

MOPAC Violence Against Women and Girls Board - 4 March 2024

Present:

Board members

Andrea Simon – EVAW - Co-Chair
Diana Luchford – MOPAC - Co-Chair
Chloe Collins - NHS
Hannah Kuehn - London Councils
Helen Millichap – MPS
Lisa Ramsarran – CPS
Mandy McGregor – TfL
Sharon Whittington – LHoCS
Viv Hayes – WRC

Officers

Caroline Dart – VRU
Imogen Resnick – MOPAC
Jain Lemom – MOPAC
Jane Garvan - MPS
Lesley Weber - MOPAC
Lisa Le Masson – MOPAC
Michael Taylor – MOPAC

Guests

Azara-Jane Higgins – Ernst and Young
Bethany Langan – Gate One
Callyane Desroches – Crest Advisory
Casey Mackins - WRC
Jonny Miller – Gate One
Rob Bradshaw – Gate One
Trudy Turner – London Probation

Board member apologies:

Claire Waxman - Victims' Commissioner for London
Joanne Towens - HMCTS
Katie Nash – London Probation
Kevin Southworth - MPS

1: Welcome and minutes and actions from previous meeting (04/12/23)

The Board was welcomed to the meeting. The minutes of the last meeting were agreed. All actions have been completed or are in progress.

2: VAWG Prevention Principles

The Board was advised that the Principles are pending final approval from MOPAC. The Board was presented with an overview of the engagement held to co-design the principles and the criteria of the success factors.

3: MOPAC Commissioned Sexual Violence Redesign

The Board was provided an overview of the phases to implement the recommended changes and an overview of the associated workstreams for delivery and commissioning. MOPAC will work with NHSE and London Councils to align commissioning approaches and further opportunities for co-commissioning will be explored. The programme will also align with Operation Soteria. There is a workstream on delivery outcomes for MOPAC and partners to monitor the implementation of the changes.

4: VAWG Board Outcomes Framework: Detections and Referrals

City Hall – The Board was advised that the Mayor has invested over £163m on tackling VAWG, including services to reduce perpetrator reoffending.

CPS – The Board was advised that the CPS identifies good practice to maximise the likelihood of a successful charge and recognises the impact of court delays on victim engagement. The CPS holds early face-to-face engagement between case investigators and prosecutors, which is beneficial to facilitate case progression.

London Probation – The Board was advised about the Victim Contact Scheme and the Victim Notification Scheme, including engagement levels of victims across London.

NHS – The board was provided with an overview of NHS services to support victims. NHS England are currently consulting on new National Strategy for Sexual Assault and Abuse Services. There will be opportunities for London partners to engage on the development of this Strategy and provide feedback on an early draft.

MPS – The Board was advised that the MPS reviews all available data on VAWG offences and where other crime types have a VAWG aspect. The MPS VAWG Action Plan is exploring ways of tracking positive outcomes, both criminal justice outcomes and other positives for victims, including for victims of repeat victimisation.

5: MPS Updates

The Board was advised that the MPS welcomes the findings of the Angiolini Inquiry Part One Report, which will be addressed in the MPS VAWG Action Plan. The NPCC is also reviewing and developing a national policing response to the recommendations, including resource implications. Operation Onyx cases continue to be reviewed and staff who have been victims are fully supported. The new VAWG Action Plan has been published and a progress update will be released publicly.

6: Any Other Business

The MOPAC VAWG Team circulated a report providing an update on MOPAC programmes.