

London Victims' Board December 2024

Monday 2 December 2024, 2-4pm (City Hall and online via Teams link)

Attendees:

London Victims' Commissioner – Independent Chair
Bar Council
Citizens Advice
Crown Prosecution Service
His Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service
Judiciary
London Heads of Community Safety
Magistrates' Association
Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime
Metropolitan Police Service
Ministry of Justice
National Health Service
Parole Board
Probation Service London
Victim Reference Group
Victim Support

Agenda items:

1. Welcome, introductions, and apologies

The Chair welcomed all members to the meeting. Apologies were noted. Minutes from the last meeting held in September 2024 were accepted and the actions updated.

2. Update on the Mayor's Police and Crime Plan 2025-29

The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime ('MOPAC') gave an overview of the forthcoming Mayor's Police & Crime Plan ('PCP') and plans for consultation. The Mayor's priorities were set out relating to improving the justice system and supporting victims including reducing repeat victimisation and reoffending and stabilising and increasing victim satisfaction levels.

Victim Support noted the impact of court backlogs on victims and said they were happy this was likely to be included in the PCP. The Magistrates' Association noted that the very significant court delays were at Crown Court level. It was also noted that magistrates' sentencing powers have been extended so this should reduce backlogs.

3. Update on the Mayor's Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy

MOPAC gave an update on the plans for the next Mayor's Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy. It is currently in a consultation period and MOPAC are working with an external provider to deliver workshops. The VAWG Strategy will be aligned with the Home Office's VAWG Strategy with an expected publication date of Spring/Summer 2025. A question was asked about engagement with local authorities and it was confirmed that MOPAC will be talking to London Heads of Community Safety and borough Violence Against Women and Girls Coordinators. It was also confirmed that MOPAC will consult Victim Support and London's Victims' Commissioner's team.

4. Victim Care Update

The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) updated on the victim care improvement strategy, plans to expand the victim care improvement team and the roll out of training to MPS staff.

5. MPS Stalking Super Complaint Response

The MPS updated that they submitted a very detailed response but so far only a summary has been published. All submissions are due to be published by the National Police Chiefs' Council in January 2025. The Chair noted that other forces have already published their responses in full.

The NHS presented on the Essex Stalking Intervention Panel.

6. Partner updates

Partners provided updates on current programmes of work.

7. AOB

None

Close of meeting.