing.

Do I want to do more? Would I like to do more? Yes, I would, but we are constrained by the number of police officers that we have because of the budget that the Government gives us. That is a frustration for me. In terms of the work that we are doing around violence, we clearly have a long way to go. Setting up the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) will be a key part of the work that we need to do, but we have put in place extremely good programmes and projects that I believe will begin to make a difference to Londoners. The funding that is going into community projects around tackling violence, the money that is going into the accident and emergency unit and expanding the number of accident and emergency units that have youth workers in, I am very pleased that is happening. That will start to make a difference.

In terms of victims and the work that we are doing on victims, I am proud that London is the first area that has its own Independent Victims' Commissioner. Claire Waxman has already made a difference in focusing on the work that not just the MPS does, but the rest of the criminal justice system does in ensuring that victims are put absolutely at the heart of what they do. That is a real, significant step. Not only have we appointed a professional person into that role, but we have also increased the money that is going into victim services. Therefore, we are increasing and improving the services that will support and enable victims to cope and also to recover.

Tony Arbour AM: Thank you very much for that. The very first thing you listed as something that you saw as a success was, as you phrased it, 'real' neighbourhood policing. However, again if I look at your report on

public perception and public satisfaction, that is in fact an area that is declining. Maybe that again is part of the democratic thing that I was talking about. It is our job as well as your job.

Could it be perhaps that MOPAC itself, which now as far as I can see seems to be, substantially, a commissioning body, ought to be more - 'upfront' is not the correct phrase but I think you understand what I say when I say 'upfront' - about neighbourhood policing, that in fact it really is here to stay and there really is going to be no abstraction and that that is going to be one of the things that you are going to emphasise? Certainly, according to your report, that is not happening.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): In terms of neighbourhood policing, I am pleased that we have managed to get two DWOs per ward in London. That is 629 wards that now have two DWOs. I would much prefer to have more officers dedicated to their neighbourhoods in the way that we used to have, but, as I said before, we do not have the number of officers to enable us to do that.

It is interesting what you say about accountability and transparency because we have really made progress on accountability and transparency. Certainly, when I was a local councillor and the DWOs were being abstracted, there was no way of holding the MPS to account for that happening. You would hear about it, but you did not know exactly what was happening. What you see in this report and what you will see in future reports and on the MOPAC dashboard is absolute transparency around abstraction for DWOs. That is not only being tracked; it is being published down to borough level so that you can see what is happening. That gives you, as the Police and Crime Committee, a much better handle on what is happening in London. It also gives our local partners, our boroughs and the community and residents a much better understanding on why and how DWOs, if they are not in their wards, where might be. That was not happening before. That is an increased transparency of what is happening.

Tony Arbour AM: Thank you very much. Can I ask Rebecca two things? One relates to the areas of MOPAC that you have been restructuring since the establishment of MOPAC. Is MOPAC adequately resourced and up to taking on the responsibilities, for example for Justice Devolution? Do you have the capacity to do it and the ability to do it?

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Thank you, Assembly Member. In terms of MOPAC restructuring, when I came into this role I looked at our structure, our capacity and our capability in terms of learning the organisation's still relatively young history and the experience across two mayoralities of what is needed to deliver our statutory functions.

It was a very small and bespoke restructure because a lot of our functions will remain unchanged across the mayoralty. I did a bespoke, small restructure that kept a large part of its functions continuing as business as usual so that we could deliver the Police and Crime Plan and the large programme of work. There were a small number of areas where we looked at capacity. One was on the skills and expertise we needed around commissioned services. We had a very good Internal Audit Review that made some recommendations about additional capacity there on contract management. Therefore, we created three additional posts there.

We did some minor reorganisation around the work that we do on the core private office support to the Deputy Mayor [for Policing and Crime], support to briefings and meeting structures. In total there was a net increase through that restructure of three posts. There were three posts deleted, six additional posts created, a net change in three. Therefore, it was very small and bespoke.

There is a more significant question that you raise, which I thank you for raising, which is the growth in our commissioned services, of which we are really proud. In that, as we are successful in attracting more funds, be

it Home Office Transformation Funds or our co-commissioning with other London partners, we bring in to MOPAC time-specific posts to support those strands of work. Therefore, we have a mixed staffing model and that does allow us to have capacity.

Are we happy with MOPAC capacity? The Deputy Mayor and I discuss this on a regular basis and we look to be very dynamic where we think there is the need for more capacity. The VRU that you discussed previously is one such mechanism, and it has shown that we are pretty dynamic to changing need. It is a really good question that you raise and we need to be mindful when we look at the size of MOPAC relative to the size of the city and reflect it to the size of the police officer force. We are quite small in our core-staffing budget compared to some provisional information I have seen from the other side, Office of Police and Crime Commissioners. We do have models and we do have the structure to do that very bespoke restructuring that allows us to flex and surge in that way. It is one we have to keep under constant review.

Tony Arbour AM: What about your capacity for taking on additional responsibilities? You are OK?

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Yes, I have a very flexible and creative and dynamic senior team and staff base, but it is something that we are vigilant on. I am very satisfied with MOPAC capability. Capacity is the issue that we look at. The VRU is one such example of surging more capacity in.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): We are taking on additional responsibility because of recent changes to complaints, for example. Probably from April of next year [2019] - it does depend on the timing; it will happen - MOPAC will be taking on additional responsibilities of dealing with appeals for complaints. We are working now on that transition to ensure that we get the right proportion of budget coming down to us and also ensuring that we have the right level of staff building up in order to be able to deal with the complaints that will be coming in. Not the complaints about MOPAC but the usual complaints that are coming through.

We will be dealing with appeals, as will every other Police and Crime Commissioner. We have a team working on that transition, working with the MPS and taking advice from the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) as well. Where there are additional responsibilities and duties coming on line, we are on top of that. We are looking to what that means in terms of capacity and budget to ensure that when it does come on line we are ready for it.

It does also mean that when you look at the figures you also need to look at where those additional responsibilities and capacities have come in because of changes to legislation and duties and responsibilities that have been placed on Police and Crime Commissioners.

Tony Arbour AM: Yes, I have no doubt that we do take our responsibilities seriously in that context. Can I say that there is a suggestion that there is a scattergun approach to the things that MOPAC is financing when it is working with other bodies? I have a comment here from Lambeth that talks about lots of different organisations funding the same thing, and therefore that there is duplication. Might it make sense, even if MOPAC does not take the lead, that there should be some financial sort of body who is seeing that money is not coming in from multiple sources to be spent on the same thing? It would be infinitely more sensible if there was one person managing all the funding streams that are going to be spent on the same object. Perhaps this is a myth. I am told that the person who knows all about this is your colleague. It is obviously Siobhan.

Siobhan Peters (Chief Financial Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Some of the more established funding streams are very mindful of the need to let boroughs in place co-ordinate the funding that is coming to them. The single largest funding stream that we have is obviously the London Crime Prevention Fund, and boroughs play a very big role in deciding how things should be funded locally.

What you have seen this year are a number of new funds being created by different bodies and some of those are very much in their infancy. Some of them are entirely out with our ability to control the timescales that have been set for bids and so on. We, though, work very hard where we can to join up those bids. The new funding streams that are coming out, the Home Office Early Intervention Fund, has been set up with some ambitious timescales.

I agree with you about the importance of co-ordination and we can play our part in that. Some of the early thinking about the role of the VRU - because that is a popular area for funding things at the moment - is that it is absolutely right that you have somebody able to do a strategic needs assessment, able to take a view, place-based around hubs or whatever, of the services that are being funded in those areas and really build up that understanding area by area of what is being funded, where perhaps there is duplication, where perhaps there are gaps. That is quite a complex job to achieve across the whole of the funding landscape in London where you have very many people who are active in this.

Tony Arbour AM: Thank you very much.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Just to be cheeky, can I add one last thing on that? In terms of different funding streams, I argued with the Home Office to delegate down the Early Intervention Fund to Police and Crime Commissioners for exactly that reason: because there are too many streams going into local communities. I was not successful and they have done it in a different way. We can we always make that argument because I totally agree with you that it is very difficult for local communities and voluntary organisations if they are having to bid to all sorts of different funders. We are making that argument. You could help us make that argument to the Home Office in terms of future funding rounds like the Early Intervention Fund.

Tony Arbour AM: Thank you.

Susan Hall AM: Can I go back to the Deputy Mayor on something you said earlier about numbers of police officers? Approximately how many do we have at the moment?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): We are on 30,950. Sorry, 29,650. Sorry, that is in my dreams!

Susan Hall AM: I was going to say that then we should not be complaining at all.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): I wish we were. About 29,650 we are on. I can double-check that for you.

Susan Hall AM: There is funding in place for another 1,100?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): The money that the Mayor has put into the MPS from business rates will give an additional 1,000 officers than would otherwise have been afforded.

Susan Hall AM: It is a constant complaint that there are not enough police officers. How long do you think it is going to take to get the police officers that are funded?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): I have regular six-weekly meetings with the Head of Human Resources (HR) and Workforce at the MPS. We are focusing, and they are focusing, on recruiting police officers and bring them through as quickly as possible. They have made changes to the pathway from first applying to getting out on to the street. They have shortened the amount of time that that takes. It is fewer than nine months now. We are absolutely focusing on it. We hope to be up above 30,000 in the next couple of months and then, as you will know, last week the Commissioner launched the new recruitment drive for police officers to get us the additional officers that the Mayor has paid for.

Susan Hall AM: Yes, I see all that. I am just concerned that some people are constantly complaining that we do not have enough officers. The money is in place and therefore it is down to how quickly --

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): The money is in place. The additional money that the Mayor has put in will ensure that we have an additional 1,000 officers. We are out to recruitment on those officers. The money is not in place to ensure that we have everything right and enough police officers in London. The Mayor has put more money in, but we need extra officers on top of that. That is the responsibility of the Home Secretary in his arguments to the Treasury.

Susan Hall AM: Do you think in six months' time we should up to the 30,000?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): We should be up to 30,000 and going up above that to the additional 1,000 officers.

Susan Hall AM: 30,750.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Should we have more than that? Yes, I do, but we do not have the money because the Home Office grant to the MPS is not sufficient and we are having to make cuts and saving.

Susan Hall AM: I would say, though, if we did have the money, clearly it is taking a long time to recruit in any event.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): We are recruiting at the moment.

Susan Hall AM: Money is not the answer. That is what you said. Thank you.

Florence Eshalomi AM: One area that I wanted to touch on was around the additional projects and officers that MOPAC funds. You will be aware of the Met [Patrol] Plus police scheme that MOPAC funds with a number of the Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) across London. My understanding is that there are now a few budgetary constraints and MOPAC is looking at discussions with the various BIDs in terms of the future of those additional officers. Could you give me any updates on that, please?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): There are some difficulties around the number of police officers in place at the moment. The local Borough Commanders are having discussions where there are schemes and officers who have been paid by local authorities. They are having those discussions with them locally and making those decisions locally, based on operational need, where the officers go.

I am in discussion at the moment with Martin Hewitt [QPM, Assistant Commissioner, MPS] around the future of Met Patrol Plus. I am very clear that it has produced very positive results for boroughs. It is a really good partnership approach in terms of local authorities working not just around the number of officers that they buy or do not buy, but that partnership approach in terms of understanding what is happening locally and both working together.

Florence Eshalomi AM: I totally agree with you and I am glad to see that you do recognise the value that they play. You will be aware that locally in Southwark, after the terror threats, the Southwark BID increased its funding to support two new officers. There are real concerns around the fact that the value of what they are doing locally may not be seen in the realm if MOPAC had just taken that decision. In the short to medium term, what do you see their future to be from a MOPAC perspective?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): I am having those discussions at the moment with the MPS around the future of Met Patrol Plus. I am really clear that it is a really positive, valuable contribution from local authorities to enable that partnership working, to enable local authorities to be focused on. I am clear about that value.

It is a local authority scheme; it is not a Business Improvement District scheme. They are not buying officers; they are not funding officers through the Met Patrol Plus because Met Patrol Plus is a 'buy one, get one free' scheme. There are BIDs - and that might be what you are looking at, that are buying individual officers. It is slightly different. It is still additional officers, but it is slightly different to Met Patrol Plus.

Florence Eshalomi AM: Would you not be concerned that if we do see a removal in these additional officers - and something that was floated in the news last year around private policing - we could see a situation where in some areas we are seeing a two-tier level in terms of policing? It is important for MOPAC and the boroughs. I totally agree that you are saying it is a local decision for the individual Basic Command Unit (BCU), but it would be good to have that sense of direction coming from MOPAC and you to say, "There is value in these officers and we not leaving BCUs to take their own individual decisions", and some guidance on why they are important.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): I am really clear that in the very short-term while officer numbers are below 30,000, there are some individual discussions to take place between those boroughs that have invested in Met Patrol Plus. I am trying not to say 'bought' police officers because it does sound like a crime. There need to be some local discussions around what the priority in the very short term is. I am clear that Met Patrol Plus is really valuable in terms of what it brings to the local borough, what it brings to the partnership and what it brings both to the borough and to the MPS. I am having those discussions at the moment with senior levels of the MPS.

Florence Eshalomi AM: Thank you.

Andrew Dismore AM: A question for Siobhan. I want to ask about reserves and where you see them going over the next few years.

Siobhan Peters (Chief Financial Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Reserves for the MPS overall?

Andrew Dismore AM: Yes.

Siobhan Peters (Chief Financial Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): We have some very strong plans over all to use our reserves and invest our reserves wisely. Those reserves that are earmarked will be used to support the transformation, particularly the uplifts in information technology (IT) and addressing the digital technology debt that the MPS has. For those reserves that are there for an enduring purpose, we have assessed the level at which those reserves should be maintained, and we would see those going out at a prudent level into the future.

Andrew Dismore AM: What percentage of the MPS's budget do you regard as a prudent level for general reserve?

Siobhan Peters (Chief Financial Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): It is between 1% and 2%. That level is set bearing in mind that the Home Office stands behind us to some extent with the special grant and where the Home Office will pick up special grant incidents that are more than 1% of the force's budget. The Home Office has the right or has the custom or practice of being able to turn to the force and say, "If it is less than 1% of your budget, we expect you to be able to deal with that unexpected event". With these counterterrorism events we have planned for, it has provided special grant for those but it is always a discussion, it is always an application and a debate. Therefore, it is always very important that the MPS has its own reserves because the expectation is that we will be able to respond to the unexpected.

Andrew Dismore AM: It does sound quite a low percentage compared to what local government is supposed to maintain, for example.

Siobhan Peters (Chief Financial Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): It is, but the Home Office stand behind us in terms of the ability to make a special grant application for events that are above 1%.

Andrew Dismore AM: You are using the excess - I will put that in a neutral way - of the general reserve to meet police officer pay and so forth. Is that a prudent way of using reserves?

Siobhan Peters (Chief Financial Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): No, we are using the reserves, the mechanism, to provide some smoothing between budgets, where money put into the budget to support officer pay exceeds the pace at which recruitment is possible. That money is very clearly intended to provide as many police officers as possible for London for the medium term.

If you budget for that solely in one-year chunks because of the lead-times on recruitment and the uncertainties about exactly which side of which year end and which month people will start in, you can very quickly find yourself with a situation where you always underestimate and under-recruit the number of officers you can afford. By being able to look out over a two-or three-year period and take some degree of flexibility through the reserves to ensure the money that is intended to be spent on officer pay can be carried forward to the following year and can be used to support officer numbers into the medium term, you get more efficient budget to support officer pay.

That is not the same thing as building up some historical reserve and using that in one big lump to support officer numbers. This is about a smoothing mechanism between the years that you can keep under constant review in annual budget setting.

Len Duvall AM: Can I go back to the relationship with the boroughs? This is a question to Rebecca. Is there a point of contact with each individual borough or are there points of contact within MOPAC? Is there a point of contact for my Borough Commander when it is merged? I have two boroughs at the moment and it is going to go three in a new thing. How does it work in this relationship? I was interested in something Siobhan said

about the single-stream grants going into boroughs because I am not convinced by that. No doubt you can show me evidence of when boroughs are told that you are minded to give grants to particular borough organisations that can deliver something. I am interested to hear about this relationship and how it works at borough level, not at a London Councils level. When you say relationships with the boroughs, do you mean London Councils, or do you mean the individual boroughs?

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): You take the funding point and I will take the MOPAC point.

Siobhan Peters (Chief Financial Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): It is possibly in the wrong order but Rebecca will explain that we have a single point of contact (SPOC) for each borough. When I was talking about the London Crime Prevention Fund, that was a consolidated bid led by the borough. That was not about other people deciding which local organisations to give money to. It is the new funding streams that have come subsequently that have that wider bidding. Where we are aware of external funding sources that have gone into specific boroughs, we make some effort to make sure that our SPOC in MOPAC is aware geographically. It is, though, a fast-changing and moving landscape all the time.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): The change that we also done in terms of the funding that is going out to local authorities and boroughs, or like our community seed funding is going straight to communities, is that we tell the local authority what is happening. Previously they would find out because they know what is happening in their borough, but we take steps to inform them and to take some advice from them as well. With the Mayor's Young Londoners Fund we were very clear on the application process that we any ask the local authority, but we will certainly, if they were successful, tell the local authority that they are based in that this is the money that is flowing to them. Therefore, you are getting that join up.

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Across MOPAC's work there are multiple layers of contact with local authorities. We co-ordinate with Heads of Community Safety on the London Crime Prevention Fund, we will co-ordinate with detective security advisers on counterterrorism, we will co-ordinate with local funding on Violence Against Women and Girls services. Then we have a SPOC system within MOPAC where there is a MOPAC officer allocated to each borough who can then signpost the parts of work, either in MOPAC, in the MPS or in other partners, that are relevant to that local area.

Len Duvall AM: Thank you.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): I will come in here. I was not going to ask this question but in light of the meeting I went to last night, Deputy Mayor, which was on antisocial behaviour (ASB) in Bethnal Green. You touched on the Victims' Commissioner's role and the impact that Claire Waxman is making. I met her a couple of times and she is coming to this Committee next month. I do not want to go through my diary, but tomorrow night I have a meeting on ASB in Stratford, next week on the Isle of Dogs. You know the situation for yourself in Barking and Dagenham when it is "ASB, ASB, ASB".

I do not want to push you on this point, but the Committee did make a recommendation. In light of the borough approach, what are your latest thoughts on our recommendation which was for funding to be flexible in needs of victims and to expand the Victims Commissioner's powers to include ASB? There was no specific response to this recommendation from the Mayor. If you feel you cannot answer this question, I simply want to put on record my concerns about ASB, how we are going to fund victim services and how it works. Clearly, it has to work at a local level. You cannot have a pan-London approach, it has to be two boroughs and so on. It is really a broad area, but funding. At the very least I want to put the concerns of - and I know this is a

London-wide Committee - what is going on in the City and east London, but I am sure other Assembly Members will tell you the same.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Just in terms of that, we did not have much questioning around ASB previously. In terms of the role of the local priority setting and the priority setting that we had through the Police and Crime Plan, because of the discussions that we had locally, we put it as a London-wide priority against ASB because when I went around with Martin Hewitt [QPM, Assistant Commissioner, MPS] and Mark Simmons [Deputy Assistant Commissioner, MPS], every borough talked to us and said ASB is an issue in this area. I know from when I was a local councillor that it was a major issue, but it is also that issue that impacts on the daily lives of everybody and it can be really harmful.

In terms of victims commissioning, it is much more problematic because the vast majority of funding that we have around victims commissioning is from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) around specific victims commissioning. Therefore, it would be difficult to have that flexibility within that around ASB, and of course we do not have any extra money in order to take on extra commissioning, but it is certainly something in terms of what might be done in ensuring there is better support and better signposting for victims of ASB. I am really happy to talk to Claire [Waxman, Victims Commissioner] and maybe when she comes she can talk to you about what might be possible, but we would need to look at the technicalities of that.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): OK, I will leave it there. Could we move on to the next section, which is for you, Susan?

Susan Hall AM: To the Deputy Mayor to start with, please. Your Annual Report sets out what MOPAC and the Mayor have done this year. Do you feel that your Annual Report clearly sets out the outcomes that you are achieving, as well as the activity?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): It sets out a number of things in terms of activity and outcomes. I am not saying this as an obfuscation, but part of the issue around outcomes is that the MOPAC obviously has to do the best it can do in relation to influencing what is happening in London. However, as you will know there are many, many other factors that influence the key issue that we are really, really focusing on, which is crime, whether that be violence or burglary. What I am interested in ensuring is that MOPAC is doing its absolute best and that we can have the assurances and the confidence and the framework that we know that we are doing what is right and we are doing it the best we can, notwithstanding the fact that there are other factors and influences that will mean that we cannot totally ensure that the outcome that we are looking for happens.

I know you will not like this, but, for example, we know that support services to enable people not to go down the path of crime or path of violence has been severely cut. We do not have control over that. It is one of the things that influence the outcomes that we are trying to influence and we are trying to ensure and improve, that we do not have control of. In terms of what we are doing, yes, I do think that this Annual Report sets out the inputs and the outputs and the outcomes that we have control over for the absolute issue around the crime and violence. It is one of those issues that we have. We have to make sure that we have proper scrutiny over the MPS that they are doing the best that they can and that we are doing everything we can in terms of commissioning, scrutiny, accountability and the evaluation of what we are doing to ensure that we are doing all that we can to influence what is happening in London.

Susan Hall AM: Some of this stuff is delayed and there are questions that come from some of the reports. In the report I note on page 6 that you have purchased the Empress State Building for £250 million. As at

31 December 2017 the building was valued by the previous owners at £220 million. Did the value of the building jump by £30 million or did MOPAC overpay?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): That is not delayed. I did not mention it in the achievements of MOPAC and the MPS. That was not delayed, that was a real achievement to get that purchase of that building and the opportunity to get that building to ensure that there is a first-class hub for counterterrorism in London, similar to those that are placed outside of London. That was not a delay; that is a real achievement.

In terms of the £30 million difference between the purchase price and the valuation, we have had that audited for us by Grant Thornton, the auditors, who are satisfied with that being good value for money, but Siobhan is better placed to explain that.

Siobhan Peters (Chief Financial Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): We set out the rationale in the published decision for it. The £220 million is the carrying value in the books for the previous company and, as normally, those estimates are a prudent estimate of what the company could 100% be sure to get in a willing buyer/willing seller, open-market transaction. In any real transaction there are other factors that come into play. In this case it was a question of the alternative, which was that we would have needed to remain in the building for another five years. There would have been £76 million of lease costs to pay. If at the end of that time we purchased the building, still thinking of that very conservative benchmark of £220 million, we would have paid £76 million on top of that.

Set out in the decision is the rationale and the assurance reports that backed out the rationale says. As the Deputy Mayor says, our auditors have validated the rationale for why the deal price between us and the seller -- in this instance, the market value was quite rightly published at £250 million. We can read about that in the report.

Susan Hall AM: That is fine. The Annual Report also mentions the Lord [Toby] Harris review on terrorism. How many of those recommendations have now been met? The MOPAC report only goes so far. How many of them have been met?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Of the recommendations in the Lord Harris report, over three-quarters have been met. Sorry, I do not have that in front of me in terms of actual ones since then that have been progressed. We are still working on the progression of that, but, as you will know, that report was not just for City Hall, it was for various other organisations, Government as well as others who have responsibility over this. In terms of those recommendations that were for City Hall, they have all been met. Some of them have not been progressed and they lie with the Government or other organisations and we are still working through those. I chair the CONTEST Board, which meets next week or the week after next, and we are looking at the Harris review.

Susan Hall AM: This section is about demonstrating outcomes. If somebody is going to the MOPAC report, they are looking, and they might have other questions, but that is the delay I am talking about: things that have happened before. I am asking what has happened since.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): I see. This is a moment in time, is that what you mean?

Susan Hall AM: Yes. At a recent Mayor's Question Time (MQT) I asked about school exclusions - and I mention this because you brought it up earlier - linked to homicide. Part of the reply said:

“This information is often identified through the course of an investigation but the MPS is not able to provide an accurate figure at this time.”

Does that mean you will be publishing or recording this data in the future?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): One of the things that the VRU will do very quickly is to ensure that there is a review of all the homicides in London of young people and review homicides in London to look at what the background of those individuals were. From that I hope we will really be able to understand how many were excluded from school, what other influences and what other things had happened to them. Absolutely we are working on that and it is one of the things that the VRU will do quickly.

It is information that some boroughs already have. One borough has done a review of cases, not all homicides, where they looked at 60 cases and they found that not one of them was in permanent education. There is definitely a piece of analytical work that needs to be undertaken and it is one of the things the VRU will be able to do, to really get underneath those issues, such as exclusions, to understand how much of that is driving what is happening.

Susan Hall AM: Thank you. Rebecca, in January [2018] you committed to publish more information that is suitable for public disclosure. What progress do you feel you have made in this in the past ten months?

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime): We have made progress on publishing. You have raised some very good questions about our publishing of evaluations. We have made progress in being systematic in where we have evaluations that are able to be published. We are publishing those in light of our commissioned services and we are committing to do that even more.

I hope you recognise that we have done more timely publication of our minutes of meetings and Board meetings. You will see the meetings. We discussed particularly when we met in January the [MOPAC and MPS] Oversight Board and bilateral meetings with the Deputy Mayor. Of course, we publish a number of meetings of minutes of our other partnership meetings, the Mayor’s London Crime Reduction Board and other key partnership meetings that I chair, for example the Strategic Partners Group on safety and security of Notting Hill Carnival. We have been fully transparent there in those publications.

Susan Hall AM: OK. To the Deputy Mayor, how content are you with the speed in which the information from MOPAC is being made available to Londoners?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): You can see in terms of Mayor’s Questions and in terms of letters and responses how quickly the MOPAC is able to meet this. It needs to get better at it, I will be honest. Some of the Mayor’s questions are taking too long. Some of that, to be fair, is not the fault of MOPAC. We are looking for information that is held by other people. A lot of the questions are about the MPS and we have to get the information from them, but we do have to improve and improve timeliness and it is certainly something that we discuss in terms of ensuring that. It is really important that questions are answered on time, letters are answered on time and publications are put on to the website on time. We do have to improve on that.

Susan Hall AM: That is what you said ten months ago.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): I was not here ten months ago.

Susan Hall AM: When we spoke to Rebecca.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): We are improving. In terms of the letters there has been an improvement, but it does not mean there is not more to do.

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): No, and our restructure has altered some of our systems. There is definitely more we can do on process and IT improvement and I know that MOPAC is joining with the Greater London Authority (GLA) in its procurement on new software and case management for our correspondence, which will, I am hopeful, be able to improve efficiency because it is quite manual in terms of data entry.

Susan Hall AM: Can you give us some timelines on that?

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I will have to get back to you with the timelines of the GLA procurement. I do not have them in front of me now, but the GLA is procuring a new correspondence system of which we are a part and will use. That will be the first time that MOPAC and the GLA have had an integrated correspondence system, which is a really good move and one that I was very happy to support.

Susan Hall AM: It is pretty poor that it has not done it previously.

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Yes.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): You would have to ask the previous administration that.

Susan Hall AM: I can still have a view, whichever administration, and we are two years in and we cannot constantly say that, Deputy Mayor.

A final question. We have all previously raised concerns about MOPAC demonstrating the outcomes of its meetings and discussions with Mayors and partners. Taking Justice Matters and an example, can you give us an example of an action from a meeting, how it was followed up and how Londoners can find out about the actions taken?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Do you want me to answer that? In terms of Justice Matters, they are held quarterly. There is a list of the ones. I can give you two examples of actions that have been followed up. I held Justice Matters on looking at disproportionality and the Lammy Review. One of the things that we asked for from the MoJ, who came to that, was that it publishes the figures around sentencing for London because everything is national and it is very difficult to have a grip and be able to scrutinise and look at what is happening. It has now published that because we have put that pressure on and Justice Matters enabled that to happen.

The second one we had that I held was on mental health. It is the Department of Health, or it might have been the MoJ came along. It had the rehabilitation treatment orders that it was talking about. It was not going to be piloting that in London. We had that discussion at Justice Matters and we are now continuing that discussion and we are, I think, on the verge of ensuring that that is now going to happen in London around mental health. Those are two issues that have come directly out of Justice Matters and have been progressed.

I take your point, though. We do need to be better at showing what comes out of Justice Matters. It is certainly something that I am asking for and will look to see in terms of what needs to go on to the web after Justice Matters, as these are the points that are coming out of it.

Susan Hall AM: Thank you. Rebecca, can I ask you - because it seems so unfair that all these questions somebody else always answers - what you would say was your -- the same sort of answer as the Deputy Mayor but a different one from your perspective?

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): On Justice Matters?

Susan Hall AM: Yes.

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I have here in front of me the action grid - it is an internal product - of each action that has come out of the Justice Matters meetings that have been held under this mayoralty. I would agree with the Deputy Mayor that there is more that we can do in a timely way to put material up, to collate that and link to where that action has manifested itself.

Susan Hall AM: That is not particularly specific. Take a different example for a meeting where there has been action taken that you are particularly pleased about, something completely different.

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): The Justice Matters meeting on disproportionality --

Susan Hall AM: No, no.

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): If I could take a different --

Susan Hall AM: Please do something completely different, other than Justice Matters. Give us an example of a meeting you have had where you have been able to take action that assists Londoners, just as an example.

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I will give an example of a meeting, the Strategic Partners Group of Notting Hill Carnival that I have chaired over the last two years commissioned for the first time a crowd-dynamic study of the areas of Carnival that are most crowded. This was after a year of very significant violence in Carnival 2016. It came up with a series of recommendations of what was needed to reduce crowded areas, with some significant partner recommendations that many people said could not be implemented under current structures. They involved difficulties around location of sound systems, that had not been addressed for years, around route management, around transport hubs and around Carnival organisation. We implemented those and the Committee had a briefing on Carnival for the 2017 Carnival. We implemented changes to the location of sound systems and to route management, which had an impact in terms of improving vehicle flow. There were issues around event management of Carnival that mean that the MPS's requirements were not fully complied with.

Over the course of the last year, the Strategic Partners Group that I chaired all leant in and supported the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea in an expressions of interest process to change the organisers of Carnival and to improve compliance with the partner recommendations around how Carnival was managed. I held my last debrief of that Carnival last Friday. The positivity from all statutory partners of the changes that

the community organisers had been able to make in terms of route planning, in terms of co-ordination with sound systems, in terms of compliance with security requirements, in terms of dynamic assessment in the scheme was hugely positive.

The results that we saw was that in Carnival 2016, I am sad to say, there were 17 incidents of serious violence, with two that were critical and life-changing injuries. In 2017 there were five incidents of violence and this Carnival there was one significant incident of violence needing someone to present to hospital. The changes in the planning mechanisms that partners recognised led to that.

Susan Hall AM: We must say there were 34 police officers being injured.

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Absolutely. It still remains a very challenging event to police and it is London's biggest policing operation and London's largest street carnival. In terms of the role of MOPAC in co-ordinating and bring partners together to create changes in what has to be a community-led event, I am really proud of. All the minutes of those meetings are published.

Susan Hall AM: Thank you.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): I must say that the Event Liaison Team's office, that, Rebecca, you attended, on the site itself - you spent about half an hour there - I was very impressed with that. The person heading it was a very experienced former London Fire Brigade officer. Having seen the briefing work that involves in south London and then seen the onsite briefing and the way that different agencies were working together, I really was impressed. That is put out on social media as well. Thank you for inviting me to that.

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Yes, it was buzzing, was it not? It was a buzzing co-ordination hub; it really was.

Unmesh Desai AM (Deputy Chair in the Chair): Questions about the MPS for London and yours, Peter, and I will come in later as well with a couple of questions.

Peter Whittle AM: This is for the Deputy Mayor, but I have a feeling that you have possibly asked and answered this in a number of different ways already. Anyway.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Try again.

Peter Whittle AM: Tony [Arbour AM] asked you. Anyway, what is your overall assessment of your success in delivering a better police service for London? What is your overall assessment in what you have done? How successful do you think you have been?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): It is like being in a job interview.

Peter Whittle AM: I know. That is why I did apologise. I was trying to inject some humour into it. What are your weaknesses?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): I am not telling you that. At the end of four years, it is going back to what I was talking about before: I will feel I have been successful if I am confident that MOPAC has done everything it could have done to ensure that London is safer. Two years in, London is

in a difficult position. Violence is a real issue, crime is rising in England and Wales and in London, and therefore I find it very difficult to talk about successes or things I am proud of.

What we have done, and I have done and MOPAC has done is enabled that statutory responsibility around scrutiny and accountability and holding the MPS to account. That has become more robust. That is important because that is one of the roles of the Police and Crime Commissioner that I had delegated down to me from the Mayor, in terms of that scrutiny and accountability and ensuring the effectiveness and efficiency of the force that you are overseeing, the MPS, in my case. That has become more robust and more accountable and transparent. I am pleased about that.

The MPS, in terms of that not just being an exercise, there is additionality in the discussions that have taken place because of that and that is an important aspect of my role and the role of MOPAC. It might be a little bit difficult to absolutely pin that down in terms of individual acts that have happened, but I know the Commissioner feels that the MPS is held to account and is held to account in a number of different ways via MOPAC and via this Committee. That is important because it is such an important public service, the police force. It can use enforcement, it can use its powers and it is so important that that democratic accountability and that democratic transparency is there.

Peter Whittle AM: Joking apart, where do you think there has been least progress? Looking through the Annual Report - Assembly Member Arbour again has already nicked my lines - it says victim satisfaction with the MPS has decreased. Public perceptions toward the MPS have gone down. Inequalities amongst that dissatisfaction have also gone up. This is not really great, is it? If these are the things that were aims or whatever, they are not happening, are they?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Where, I think, there has been the least progress and that I am most frustrated at is that we know what needs to be done, we know what could make a step change, and it is around funding. There has been least progress on that. That is not from the lack of trying or the lack of will or the lack of effort or the lack of energy, it is because the Government is not listening.

I genuinely believe we would have made much more progress in bringing violence down, dealing with victim satisfaction and dealing with all the other issues that the MPS as well as MOPAC has tried to deal with, we would make much, much better progress if we were not operating under austerity. I genuinely believe that, not just in relation to the money that is going into the MPS but the money that is going into local authorities, that is going into the health service.

We are battling. We are doing the best we can but in terms of what is happening out there, it is really, really difficult because the services that we need - as Rebecca talks about - to lean in or the services that we need to support crime reduction, to support victims, they have been cut. Some of them are at the brink. Youth services. Some boroughs only have two youth workers and some have fewer youth workers than that out there engaging with young people. That really, really matters. In terms of real frustration and progress, that is what really frustrates me.

Peter Whittle AM: Two questions for you, Deputy Mayor. Is it possible that you personally could be more visible in your role?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Yes, of course, everybody --

Peter Whittle AM: No, this is a very important thing. In this epidemic we have of violent crime, with respect, your profile is low, and it should be higher. Why is it not higher?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): In terms of profile, it is very clear that I and the Mayor are taking leadership over this in terms of what we are implementing. I am out there all the time discussing with communities and ensuring that we are engaging with communities. In terms of profile, I am not really interested in my own profile. What I am interested in is making a difference and making that impact. If it is important that the Deputy Mayor has a profile, I am certainly out there and we are doing what we can around that, but what is really important is leadership and the Mayor and I are showing that leadership, especially in relation to reducing violence.

Peter Whittle AM: I could not agree more about the substance of the thing. The thing is that leadership is about being visible. One of the main problems we have with the Mayor when it comes to things like violent crime and knife crime is what seems to be, frankly, such a lack of leadership and visibility. It would be nice to see someone. You might ponder that. You might ponder that.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): I am going to have to say I do not agree with you at all in relation to the Mayor. The Mayor has shown absolute leadership in terms of the money he is putting in, leadership in terms of the amount of time he is out there engaging with communities and leadership in terms of ensuring that he is standing up for Londoners. In terms of his profile, people understand that he is taking leadership around violence reduction. That is why he is setting up the VRU, this is why he published the [London] Knife Crime Strategy last year. He is taking that leadership.

Peter Whittle AM: OK, we can debate that. This is leading on to my second question. You are the Deputy Mayor. After two years of doing the job, police numbers are down. We all know why they are down: because the Home Secretary cut the police force down. That is why they are down. How many police should London have? I know that sounds like the craziest thing. You might say, "How long is a piece of string?" Seriously, as Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, what would you say is the figure that you think London should have as a force? We now have roughly 30,000.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Let us look at how many police officers New York has and what the population of New York is and everyone telling us that we need to learn --

Peter Whittle AM: It is not really comparable, though. Anyway.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): It is pretty comparable. In terms of global cities, New York is about the only other city that we really are comparable to. In terms of its population, we are very much comparable to it, and diversity as well. However, we have not set a --

Peter Whittle AM: Deputy Mayor, it was just a very straight question. It was not a trick question. Would you say 35,000 or 40,000? That is what I would be having.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): That would get us up to New York standards. I would be pretty happy with that, but I realise that that is a political dream.

Peter Whittle AM: My final question is related to that and is about the visibility in wards with the two officers in wards. Essentially, the Annual Report in December [2017] said that there were two DWOs and one Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) in each ward. That was ten months ago. What is the position now?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): The position is the same. That is the commitment: there will always be two DWOs and one PCSO per ward.

Peter Whittle AM: Has there been any period since December when any ward lost its allocated DWOs?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): There will always be some fluctuation. The posts are there. There will be times when a DWO has moved and the replacement has not come in and so you may see the actual individuals in posts fluctuate a little bit. There is an absolute commitment that the posts are always there and that they are filled as soon as possible. Sometimes police officers are sick, on maternity leave or whatever, and so there is a little bit of fluctuation in that and that does change. Are there always 629 times two actual individuals in post? No, because it does fluctuate, but there is that commitment. The posts are there, and they will always be recruited and filled.

Peter Whittle AM: If that has not changed, what we are seeing from the report is that there is an increase in dissatisfaction, if you like in visibility of these people. I live in Woolwich. I can completely relate to that. I do not know precisely what my ward is, but I never see any police. I see a few PCSOs - plastic policemen or whatever - around --

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): They are not 'plastic policemen'. That is really unfair.

Peter Whittle AM: You know what I mean. They are the people who are around the Docklands Light Railway (DLR) but almost no police officers.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): As I said earlier, you can now track the abstraction of your DWOs. You did not used to be able to do that. You can now see the percentage of time that your DWOs have spent working in their ward. That is new. That has increased accountability and transparency.

In relation to the public perception, overall, public perception has remained pretty constant over the last few years. What we did when we published the Police and Crime Plan was to make this even more transparent. I sometimes wish we had not, actually, because I keep getting knocked on the head on this. We divided out what contributes to that public perception figure and what that has shown is that there is an issue in terms of how the public knows how to contact a DWO. There has been a change to the question and that has also contributed to the decrease in that, but it is certainly something that does concern me. In terms of the meeting that Len [Duvall AM] was talking about earlier happening in his area, that is why we are doing this work on public engagement: to really understand how we can improve residents' and communities' knowledge of how to contact their DWO and what they are looking for, and to ensure that that improves. There has also been a change in the question that has been asked for that particular indicator.

Peter Whittle AM: OK. Thank you very much.

Unmesh Desai (Deputy Chair in the Chair): In Peter's defence, Sophie, in your answer to this particular section of questions, you did say that this looked or sounded like a job interview. You said it yourself. Can I bring in Caroline and then I want to come in?

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: I just want to pick up a question. You always talk about police resources, and I understand that that is always in the room. However, let us think about something else.

Independent Custody Volunteers (ICVs) is something MOPAC oversees. You recruit them, you support them in their role and so on. Tell me what you have specifically done to help them over the last year. That is

something within your role that is not resource intensive. What have you done to support them and to improve things for those in custody in London?

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): We have a team across a small number of roles in MOPAC. We have a system that supports the custody volunteers in terms of their expenses. We invite them to thank them for their volunteering work and bring them together each year. Would I like to be able to do more? Yes, I would like to be able to do more in that. It is a very thin part of MOPAC's capacity, but we provide a core service of support to these really important and significant volunteers.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: Do you do anything to support them in terms of their work on the ground or to take from them some of the issues they are raising to ensure them that the MPS makes changes?

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Yes, absolutely.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: Can you give me an example of some of the work you have done to improve things from what they have found on the ground to improve things for people in custody?

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Yes. Absolutely. The MOPAC team and the MPS officers who work with the custody visitors - of course, there are local systems whereby their messages are brought back to MPS officers. Some coordination is done by MOPAC, but some is the direct operation of working relationship between the MPS and the ICVs. Their perspective, as you know, transforming custody was one of the parts of the MPS's transformation programme and so feedback from those ICVs was brought in to that transformation programme strand of work.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: Can you give me a specific example in the last year where working with those volunteers on the ground, something that has come up that you have managed to make a change to improve things in custody?

Rebecca Lawrence (Chief Executive Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I cannot give you a specific example now.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: Sophie, are you aware? Do you meet with the ICVs?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): No, I do not have that level of detail. I can get back to you on that.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: Do you meet with the ICVs?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): I have met with them. I have spoken at their conference and I meet every year at the reception with them, yes.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: Maybe you might want to review the support you are giving those volunteers on the ground, because I am afraid the feedback I have is not polite about MOPAC. You might want to consider that.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Yes.

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM: Thank you.

Unmesh Desai (Deputy Chair in the Chair): Thank you. Just a couple of questions. In terms of delivering a better police service for London, and this came up at the residence meeting I attended last night at Bethnal Green. About 50 people were very irate, but there were some positive suggestions also.

The 101 service, which I have discussed with you before, is a common theme within my part of London. I am sure it is all over London, but people were scathing. The one DWO - in fact there was a second DWO - said that you are in the process of recruiting more call operators. That is something I have to draw to your attention. What is being done to rectify the situation with the answerphone, the delays, everything?

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): As you know, there was a recruitment drive about 18 months ago which was not successful. As part of the six weekly meetings I have with Robin Wilkinson [HR Director, MPS] is to look at recruitment. By the end of this year they should nearly be up to full strength in the call centre, not quite full strength yet, and it will be early New Year that they really will be at full strength. However, as [Sir] Craig [Mackey QPM, Deputy Commissioner, MPS] also said, one of the things that have been put in place to try to ensure that there is better call handling is not just about people but is not voice recognition which has improved things. It should have been in place earlier, but it is now directing people to where they need to go and is enabling the call handlers when they need to, to be able to answer those phone calls. You, as a Committee, have raised this issue many times. It is raised with me elsewhere as well. There has been a real problem with 101. The MPS are moving through this and it is improving. It needs to improve a lot.

Unmesh Desai (Deputy Chair in the Chair): I am glad you accept the problem and that you are doing something about it.

Coming to the issue of DWOs, I was interrupted by one of the residents and my speech was cut short because they wanted practical action enforcement. When Mayor John Biggs [Mayor, London Borough of Tower Hamlets] came he gave them some local answers and so they were satisfied, but I spoke about Sadiq's [Khan, Mayor of London] real neighbourhood policing plan and two DWOs, at which point I was told that they only had one DWO. I did not get a chance to find out whether that was temporary or what happened, but I was told that the second DWO would be starting today. There is evidence from my part of London of both ward officers going on holiday at the same time, which for me - and I said this at the meeting - suggests poor management. People in the audience agreed with that, including some of the local councillors and people. There are certainly problems.

Another problem with DWOs - I do not know if I have drawn this to your attention - is that a very popular DWO who has built a relationship with the local community in the Canning Town North ward has now taken over somewhere else. The local councillors and others have asked him to stay. There is an issue when DWOs whose real purpose is to build up intelligence and build up links with the local people for whatever reason are taken away. I have to say that there are one or two wards where people want their DWO to be moved. I made the point: that is more consistency with people staying there and building those much-valued links that we often talk about, which is what real neighbourhood policing is about. It is not just the numbers.

Sophie Linden (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): I do not know what is happening in Canning Town with individual DWOs, but it is back to Peter's [Whittle AM] question around whether there is the absolute commitment to have two DWOs. It will fluctuate a little bit because people do leave, and people do have sickness, but there is that commitment to have those two DWOs. Pan-London these are local operational decisions about who gets moved on. It is also individual's decisions as well. I have no idea about Canning Town, but there is always that balance between enabling people to really get to know the community long-

term and also the individuals' own wish to progress and do different things as well. There is always that balance.

Unmesh Desai (Deputy Chair in the Chair): Thank you. Anyone else? No? That brings us to the end of the formal question-and-answer session. Thank you

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Subject: Summary List of Actions

Report to: Police and Crime Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 31 October 2018

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

1.1 This report sets out for noting actions arising from previous meetings of the Committee.

2. Recommendation

2.1 **That the Committee notes the completed, ongoing and closed actions arising from previous meetings of the Committee as listed in the report.**

Meeting of 4 October 2018

Minute item	Subject and action required	Status	Action by
6.	<p>Question and Answer Session with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS)</p> <p>During the course of the discussion, the Deputy Commissioner undertook to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An estimate, when available, of the cost of running the Airwave contract and the delayed Emergency Services Network (ESN) contract simultaneously, as part of a phased implementation of ESN; Monthly data for the last 12-month period on the number of calls that were not graded "I" or "S" but where a police officer was required to attend a scene; and those that did not require a police response; 	In progress - the Chairman wrote to the Deputy Commissioner on 19 October 2018	MPS

Cont ...

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Findings, when available, for the reasons in the increase in 999 calls both nationally and in London; and • Monthly data for the last 12-month period for the number of 101 calls which were abandoned. <p>The Deputy Commissioner undertook to review why 739 cases of possession of a weapon had been screened out in the last 12 months. He also agreed to contact Len Duvall AM about a matter he had raised in his constituency concerning the way in which neighbourhood teams gave briefings.</p> <p>The Committee also requested a response to the following question on antisocial behaviour: <i>What progress has there been in assessing the Antisocial Behaviour Warning Notice Scheme in Tower Hamlets and piloting it in the Central North area?</i></p> <p>During the course of the discussion, the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime undertook to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A list of publication dates for MOPAC’s Quarterly reports, together with a list of MOPAC’s dashboards and note of how regularly they would be updated to all Assembly Members; 	<p>In progress – the Chairman wrote to the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime on 16 October 2018.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Cont ...</i></p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current number of MPS police officers; • A timeline for the GLA’s procurement of a case management and correspondence system, of which MOPAC would be a part; and • Examples of work that has been undertaken, following feedback from Independent Custody Volunteers, to improve the experience of those in custody. <p>The Committee also requested responses to the following questions on antisocial behaviour:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>MOPAC appears to rely on MPS data to assess antisocial behaviour in London. Will you begin to gather and report on data from local authorities and housing providers, so that the true level of antisocial behaviour in London can be measured?</i> • <i>We found there is support for a pan-London Antisocial Behaviour Board. What progress has there been in discussions with London Councils about re-establishing an antisocial behaviour forum?</i> 		
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Meeting of 20 September 2018

Minute item	Subject and action required	Status	Action by
6	<p>Police and Crime Committee Work Programme</p> <p>It was agreed that authority be delegated to the Chairman, in consultation with party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, to agree an Annual Report, summarising the work of the Committee during the past year.</p>	<p>Completed – see report at Agenda Item 5.</p>	

Meeting of 5 September 2018

Minute item	Subject and action required	Status	Action by
5.	<p>Question and Answer Session with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and the Metropolitan Police</p> <p>During the course of the discussion the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime undertook to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a briefing on the Countering Violent Extremism programme, including far right-wing extremism; and • Inform the Committee of the anticipated savings from the disposals of police stations and police front counters during this financial year. <p>During the course of the discussion the Commissioner of the Metropolis of the Police undertook to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm the number of police officers who had to go to hospital because they were spat at or bitten during the Notting Hill Carnival; • Provide a briefing on the evaluation of the pilot of the use of spit guards in custody suites; and • Provide the number of police officers who were injured during New Year's Eve 2017. 	<p>Completed the briefing took place on 16 October 2018. See report at Agenda Item 7.</p> <p>In progress - the Chairman wrote to the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime on 13 September 2018.</p> <p>In progress – a follow up request was made on 18 October 2018.</p>	<p>MOPAC</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Cont ...</i></p>

7.	<p>Police and Crime Committee Work Programme</p> <p>The Committee resolved: That a scrutiny investigation into volume crime be undertaken and that the Committee’s thematic meeting slot on 16 October 2018 be used for activity to support that scrutiny investigation and that authority be delegated to the Chairman, in consultation with party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, to agree the terms of reference and scope for that investigation.</p>	<p>Completed- see reports at Agenda Items 5 and 7. The Committee’s meeting slot on 16 October was used for briefings with the Home Office and MOPAC. It is proposed to use the Committee’s meeting slot on 19 November for roundtables on volume crime.</p>	
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Meeting of 4 July 2018

Minute item	Subject and action required	Status	Action by
5.	<p>Question and Answer Session with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and the Metropolitan Police</p> <p>During the course of the discussion, the Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), undertook to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information in respect of the number of people detained as a result of the automated facial recognition pilot; • Confirmation of whether Transport for London’s cameras at Stratford Station were used in the automated facial recognition pilot; • Confirmation as to whether the MPS shared any intelligence with South Wales Police to help them compile their watchlist around organised crime groups linked to music festivals; 	<p>In progress – a follow up request for the action was made on 18 October 2018.</p>	<p>MPS</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Cont ...</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on the MPS's current assessment of safeguarding performance in the East area Basic Command Unit (BCU) South West BCU and West BCU; and Confirmation of the target for recruits to the MPS from a black and minority ethnic background by 2020. 		
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Meeting of 6 June 2018

Minute item	Subject and action required	Status	Action by
5.	<p>Question and Answer Session with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and the Metropolitan Police</p> <p>During the course of the discussion, the Assistant Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), undertook to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of homicides to date in 2018 that were domestic homicides; The number of homicides to date in 2018, that involved people over the age of 25; The annual number of robberies that had involved a knife from 2015 to 2017; The figures for rest-day cancellations from January 2018 to the end of May 2018, including the number of rest day cancellations, and if the information was available, how many of those rest days had been re-rostered or resulted in officers receiving additional pay for the cancellation; Evidence that showed the linkage between drug use and violent crime; An update on the length of time the MPS was taking to examine forensically material relating to child exploitation cases; and The number of times the MPS had applied for extensions of police bail in the last year, and how many individuals this accounted for. 	In progress – a follow up request for the action was made in October 2018.	MPS

Meeting of 24 May 2018

Minute item	Subject and action required	Status	Action by
5.	<p>Tackling the Rise of Violent Crime in London</p> <p>During the course of the discussion, DCS Southworth, Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), agreed to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A breakdown of the different levels of injury caused by knife violence in 2016-17 and 2017-18; and • Information on how social media companies could help the police in preventing violent crime by proactively capturing transient videos on social media which might promote violent crime. 	<p>In progress – a follow up request for the action was made on 18 October 2018.</p> <p>Closed.</p>	MPS

Meeting of 15 May 2018

Minute item	Subject and action required	Status	Action by
10	<p>Question and Answer Session with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and Metropolitan Police Service</p> <p>During the course of the discussion, the Assistant Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), undertook to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An explanation of the process for informing communities about the decision-making and activity associated with the section 60 stop and searches before and after a section 60 Notice was authorised in an area; • An explanation of why it was decided that there should be a section 60 Notice for the whole borough of Waltham Forest, what the community engagement was in that specific instance and whether the Borough Leader and Chief Executive were notified; 	<p>In progress – a follow up request for the action was made in October 2018.</p>	MPS

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An explanation of why it was decided that there should be a section 60 Notice for the whole borough of Camden, what the community engagement was in that specific instance and whether the Borough Leader and Chief Executive were notified; • Information about any concerns about the use of the section 60 stop and searches arising from video-camera evidence; • What was the average and longest duration of a section 60 Notice, including any back-to-back renewals; • How many section 60 Notices had been authorised since January 2018 in total, including those that were not on a borough-wide basis; • Clarification as to whether the MPS's Gun Crime Strategy was being reviewed; • An explanation of which posts in the Violent Crime Task Force were being replaced in their substantive roles and how many posts were to be covered by overtime and cancelled leave; • Information about how the MPS ensures that it communicated with individuals, as well as community groups, in order to build the intelligence picture when it deployed the Violent Crime Task Force to an area; • Using the MPS's own calculations, confirmation of what the sanction detection rate would have been in 2017/18 if the MPS had the same number of police officers as it had in 2016/17 financial year. 		<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Cont ...</i></p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An explanation about the process for handling 101 calls; the numbers of delayed calls and the reasons for those delays; • The measures the MPS was taking around recruitment and filling vacancies and when the MPS expected those vacancies to be filled; • Confirmation of what the MPS would consider a reasonable time for a 101 call to be answered; • Confirmation of the target time for answering 999 calls; • Confirmation of how many trials concerning rape and serious sexual assault had been abandoned in the last year; • Confirmation of how many rape and serious sexual assault cases where a decision still needed to be made as whether to abandon the trial or not; • Confirmation of how many harassment and how many fraud cases had been reviewed; • Confirmation as to whether any of the harassment and fraud cases, which had been reviewed for disclosure, had been abandoned as a result and how many decisions remained to be taken; • Confirmation as to how many of the 65 officers who were still working on the rape and sexual assault case review are detectives and when they were likely to return to their usual roles; and • Information about the ways new recruits were assessed to ensure that officers are suitable to work with London's diverse communities. 		
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Meeting of 21 March 2018

Minute item	Subject and action required	Status	Action by
5	<p>Question and Answer Session with the Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime and Metropolitan Police Service</p> <p>During the course of the discussion, the Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), undertook to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmation as to whether the 346 knives found in schools during 2017 includes knives found during Operation Sceptre sweeps of school grounds; • An update on the roll out of Schools Officers, including numbers of officers in each borough and any gaps; • Copies of the borough action plans for tackling knife crime, as requested following the meeting on 21 February 2018; • Information about the amount of dedicated police officer time spent on the Online Hate Crime Hub and referrals to boroughs, and the number of cases reported that resulted in a crime being recorded; and • The rationale for the MPS’s statement on its website (which has since been amended), referred to during the discussion, about an action that is not a criminal offence but where a person believes that action is motivated by prejudice or hate, the MPS would treat it as a hate incident. <p>In addition, the Deputy Commissioner undertook to examine why the victim satisfaction level for using the Online Hate Crime Hub had fallen from 73% in December 2016 to 70% in December 2017.</p>	Closed	MPS

Meeting of 7 March 2018

Minute item	Subject and action required	Status	Action by
5	Healthcare in Custody During the course of the discussion, Commander Jerome, MPS agreed to provide the Committee with the analysis of the data relating to calls to the London Ambulance Service regarding detainees in police custody once it was available.	Closed	MPS

Meeting of 31 January 2018

Minute item	Subject and action required	Status	Action by
6	Question and Answer Session with the Metropolitan Police Service, City of London Police and British Transport Police During the course of the discussion, the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis undertook to provide an explanation of how the #WeStandTogether campaign would be evaluated.	Closed	MPS

Meeting of 17 October 2017

Minute item	Subject and action required	Status	Action by
6	<p>Question and Answer Session with the Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime and Metropolitan Police Service</p> <p>During the course of the discussion, the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis undertook to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The research that has been undertaken nationally to understand the factors driving an increase in violent crime; • The sanction detection rates across major crime types; • A copy of the Crime Assessment Policy; • An assessment of where mopeds tend to be stolen from and from what type of owner, for example, business or residential; • Information about the thresholds needed to pursue a prosecution of hate crime on social media, together with a breakdown of the incidents, crimes and prosecutions of hate crimes on social media; and • Statistics and information on the number of tribunal cases involving discrimination within the recruitment process, against candidates applying to the MPS, including how many of these cases are contested, not contested and are contested but are settled. 	Closed	MPS

Complaints about the Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime and the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (DMPC)

Subject and action required	Status	Action by	Deadline, if applicable
<p>Complaints about the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (DMPC)</p> <p>The Committee agreed, inter alia, to delegate to the Monitoring Officer all of the powers and functions conferred on it by the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations, with the exception of the functions set out at Part 4 of the Regulations which may not be delegated; and guidance on the handling of complaints which requires the Monitoring Officer to report, on a regular basis, the summary details (such as can be reported in public), on the exercise of any and all of these functions to the Committee for monitoring purposes.</p>	<p>No disclosures to report for the period from 25 September 2018 to 19 October 2018.</p>	<p>Monitoring Officer</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>Transparency Procedure</p> <p>The Committee agreed Members disclose to the Executive Director of Secretariat or his nominated representative (within 28 days of the contact) details of any significant contact with the MPS and/or MOPAC which they consider to be relevant to the work of the Committee; and such disclosures be reported to the next meeting of the Committee.</p>	<p>No disclosures to report for the period from 25 September 2018 to 19 October 2018.</p>	<p>Executive Director of Secretariat</p>	<p>n/a</p>

List of appendices to this report: None

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
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List of Background Papers: None

Contact Officer: Teresa Young, Senior Committee Officer

Telephone: 020 7983 6559

Email: teresa.young@london.gov.uk

Subject: Action Taken Under Delegated Authority

Report to: Police and Crime Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 31 October 2018

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report outlines recent action taken by the Chairman of the Police and Crime Committee in accordance with the delegated authorities granted to him by the Police and Crime Committee.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the Committee notes the recent action taken by the Chairman of the Police and Crime Committee under delegated authority, following consultation with the party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, namely to:**
- (i) **Agree the Committee's Annual Report; and**
 - (ii) **Agree the scope and terms of reference for the Committee's forthcoming scrutiny investigation of prioritising common crimes.**
- 2.2 **That the Committee notes its report, *Work of the Police and Crime Committee in 2017-18*, as attached at Appendix 1 to this report.**
- 2.3 **That the Committee notes the scoping paper for its forthcoming scrutiny review on prioritising common crimes, as attached at Appendix 2 to this report.**

3. Background

- 3.1 At its meeting on 20 September 2018, the Police and Crime Committee resolved:

That authority be delegated to the Chairman, in consultation with party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, to agree an Annual Report, summarising the work of the Committee during the past year.

3.2 Following that meeting, the Chairman consulted party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM about the contents of the Annual Report before agreeing it.

3.3 On 5 September 2018, the Police and Crime Committee resolved:

That a scrutiny investigation into volume crime be undertaken and that the Committee's thematic meeting slot on 16 October 2018 be used for activity to support that scrutiny investigation and that authority be delegated to the Chairman, in consultation with party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, to agree the terms of reference and scope for that investigation.

3.4 Following that meeting, the Chairman consulted party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM about the scope and terms of reference for the scrutiny investigation, before agreeing a scoping document.

3.5 The Committee's thematic meeting slot on 16 October 2018 was used for a briefing with the Home Office and Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime on the current activity taking place in London to prevent extremism, and as a result the roundtables mentioned in the scoping paper will now take place in November 2018.

4. Issues for Consideration

The Committee's Annual Report

4.1 The Committee's report, *Work of the Police and Crime Committee in 2017-18*, was published on 18 October 2018. It is attached at **Appendix 1** for Members to note but it may be accessed on the GLA's website [here](#)¹

Prioritising Common Crimes (Volume Crime)

4.2 The agreed scoping is attached at **Appendix 2** for Members to note but it may be accessed on the GLA's website [here](#)²:

4.3 The Committee will use its thematic meeting slot in November to hold roundtables to support this scrutiny review.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 The Committee has the power to do what is recommended in the report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications to the Greater London Authority arising from this report.

¹ <https://www.london.gov.uk/file/33579666>

² <https://www.london.gov.uk/moderngov/jelListDocuments.aspx?CId=240&MIId=6551&Ver=4>

List of appendices to this report:

Appendix 1 – The Committee’s Annual Report.

Appendix 2 – Scoping paper for scrutiny review of prioritising common crimes (volume crime).

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers:

Member Delegated Authority Forms: 1009 (Annual Report) and 987 (Common crimes scrutiny review).

Contact Officer: Teresa young, Senior Committee Officer

Telephone: 020 7983 6559

E-mail: teresa.young@london.gov.uk

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LONDON ASSEMBLY

Work of the Police and Crime Committee in 2017-18



October 2018

Page 111

Holding the Mayor to account and investigating issues that matter to Londoners

LONDONASSEMBLY

The London Assembly

The London Assembly is a crucial check on the powers of the Mayor of London. As the most powerful directly-elected politician in the UK, it is important the Mayor is held publicly and democratically accountable.

The Assembly examines the decisions and actions of the Mayor to ensure promises to Londoners are delivered and the money he spends, collected from Londoners, is wisely spent.

The 25 London **Assembly Members** are elected every four years at the same time as the Mayor of London. The Assembly holds the Mayor and Mayoral advisers to account by publicly examining policies and programmes. In addition, the Assembly questions the Mayor ten times a year at Mayor's Question Time.

Assembly meetings are open to the public, so Londoners can stay informed about the activities of the Mayor and the Assembly can publicly review their performance.

As well as examining the Mayor's actions and decisions, Assembly Members act as champions for Londoners by investigating issues that are important to the capital. The Assembly can press for changes to national, mayoral or local policy.

Assembly achievements

- Summoned the former Mayor, **Boris Johnson MP**, back to City Hall to answer questions about the cancelled **Garden Bridge** project. The Assembly's previous work is credited with exposing many of the real problems that emerged with the multi-million-pound project.
- Highlighted a wide range of issues in the running of the former **Olympic Stadium** (the 'London Stadium'), maintaining the spotlight on the legacy of the 2012 Olympic Games.
- Produced a number of '**Brexit Directives**' to the Mayor in relation to the impact for London of leaving the EU. The recommendation to provide further information for EU nationals currently living in London was adopted by the Mayor.
- Influenced the Mayor's **transport strategy** around the break down of mode share and integration of door to door services.
- After the 'Driven to Distraction' report on **bus safety**, the Mayor announced permanent toilets for drivers on all routes.

- Successfully influenced the Mayor’s policy and statutory **environmental strategy** in relation to bottled water in London.
- Had a major impact on the Mayor’s primary policy document – the London Plan – in relation to **off-site construction methods**.
- Challenged the Mayor on his proposals to tackle **health inequalities** in London.
- Held sessions with high-profile guests such as **Jeremy Vine** on the perils of cycling in London.
- Worked with the Mayor and London government partners to look at the issues arising from the tragedy of the **Grenfell Tower fire**.
- Urged the Mayor to draw up a **gun crime strategy** after offences rose by 44 per cent in just three years to 2017.
- Unanimously agreed a motion to support the introduction of a **Domestic Abusers Register**. It wrote to all London MPs and lobbied the government to include it in its new Domestic Abuse Bill.

The Police and Crime Committee

The **London Assembly Police and Crime Committee** is a cross-party body, chaired by Conservative Assembly Member Steve O’Connell.

We examine the work of the Mayor and his Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC), to make sure that he is delivering on the promises made to Londoners in his Police and Crime Plan. We also investigate other issues relating to policing and crime in the capital.

Our work involves a range of activities, including meetings with MOPAC, the Metropolitan Police and other organisations; site visits; written consultations; and roundtable meetings.

We hold a Question and Answer (Q&A) session in public every month with a representative from MOPAC—normally the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime—and a representative from the Metropolitan Police on current issues, to find out what they are doing to keep Londoners safe. We also carry out in-depth investigations into different topics, such as youth violence, antisocial behaviour and preventing extremism.

We routinely publish the findings and recommendations of our investigations, including the responses we receive from the Mayor. These can be found on our [investigations page](#).

Your Police and Crime Committee members this year were



Steve O'Connell AM

Chairman of the Police and Crime Committee



2017-18 has been a testing year for London's police forces and for the resilience of our city. Terrorism, the Grenfell Tower fire, and rises in violent crime have pushed the police to their limits. The dedication and bravery of our officers, special constables and Police Community Support Officers is admirable and should be applauded.

The leadership of the Mayor, as the Police and Crime Commissioner for London, needs to be as effective as possible. As Chairman of the London Assembly Police and Crime Committee I, along with my fellow committee members, have sought to make sure that both he and his Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) are delivering what is needed to keep Londoners safe.

This report summarises the work we have done this year. We have looked at issues such as antisocial behaviour, collaboration across London's three police forces, healthcare provision in custody, and the rising level of violence in the capital. We have also continued to question MOPAC and the Metropolitan Police in public on current issues, so that you can hear about what they are doing on your behalf.

This year we are continuing to hold the Mayor to account on his commitments in the Police and Crime Plan and examine the issues that matter to Londoners. We plan to pay specific attention to the experiences of victims of crime and look at what officers on the front line need to be able to do their job well.

“Your involvement is crucial to our work. I hope that you will contribute your views to our investigations in the coming year and let us know about the policing and crime issues that concern you.”

Your involvement is crucial to our work. I hope that you will contribute your views to our investigations in the coming year and let us know about the policing and crime issues that concern you. While we can't resolve individual cases or complaints, your input helps us to identify the big issues and to hold the people tasked with keeping London a safe place to live, work, and visit to account.

I would like to thank everyone that has been involved in our work this year for their support and contributions.

What we have done this year

- Following our detailed work on the failure of the Met and Crown Prosecution Service to charge Lutfulur Rahman, the disgraced ex-Mayor of Tower Hamlets, **the Met re-opened a number of lines of inquiry**. There is on-going work to revisit existing evidence and to collect new statements and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary & Fire and Rescue Services provides an independent oversight on that work.
- We **kept up the pressure on MOPAC and the Met to make the city safer regarding violent crime** and moped gangs. Statistics published and discussed by us shape the regional and national debate on violent crime.
- We have examined MOPAC and the Met's transition to Basic Command Units, a huge **re-organisation of local policing** which will replace the 32 borough-model with 12 BCUs.
- Our report on the rise in gun crime found how much of it is non-gang related and **urged the Mayor to draw up a gun crime strategy** to refocus policing efforts.
- The Mayor praised our work on preventing extremism in London and has used this to reinforce the need for a **better arrangement with the Home Office on the Government's Prevent Strategy**.

- **We met with women who had experience of the criminal justice system**, including those in prison, to look at the impact of there being no prison for women in London, and how to better reduce offending and reoffending.
- After **criticising MOPAC for the lack of information it makes available to Londoners** about what it does, it agreed to publish more online, where information is suitable for public disclosure.
- We **launched a report on antisocial behaviour** with 50 organisations in City Hall, which found that reports of antisocial behaviour have risen over recent years but that data across London is inconsistent and that cost cutting has had an impact on the response to it.
- We **brought together doctors, nurses, police officers and volunteers working in custody** to hear about the challenges in delivering effective healthcare for often very vulnerable people detained in police cells.
- We continued to press for **greater clarity for the police on what the Government's Brexit proposals will mean for safety and security**, especially access to vital Europol databases.

Bringing antisocial behaviour back up the agenda



In July, we launched an investigation to look at the levels of antisocial behaviour in the capital and how the police and other partners, including the Mayor, work together to tackle it. We heard from a range of people and organisations, including local authorities, housing associations and Safer Neighbourhood Boards. We also visited Bethnal Green Police

station to hear about the innovative work taking place in Tower Hamlets to reduce antisocial behaviour.

What we found was that relying on data from the Met alone does not give us an accurate picture of how much antisocial behaviour takes place, and that levels of antisocial behaviour have risen over recent years. We also found that the use of powers available to reduce antisocial behaviour was variable across London, and funding to tackle it is under considerable pressure.

Our report, 'Respecting others: tackling antisocial behaviour in London', was launched at City Hall with over 50 organisations attending to discuss our recommendations, which included rolling out Antisocial Behaviour Warning Notices more widely across London and promoting the use of Community Remedy and Community Trigger powers.



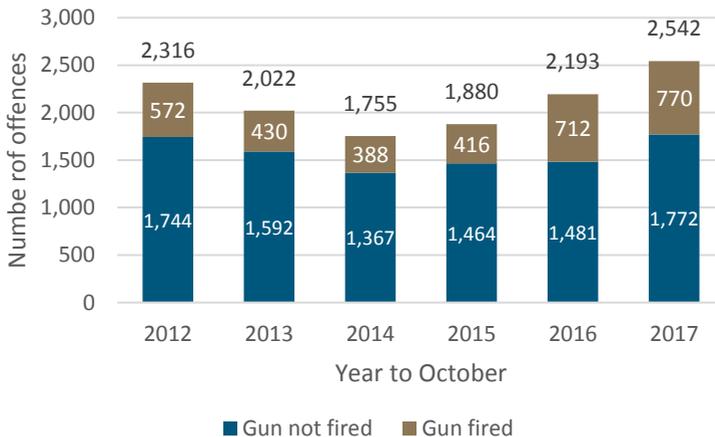
Police and Crime Committee Chairman Steve O'Connell AM launches the report at City Hall

The Met welcomed the report and told us that the Antisocial Behaviour Warning Notice scheme would be reviewed and piloted more widely. The Mayor said that he is working with partners to explore lack of take up of Community Remedy and Community Trigger and would explore whether a multi-agency antisocial behaviour forum should be re-established.

A focus on gun crime

In October, we looked at the rise in gun crime in the capital. We found that gun crime has been increasing since 2014, and that the supply of guns from abroad is a growing concern, particularly as the use of technology and ‘the dark web’ is changing the way people can access weapons. We also found that the amount of gun crime linked to gangs—something traditionally associated with guns—wasn’t as strong as first anticipated.

Gun crime offences in London have started to rise



Source: Metropolitan Police

Our report, published in January 2018, suggested that the ways that we tackle gun crime might need to be much more wide-ranging than a sharp focus on gang activity. Alongside our report we wrote to the Mayor to ask him to consider

whether gun crime, in the same way as knife crime, requires a distinct strategy. We asked him to carry out further research to build a clearer picture of how guns enter London from abroad and look at what more can be done to fully understand theft of legal guns. We also criticised the Mayor for the lack of transparency on gun crime and called for him to improve the level of information provided to the public.

The report was covered widely in the media and continues to be used as part of the debate about violent crime in London.

The Mayor disagreed with us on the need for a distinct strategy on gun crime but did promise to continue consulting with young victims of gun crime as well as “seeking input through networks such as the London Serious Youth Violence Network [...] to ensure an effective response to victims and perpetrators of gun crime”. The Mayor also said that MOPAC would publish a ‘weapon-enabled crime’ dashboard, which was then published in spring 2018.

Challenging MOPAC

In January 2018, we challenged MOPAC's Chief Executive Officer and Directors on various aspects of its work: particularly its scrutiny of the Met, how it delivers value for money, and its transparency and openness.

We were particularly concerned that MOPAC was not adequately holding the Met to account, which meant it was missing the chance to identify risks around issues such as electoral fraud. On its transparency, we criticised the lack of information MOPAC publishes, particularly around consultation responses and other major pieces of work.

Our ongoing scrutiny of MOPAC has resulted in changes to the way it operates. It has agreed to put in place a process for publishing more of its work online, where information is suitable for public disclosure. It also changed its consultation on public access and engagement, after we criticised the questions it was asking the public, suggesting that they were "loaded, and intended to steer respondents to a particular answer."

Question and Answer sessions

Ten times a year a representative from MOPAC, normally the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, and a representative from the Met, appear in front of the committee to answer questions on a wide range of current issues. This is a vital way of holding the Mayor accountable for his actions.



The committee questions the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and the Metropolitan Police ten times a year

This year, we discussed over 30 different topics at Q&A meetings. These are just some examples:

- The Mayor appeared in front of the committee in September, the first time since his appointment. We questioned him on a range of topical issues, including the Grenfell Tower fire, tackling serious violence, and the future of frontline policing.

- We heard from the newly appointed Met Commissioner shortly after her appointment. We questioned her on her priorities for the Met and heard that she intends to focus on issues of violence; vulnerability; crime prevention; and public confidence.
- We have received regular updates on the progress of the Met’s investigation into the Grenfell Tower fire, and investigations into terror attacks.
- We have challenged the Met and MOPAC on changes to front line policing, where borough policing teams are being merged and which resulted initially in drops in performance of the Met and in public satisfaction.



The Commissioner, Cressida Dick, appeared in front of the committee four times this year to answer questions on policing in London

Visits and other meetings

- In January 2018, we brought together London’s three police forces: the Met, City of London Police and British Transport Police, to look at the ways they collaborate on issues like terrorism, public order and tackling violence.
- We called on the Met, Tower Hamlets Council and the Electoral Commission to tell us about the measures in place to prevent electoral fraud and voter malpractice in the 2018 Tower Hamlets elections.
- We launched an in-depth piece of work on women offenders, looking at the impact of prison on women from London, and how to reduce offending and reoffending. We met with women who have experience of the criminal justice system, including those in HMP Downview, to hear about their experiences.



The committee heard from organisations involved in providing services for women in the criminal justice system

- We brought together doctors, nurses, custody staff and independent volunteers to hear about the challenges in delivering effective healthcare for often very vulnerable people detained in police cells.
- We joined Budget and Performance Committee members to hear about the financial monitoring and reporting undertaken by the Met and MOPAC.
- We completed our work on security and policing at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. We wrote to the Mayor, asking him to be much clearer on how policing and security are considered when developing the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, and challenging him to take policing and security into greater consideration in decisions around planning, regeneration, and new developments across the capital. Unmesh Desai AM will continue this work locally.

Our work for 2018-19

This year we are continuing to hold the Mayor to account for his commitments in the Police and Crime Plan and examining the issues that matter to Londoners.

We will hold investigations into topics such as **violence, mental health and policing, how the Met investigates crimes, and how the Met deals with crimes such as burglary and robbery.**

We will also continue our regular examination of MOPAC and the Met through our monthly Q&A meetings, looking at topics such as **changes to front line policing, police funding and crime prevention.**

Elsewhere in the London Assembly

From time to time other Assembly committees will examine issues related to policing and crime. This year, the **Budget and Performance Committee** published ‘Police funding – who’s paying the Bill?’ following a major investigation into the finances of the Metropolitan Police Service. The committee heard about a Met under severe pressure and highlighted the Mayor’s powers to divert funding from other areas of the GLA Group towards the police service.

The Assembly, sometimes unanimously but sometimes by majority, also agreed statements put forward by individual Assembly members which relate to policing and crime. This includes:

Domestic Violence

The Assembly is concerned that the number of domestic abuse victims in London increased by 15 per cent from 62,546 in 2014 to 71,926 in 2016. Domestic abuse now accounts for approximately 1 in 10 offences in the capital.

The Assembly called on the Mayor to write to the Home Secretary for a register for those convicted of a domestic abuse related offence, similar to that used for sexual offenders. This would shift the onus onto the offender whilst allowing the police to hold information on perpetrators,

prioritise resources based on risk and better protect survivors.

Police use of tasers

The Assembly urged the Mayor to make representations to the Met Commissioner to ensure that the police attempt, to the best of their ability, to ensure that tasers are never used in an unwitnessed and unaccountable way.

The Assembly noted that the best way to guarantee this, is to make sure that all lone taser-carrying officers are equipped with body worn video. Apart from in circumstances where a police officer's safety may be in immediate danger, such video should always be switched on before a taser is discharged.

Police Officer Pay

The Assembly is concerned that the Government did not provide any additional money to MOPAC or the Metropolitan Police Service to fund an agreed police pay rise. The Government insisted that the money come from existing police budgets.

The Assembly called on central government to fully fund a pay raise for the police. It also called on the Mayor to write

to the Government asking that it fully fund the cost of the September 2017 pay rise and the cost of any pay rise announced in the 2018-19 police pay awards to give the Met the confidence to fairly remunerate police officers for their outstanding work keeping London safe, without the need to compromise other parts of the service.

How can I get involved in the committee's work?

- Contribute to our investigations. Details on our current work can be found on the [Police and Crime Committee webpage](#).
- Get in touch with us via policeandcrimecommittee@london.gov.uk.
- Raise issues of concern with [Assembly Members directly](#).
- Tweet us [@LondonAssembly](#) and follow committee Twitter conversations with #AssemblyPolice. 
- Come to a committee meeting at City Hall – you are welcome to come and [observe our debates](#).
- [Watch our meetings live](#) from your computer, mobile or tablet.



Greater London Authority
City Hall
The Queen's Walk
More London
London SE1 2AA
Enquiries 020 7983 4100
Minicom 020 7983 4458
www.london.gov.uk

Volume crime

Background

Volume crime: trends

In the year to May 2018, seven crimes made up nearly half of all recorded crime in London.¹ The most commonly recorded 'volume' crime in the capital is burglary. The number of these crimes has been rising in recent years, in line with most other crimes and with comparable force areas.² MOPAC has previously stated that in May 2017 one in five repeat victims had been victims of multiple theft offences in the preceding year.³

Table 1: Seven 'volume' crimes in London made up nearly half of all recorded crime

Offence	Number of offences		% change
	Year to May 2017	Year to May 2018	
Burglary	70,453	78,676	+ 11.7
Common assault	65,609	71,804	+ 9.4
Theft from motor vehicle	55,289	61,406	+ 11.1
Non-domestic violence with injury	52,121	53,360	+ 2.4
Theft person	40,707	46,189	+ 13.5
Theft taking of motor vehicle	28,848	31,396	+ 8.8
Robbery of personal property	23,925	30,752	+ 28.5
Total	336,852	373,583	+ 11
Total Notifiable Offences	787,010	828,887	+5.3

Source: MOPAC Monthly report to the Police and Crime Committee, July 2018

At the same time, the Met's sanction detection rates are falling. Some types of crime have particularly low sanction detection rates.⁴ MOPAC noted, for example, in its performance report for Q4 2017-18, that the sanction detection rate for Violence with Injury was 20 per cent, compared to just over one per cent for Theft Person.⁵ It has been suggested that falling sanction detection rates could result in less public confidence in the police, and offenders may feel more confident that they can evade punishment.⁶

¹ From June 2017 to May 2018, MOPAC's priority crime types accounted for 45.0% of all crime recorded by the Met. Source: MOPAC, Report to the Police and Crime Committee, 4 July 2018

² ONS, [Statistical bulletin: Crime in England and Wales: year ending March 2018](#), accessed 2 August 2018

³ MOPAC [Justice Matters: Victims Matter](#), September 2017

⁴ Metropolitan Police, [Year end crime statistics 2017/2018](#), accessed 26 July 2018

⁵ MOPAC, [Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime, Quarterly Performance Update Report, Quarter 4 2017-18, 2018](#)

⁶ The Guardian, [Met crime detection figures under scrutiny](#), 21 June 2018

Volume crime

The introduction of borough priorities

The previous Police and Crime Plan (2013-16) signalled the then Mayor's intention to "drive down crime by 20 per cent in the key categories of burglary, vandalism/criminal damage, theft of and from motor vehicles, violence with injury, robbery and theft from the person."⁷ In 2015, these 'MOPAC 7' crimes reduced by 18.4 per cent against a 2011-12 baseline, more than the England and Wales average.⁸

The current Police and Crime Plan puts in place a new system to tackle these types of crime. In addition to having sexual violence, domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation, weapon-based crime, hate crime and antisocial behaviour as mandatory priorities, each borough is expected to choose two local priority crimes based on local knowledge, crime data and police intelligence.⁹ Boroughs can choose from:

- Common assault
- Non-domestic violence with injury
- Robbery of personal property
- Theft from motor vehicle
- Theft taking of motor vehicle
- Total burglary
- Total theft person

The basis for the use of local priorities is that rather than dealing with priorities 'imposed' by City Hall, local police should now have the 'flexibility' to fulfil their role in line with what matters locally.¹⁰

Investigating volume crime

Members of the public can now use a variety of media to report crime, including online, as an alternative to the non-emergency 101 number.¹¹ The Met's November 2017 public access strategy stated that growing demand on 999 has an impact on 101 calls as emergency response is prioritised.¹² Any ongoing problems with response to 101 calls are likely to impact those people who are trying to report non-emergency volume crime.

There have been a number of changes to the way crimes, in particular volume crimes, are investigated:

⁷ MOPAC, [2013-16 Police and Crime Plan](#), March 2013

⁸ MOPAC, [2016 Report](#), accessed 16 August 2018

⁹ MOPAC, [A Safer City for All Londoners: Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021](#), March 2017

¹⁰ [Local Borough Priorities](#)

¹¹ Metropolitan Police, [Met Business Plan 2017-18, Quarter 3 update \(October to December 2017\)](#), 2018

¹² MOPAC and Met, [Public Access Strategy](#), November 2017. A call is 'abandoned' when: a 999 call is connected to police by a BT operator, but hangs up or is disconnected before being answered by a police operator, or when someone calls 101 but hangs up before being connected to a police operator.

Volume crime

- In October 2017, the Met unveiled its new Crime Assessment Policy. The Met aims to provide a consistent framework for officers to determine whether it is proportionate to investigate lower level, higher volume offences such as shoplifting, car crime and criminal damage.¹³
- New Basic Command Units (BCUs) will deploy the 'Mi Investigation' model, whereby ownership of most investigations remains with the initial officer in the case.¹⁴

Role of the Mayor and the GLA

The role of MOPAC is to support boroughs in choosing their local priorities, and to hold them to account on performance against those priorities.¹⁵ Deputy Commissioner Craig Mackey has told the committee that his criteria for success of the borough priorities approach would be volume crime starting to fall and/or sanction detections increasing.¹⁶ He has told the committee about how the Met performance manage the response to priority crimes through 'informal challenge' of local borough performance, alongside the line management structures within Territorial Policing, and the 'Crimefighters' process, where operational leads are held to account by the Assistant Commissioner for local performance.¹⁷

The London Policing Ethics Panel plans to investigate prioritisation within the Met as its second piece of work this year, which is likely to be of relevance to this investigation.¹⁸

Previous work of the London Assembly

The committee's response to the Mayor's Draft Police and Crime Plan in 2017 recommended that the final Police and Crime Plan "set out how each priority, including local priorities, will be measured and provide a clear indication of what success would look like. The Mayor should also set out how, using these measures, he will make an assessment about the performance of the Metropolitan Police as a whole."¹⁹ The committee heard concerns that local community organisations such as Ward Panels and Safer Neighbourhood Boards are not being involved in the setting of local priorities, and that the process is not transparent.²⁰ Questions have also been raised as to how MOPAC can mitigate the risk that priorities are set "because they are the things that are easiest to do or they are reflective of what is most practical rather than perhaps what is most important."²¹

¹³ Metropolitan Police, [DAC Mark Simmons discusses the Crime Assessment Policy](#), 16 October 2017

¹⁴ Police and Crime Committee, [Draft Transcript of 4 July 2018 meeting](#), accessed 2 August 2018

¹⁵ MOPAC, [MOPAC performance framework](#), accessed 8 March 2018

¹⁶ London Assembly Police and Crime Committee, [Q and A](#), 21 March 2018

¹⁷ Metropolitan Police, [Governance](#), accessed 22 March 2018

¹⁸ London Policing Ethics Panel, [London Policing Ethics Panel Work Plan 2017-18](#), 19 December 2017

¹⁹ Police and Crime Committee, [Response to the Mayor's Draft Police and Crime Plan](#), February 2017

²⁰ Police and Crime Committee, [Response to the Mayor's Draft Police and Crime Plan](#), February 2017

²¹ Police and Crime Committee, [Response to the Mayor's Draft Police and Crime Plan](#), February 2017

Volume crime

The investigation

Proposed terms of reference

The following is suggested:

1. To assess the extent and nature of volume crime in London, and how it has changed over time.
2. To consider the impact of borough volume crime priorities on the commission and investigation of crime.
3. To examine the impact that changes to the reporting and investigation of volume crime have had on victims, the public, and the police.
4. To consider how MOPAC and other stakeholders can better enable to the Met to tackle volume crime, for example in partnership with victims and communities.

Subject: Question and Answer Session with the Victims' Commissioner

Report to: Police and Crime Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 31 October 2018

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report serves as a background paper to a question and answer session with Claire Waxman, the Victims' Commissioner.

2. Recommendation

- 2.2 **That the Committee notes the report as background to a discussion with the Victims' Commissioner and answers given by the the Victims' Commissioner to the questions asked by Members.**

3. Background

- 3.1 London now accounts for nearly a fifth of all crime in England and Wales.¹ In 2016 there were over 730,000 identified victims of crime recorded by the Metropolitan Police Service. Victim satisfaction rates for police actions, follow up and treatment have been falling since 2014.²
- 3.2 The Victims' Commissioner supports the Mayor and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) to improve the experience of victims and survivors of crime in London, ensuring victims are getting the support they need through their criminal justice journey.

4. Issues for Consideration

- 4.1 With a review of compliance with Victims' Code and development of the Mayor's new integrated service for victims underway, it is important that victims' voices and experiences play a key role in shaping the design and development of services for victims. The meeting will focus on how effectively the Victims' Commissioner is improving the experience of victims and ensuring their voices are taken into account in decision making processes.

¹ MOPAC decision paper, PCD 174, signed 7 April 2017, <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/mayors-office-policing-and-crime-mopac/governance-and-decision-making/mopac-decisions-395>

² MOPAC Public Opinion Dashboard

- 4.2 Areas for discussion with Victims' Commissioner may include:
- The Victims' Commissioner's priorities and collaboration with the national Victims' Commissioner;
 - How the Victims' Commissioner's is working with victims of different crimes and enhancing the victim voice;
 - Early findings from the review of victim needs and compliance with the Victims' Code; and
 - The Victims' Commissioner's priorities for the next 12 months.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Committee has the power to do what is recommended in this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no financial implications to the GLA arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report: None

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
List of Background Papers: None.
Contact Officer: Samira Islam, Project Officer
Telephone: 020 7983 4591
E-mail: samira.islam@london.gov.uk

Subject: Police and Crime Committee Work Programme

Report to: Police and Crime Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 31 October 2018

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

1.1 This report sets out progress on the Police and Crime Committee's work programme.

2. Recommendations

2.1 **That the Committee notes the progress on its work programme, as set out in the report.**

2.2 **That the Committee agrees to use its meeting slot on 19 November 2018 for roundtables to support its scrutiny review on the prioritisation of common crimes and that it delegates authority to the Chairman, in consultation with party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, to make the arrangements for the roundtables.**

2.3 **That authority be delegated to the Chairman, in consultation with party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, to make arrangements for site visits to Metropolitan Police Service Basic Command Units.**

2.4 **That authority be delegated to the Chairman, in consultation with party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, to make arrangements for a site visit to the Metropolitan Police Service's Mounted Branch.**

2.5 **That the Committee notes the monthly report from the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime, as attached at Appendix 1 to this report.**

3. Background

3.1 The Committee's work programme is intended to enable the Committee to effectively fulfil its roles of holding the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) to account and investigating issues of importance to policing and crime reduction in London. The Committee's work involves a range of activities, including formal meetings with MOPAC, the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) and other stakeholders, site visits, written consultations and round table meetings.

- 3.2 The Committee will usually meet twice a month. One of the monthly meetings is usually to hold a question and answer (Q&A) session with the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime. The Commissioner of the MPS has been invited to these meetings. The Committee will primarily use Q&A meetings to investigate topical issues and review MPS performance, including consideration of MOPAC's approach to holding the MPS to account.
- 3.3 The Committee's other monthly meeting is used to consider a particular topic or aspect of policing and crime in greater detail. These investigations will be conducted either by the full Committee or working groups. Working groups will have delegated authority to prepare reports on the Committee's behalf in consultation with party Group Lead Members. Full reports will be approved and published by the full Committee.

4. Issues for Consideration

- 4.1 The work programme has been designed to proactively examine issues of interest but also allows for flexibility to respond to topical issues and for the Committee to react to MOPAC's work programme. Topics will be added to the timetable for Q&A meetings as they arise.
- 4.2 The remainder of the Committee's meetings in the 2018/19 Assembly year are set out below.

Month	Q&A Session	Thematic Topic
November 2018	Thursday, 29 November 2018 (second meeting in November)	Monday, 19 November 2018 – roundtables. No public meeting.
December 2018	No Q&A	Wednesday, 12 December 2018
January 2019	Thursday, 10 January 2019	Wednesday, 23 January 2019
February 2019	Wednesday, 6 February 2019	Tuesday, 12 February 2019 (Change of date)
March 2019	Wednesday, 6 March 2019	Wednesday, 20 March 2019

Tackling the rise of violent crime in London

- 4.3 On 15 May 2018, the Committee agreed that its initial priority for the 2018/19 Assembly year would be to undertake a scrutiny investigation on tackling the rise of violent crime in London, reflecting the deep concern that Londoners have for this issue. The Committee allocated its thematic meeting slots in May, June, July and September 2018 to undertake work on that scrutiny. It will publish its findings shortly.

Prioritising common crimes

- 4.4 In the year to May 2018, seven crimes made up nearly half of all recorded crime in London.¹ The most commonly recorded crime in the capital is burglary. The number of these crimes has been rising in recent years, in line with most other crimes and with comparable force areas. At the same time, the MPS's sanction detection rates are falling.
- 4.5 The current Police and Crime Plan puts in place a new system of agreeing local priorities to tackle these types of crime at a borough level. In addition to having sexual violence, domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation, weapon-based crime, hate crime and antisocial behaviour as mandatory priorities, each borough is expected to choose two local priority crimes based on local knowledge, crime data and police intelligence.²
- 4.6 The Committee is planning to look at the early impact of boroughs prioritising certain crimes. It also hopes to look at the impact that changes to the reporting and investigation of crime have had on victims, the public, and the police themselves; and how MOPAC and other stakeholders can better enable to the MPS to tackle these types of common crime, for example in partnership with victims and communities. It is recommended that the Committee use its thematic meeting slot on 19 November 2018 to hold roundtables to support the Committee's scrutiny investigation of this topic. It is further recommended that the Committee delegates authority to the Chairman, in consultation with the Deputy Chair, to agree the arrangements for those roundtables.
- 4.7 Following consultation with party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, the Chair has agreed a scoping paper for this review. The scoping paper is attached at Appendix 2 to Agenda Item 5.

Site visits and Briefings

- 4.8 The Committee had requested a briefing on MOPAC's Countering Violent Extremism programme at its meeting on 5 September 2018. The Committee used its meeting slot on 16 October 2018 to receive briefings from the Home Office and MOPAC on current activity taking place in the capital to prevent extremism.
- 4.9 From time to time the Committee undertakes site visits to support its work. It is planned that the Committee will undertake site visits to the Basic Command Units (BCUS) to observe how local policing is working following the roll out of BCUs. It is recommended that authority be delegated to the Chairman, in consultation with party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, to make arrangements for these visits.
- 4.10 Members have indicated that they would like to undertake site visits to the Mounted Branch of the MPS and the Marine Policing Unit Police to inform the Committee's work. Site visits will be arranged for later during the year.

¹ From June 2017 to May 2018, MOPAC's priority crime types accounted for 45.0% of all crime recorded by the Met. Source: MOPAC, Report to the Police and Crime Committee, 4 July 2018

² MOPAC, [A Safer City for All Londoners: Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021](#), March 2017

MOPAC Monthly report

4.11 The MOPAC monthly report is attached at **Appendix 1** for the Committee to note.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 The Committee has the power to do what is recommended in this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications to the Greater London Authority arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report:

Appendix 1 – MOPAC monthly report

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
List of Background Papers: None
Contact Officer: Becky Short, Scrutiny Manager
Telephone: 020 7983 4760
E-mail: becky.short@london.gov.uk

M O P A C

MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

**Report to the
Police and Crime Committee**

**Wednesday, 31 October 2018
10am
City Hall**

**Sophie Linden
Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime**

1 INTRODUCTION

This report is provided to the Police and Crime Committee (PCC) for its 4 October 2018 meeting, to assist the Committee to exercise its function in scrutinising and supporting the Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime (MOPAC) and to hold it to account.

This report covers the period from **23 September 2018 to 20 October 2018**.

In addition to the range of regular meetings and briefings with key stakeholders, including senior Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) officers, below are the main activities I have been involved in and/or where MOPAC has been represented.

2 MOPAC ACTIVITY REPORT

Knife Crime and Violence

Throughout the reporting period I have continued to focus on tackling knife crime and violence in London. The Mayor and I received regular updates from the Commissioner concerning the Violent Crime Taskforce's activities as well as wider MPS activity. During this time, I have been working closely with the Mayor on the development of City Hall's Violence Reduction Unit (VRU). The new unit will improve co-ordination between the Metropolitan Police, local authorities, youth services, health services, criminal justice agencies and City Hall as part of a new enhanced partnership. It will also build on what works and share best practice. I also went on patrol with the Met's Violence Crime Taskforce which focuses its activity on disrupting violence on the streets of London. The taskforce was launched in April using £15 million of additional funding from City Hall and has so far made 895 arrests, carried out 1400 weapons sweeps, removed 212 knives and removed nearly 200 offensive weapons from our streets.

On 8 October 2018, I attended the Home Office Violent Crime summit where I spoke about the challenges facing London. I underlined the leadership and activity of the Mayor and MOPAC in tackling serious violence in London and the need for funding.

IOPC

On 24 September 2018 I attended the regular MOPAC/IOPC quarterly meeting with IOPC London Director Jonathan Green. We discussed the new IOPC corporate strategy and the latest complaint statistics from the IOPC Oversight team.

ICO

On 16 October 2018, I met with the Deputy Commissioner of the Information Commissioner's Office James Dipple-Johnstone to discuss how MOPAC maintains oversight of the MPS.

OFSTED

On 25 September 2018, I met with Matthew Coffey, Chief Operating Officer of Ofsted, to discuss potential collaboration across a wide array of policy areas including: Knife Crime; Countering Violent Extremism; Home Schooling; Out of School Settings; Unregulated and Illegal schools; and Child Protection.

External Events

On 1 October 2018, I spoke at a Res Publica Conservative Party Conference fringe event where I discussed solutions to violent crime and made the case for a long term public health approach as well as the need for funding.

On the 12 October 2018, I attended a MAC-UK event where I met young people and youth workers in Kilburn to discuss their experiences.

On the 16 October 2018, I attended the MAC-UK 10-year anniversary event. This a youth-led event to mark the 10th anniversary event of the establishment of MAC-UK which focuses.

On 18 October 2018, I spoke at the launch of the Hestia Report “Underground Lives: Focus on male victims of modern slavery”.

Engaging local leaders

On 27 September 2018, I met Cllr Jas Athwal, Leader of Redbridge Council, to discuss policing within the borough and in particular the new BCU model for local policing.

On 28 September 2018, I met Tower Hamlets Mayor John Biggs to discuss policing within the borough and in particular the new BCU model for local policing.

On 17 October 2018, I met with Cllr Lip Peck, Lead for Community Safety of London Councils, for a 6-monthly discussion on devolution, funding and policing matters in London.

Boards and Roundtables

On 8 October 2018, I met with Dr Angela Herbert and Dr Neville Lawrence, co-chairs of the Violent Crime Prevention Board, to discuss the work their voluntary organisation is doing to tackle violence through positive diversions, education, and research into factors behind violence.

On 15 October 2018, I chaired the London Justice Devolution Board where the future of justice devolution was discussed.

Criminal Justice

On 5 October 2018, I visited the London Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) to experience first-hand the current pressures on, and opportunities available to the London CRC.

MPS

On 26 September 2018, I met with AC Helen Ball to discuss MPS training and transformation.

On 26 September 2018, I met with representatives of the MPS Independent Advisory Group. I discussed the announcement of the new Violence Reduction Unit, confidence and satisfaction in the police and the importance of engagement.

On 18 October 2018, I attended the APCC General Meeting where I discussed issues relating to police finance organisation.

3 PERFORMANCE

Police data are now fully updated on the London data store. In addition, more police and crime data and information and interactive dashboards can be found at: <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/mayors-office-policing-and-crime-mopac/data-and-research>. An overview of key crime types is below.

Metropolitan Police Service

Recorded Crime

	Sept - Aug	2016/17	2017/18	% change
TNO	Total Notifiable Offences (TNO)	803,668	828,972	3.1%
	TNO Victim Based	734,845	763,484	3.9%
ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour Calls	266,807	241,347	-9.5%
VAP	Violence Against the Person	243,471	256,697	5.0%
	Homicide	140	141	0.7%
	Youth Homicide	34	30	-11.8%
	VWI	76,546	77,103	0.7%
	Non-Domestic Abuse VWI	52,737	53,246	1.0%
	Serious Youth Violence	7,821	7,979	2.0%
	Common Assault	67,510	72,484	7.4%
	Harassment	82,020	87,669	6.9%
Domestic Abuse	Domestic Abuse Incidents	144,982	141,480	-2.4%
	Domestic Abuse Notifiable	76,299	82,543	8.2%
	Domestic Abuse VWI	23,809	23,858	0.2%
Sexual Offences	Rape	7,146	8,155	14.1%
	Other Sexual	11,663	12,335	5.8%
Robbery	Total Robbery	28,083	33,312	18.6%
	Personal Robbery	26,111	30,944	18.5%
	Business Robbery	1,972	2,368	20.1%
Burglary	Total Burglary	72,467	79,393	9.6%
	Burglary in a Dwelling	48,830	59,213	21.3%
	Burglary in Other Buildings	23,637	20,180	-14.6%
Theft and Handling	Total Theft Person	44,230	44,071	-0.4%
	Theft Taking of MV	29,699	31,357	5.6%
	Theft from MV	56,993	62,762	10.1%
	Total MV	86,692	94,119	8.6%
Criminal Damage	Total Criminal Damage	64,109	60,238	-6.0%
	Knife Crime	13,593	14,889	9.5%
Weapons	Knife Crime With Injury	4,773	4,616	-3.3%
	Knife Crime With Injury victims under 25 (non DA)	2,059	2,021	-1.8%
	Gun Crime	2,615	2,424	-7.3%
	Gun Crime Discharged	341	383	12.3%
Hate Crime	Racist and Religious Hate Crime	17,313	16,170	-6.6%
	Faith Hate Crime	2,424	2,155	-11.1%
	Anti-Semitic	517	514	-0.6%
	Islamophobic	1,618	1,306	-19.3%
	Sexual Orientation Hate Crime	2,088	2,254	8.0%
	Transgender Hate	187	202	8.0%
	Disability Hate Crime	542	429	-20.8%

		Jun-17	Jun-18	Change
Confidence and Satisfaction	"Good Job" Confidence	69%	65%	-4%
	Satisfaction	75%	68%	-7%

		Jul-17	Jul-18	Change	% Change
Workforce	Police Officers	30,646.68	29,697.50	-949.18	-3.10%
	Police Staff	8,488.68	8,621.59	134.91	1.59%
	PCSOs	1,374.63	1,242.14	-132.49	-9.64%
	MSC (Specials)	2,523.00	2,092.00	-431.00	-17.08%

4. Finance and Performance Report Q1 2018/19

4.1 The financial reporting of MOPAC is on a quarterly basis, with any exceptional items to be noted on a monthly basis.

The financial information will be provided as part of the Quarterly Performance Update Report. This Quarter 2 report will be annexed to the PCC report dated 29 November 2018.

Exceptional items

- Special Grant Application: The MPS have received their Quarter 2 Special Grant Payment for the Grenfell Investigation of £2.8m.
- The Government announced changes to the public-sector pensions scheme through reducing its pension discount rate. The Met estimate that this change could mean that an additional £52m must be found to fund employer costs in 2019-20 and up to £130m every year after that. The Met and other police forces are in conversations with Home Office to discuss mitigations around this potential pressure.
- The Chancellor announced that the Budget will be published on 29th October.

5. CORRESPONDENCE AND MAYOR'S QUESTIONS

MOPAC manages and prioritises all Mayor's Questions and correspondence received to ensure that it is meeting its obligation to respond in a timely manner and to a high standard

5.1 Mayor's Questions (MQs)

Mayor's questions	Total received	Responded to within the GLA agreed timeframe	In percentage terms
September 2017	104	76	73%
October 2017	81	74	91%
November 2017	144	115	80%
December 2017	68	57	84%
January 2018	87	72	83%
February 2018	74	47	64%
March 2018	58	55	95%
April 2018	No MQs in April		
May 2018	89	76	85%
June 2018	104	81	78%
July 2018	82	69	84%
August 2018	No MQs in August		
September 2018	126	110	87%

5.2 Correspondence received and responded to within 20 days

Months	Correspondence received	Number responded to within 20 working days	In percentage terms
August 2017	249	230	92%
September 2017	198	189	95%
October 2017	173	163	94%
November 2017	151	130	86%
December 2017	106	94	89%
January 2018	235	211	90%
February 2018	338	332	98%
March 2018	348	279	80%
April 2018	359	335	93%
May 2018	267	248	93%
June 2018	237	209	88%
July 2018	380	330	87%
August 2018	204	180	88%
September 2018	158	148	94%

6. MOPAC BUSINESS AND MEETINGS

In the last month, my office and I have had a range of meetings with key stakeholders and MPS officers in support of the Mayor.

6.1 Regular Meetings with:

- the Mayor and his Team
- the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner
- MPS Senior Officers
- Partners including local authorities, criminal justice agencies, government departments, policing bodies, service providers and community groups.

Meetings are covered in section 3.

6.2 Decisions

The following formal decisions have been made since the last report:

Policing and Crime Decision (PCD) Number	Formal Decisions made
PCD 456	Variance to existing S93 Sponsorship Agreement between MOPAC and Metropolitan Police Friendly Society
PCD 444	MOPAC reserves strategy 2018 -2022
PCD 466	PRTF 2017 – 071 MOPAC and Open University Collaboration Agreement
PCD 469	Financial Reporting 2018/19 – Quarter 1
PCD 459	Ministry of Justice’s Female Offender Community Investment Fund

6.3 Future MOPAC meetings

Date	MOPAC Meeting
15/11/2018	Oversight Board
22/11/2018	Victims Reference Group
04/12/2018	VAWG Board
04/12/2018	Delivery Management Group of the London Crime Reduction Board
05/12/2018	Justice Matters
10/12/2018	Victims Board
08/01/2019	LCRB
15/01/2019	CONTEST Board
28/01/2019	SCYP Board