



MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

London Criminal Justice Board (LCJB)

Note of meeting: Monday 17th March 2025, City Hall

Attendees:

DMPC Kaya Comer-Schwartz (Chair)
Darren Mepham, MOPAC
Will Balakrishnan, MOPAC
Kenny Bowie, MOPAC
Ruth Bloomfield, MOPAC
Connie Stygall, MOPAC
Sepia Golding, MOPAC
Charulatha Sanmathi, MOPAC
Claire Waxman, Independent Victims' Commissioner for London
AC Pippa Mills, MPS
Acting Cmdr. Ella Marriott, MPS
Lauren Vallas, HMPPS
Mary Pilgrim, HMPPS
Gary Poole, HMPPS
Fiona Taylor, Lead CELC Advisor for Community Safety & Crime
Jonathan Wettreich, CPS London South
Casey Jenkins, Defence Council
Fadi Doud, Defence Council
Pinaki Ghoshal, ALDCS
Michelle Hodgkinson, NHSE
Henry Smithers, YJB (online for part of the meeting due to tech issues)
Hannah Stevens, Legal Aid (online for part of the meeting due to tech issues)

Apologies

Jo Towens, HMCTS
Sarah Coccia, HMPPS
Ian Blakeman, HMPPS
Helen Isaac, CoLP
Lionel Idan, CPS London South
Lib Peck, VRU
Stephen McAllister, HMCTS
Andrea Simon, EVAW
Althea Loderick, London Councils
Abbie Lane and Hannah Stevens, Legal Aid Agency

Florence Kroll, Association of London Directors of Children's Services
Fiona Bateman, London Adults Safeguarding Board

Item 1.1 Welcome & introductions, updates on actions & sign off minutes from the last meeting

Apologies were noted and minutes from the last meeting were signed off. The board went through the outstanding actions.

Item 2. LCJB workshop reflections and sub-boards performance dashboard

MOPAC presented reflections from the LCJB workshop on 24th February and LCJB members agreed with the proposed actions/next steps to develop a new workplan, TOR and outcomes framework.

MOPAC Evidence & Insight Unit presented a walk-through of the interactive dashboard developed for the LCJB sub-boards, to provide the LCJB with a health check of the system.

Item 3. LCJB horizon scanning and the impact on demand across the CJS

MOPAC presented a proposal for a PESTLE (Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal and Environmental factors) approach to the board horizon scanning emerging issues and the impact on demand across the CJS. The discussion led to further actions to embed this proactive approach to understanding future potential changes and trends that could impact the CJS and create implications for London.

Item 4.1. London Crown Court Performance and Delivery Board

There were positive reflections on the multi-agency Case Progression Conference facilitated by HMCTS and hosted at City Hall in March 2025. The outputs of the Conference will be taken forward by the London Crown Court Performance and Delivery Board to support its objective to reduce ineffective trial rates which will report to the LCJB.

Item 4.2 LCJB Policy Position on Reducing Crown Court Backlogs

As an action from the last board, MOPAC presented a proposed LCJB policy position on long term recommendations for reducing Crown Court Delays in London where government input is required. Discussions on the board's collective views will be further reflected in the paper. The board also reflected on the upcoming Independent Criminal Courts Review 2024-2025 chaired by Sir Brian Leveson expected in late Spring.

Item 5. AOB

The DMPC thanked LCJB members for their contributions to the Police and Crime consultation which closed on 12th February 2025 and updated that the final plan will be published by the end of March 2025.

HMPPS provided updates on prison capacity, Risk Assessed Recall Review (RARR) and Home Detention Curfew (HDC).

LCCSA updated the board on the Child First Custody Training and Research Pilot (ChiRP) and identified areas for development pending its evaluation.

The next meeting is on Friday 13th June 2025.