



**MAYOR OF LONDON**  
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

Steve O'Connell AM  
Member for Croydon & Sutton  
The Queen's Walk  
More London  
SE1 2AA

8<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Dear Steve,

**Police and Crime Committee – 31 October 2018**

Thank you for inviting me to speak about my work in the role of Independent Victims' Commissioner at the recent PCC meeting.

In reference to the points you have requested in your letter, as previously stated at the PCC, I have raised the request to publish Victims Reference Group member details as an agenda point at our most recent board meeting and look forward to updating you shortly.

As requested, please see details of the boroughs and details of the organisations I have engaged with through my work attached as an appendix.

I am aware of the issues relating to MPS's sanction detection rates and mindful of the potential impact for victims. The Mayor and I both agree that improvement is required to both sanction detection rates and positive outcomes for victims who engage with the police. This is something we are committed to improve.

As part of this focus to achieve the best outcomes for victims in accessing justice, we continue to work closely with the MPS and raise these issues with them.

Through my ongoing work with senior MPS officials, I will continue to monitor matters relating to the 101 call service including any specific issues and impacts on vulnerable victims of crime.

The VRG is made up of organisations that represent the broad range of victims across the different cohorts of crime. Whilst we can agree that homelessness does not fall explicitly within this area, I am aware there is an intersection between victimisation and homelessness which is of concern.

We currently have Victim Support as a VRG member who provide specialist support for victims of all crime types and can advise on housing options. We are currently in discussions with local authority agencies and social landlords about how they could feed in to the group and provide a specialist voice in this area.

I also engage with forums such as the Pan-London Domestic Abuse and Homelessness Strategic Group which helps to inform my work on homelessness and victims of crime.

As I previously mentioned at the PCC, my review of compliance with the Victims Code of Practice was adversely impacted by the new GDPR coming into force. This has hindered the deadlines for results including headline findings from the 'victims' voice' survey.

I am looking forward to presenting these alongside the wider review at the Victims' Summit day on the 21st March 2019 here at City Hall. My office will be sending out invites for the Victims Summit shortly and will be sure to include all Committee members.

Yours sincerely,



**Claire Waxman**

Independent Victims' Commissioner for London