

London Crime Reduction Board**20 October 2020****Record of Meeting****Board and advisors**

Sadiq Khan	Mayor of London, Chair
Sophie Linden	Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime
Debbie Weekes-Bernard	Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility
Sir Stephen House	Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service
Diana Luchford	CEO, MOPAC
Paul Wylie	Director MOPAC
Will Balakrishnan	Director MOPAC
Lib Peck	VRU
Claire Waxman	London Victims Commissioner
Carolyn Downs	London Councils
Cllr Gareth Roberts	London Councils
Cllr Rachael Robathan	London Councils
Cllr Jas Athwal	London Councils
Cllr Georgia Gould	London Councils
Doug Flight	London Councils
Colin Allars	Youth Justice Board
Damien McCleave	HMCTS
Stephen McAllister	HMCTS
Lionel Idan	Crown Prosecution Service
Barry Hughes	Crown Prosecution Service
Phil Douglas	Ministry of Justice
Joan Smith	VAWG Board
Sinead Dervin	NHS England
Kilvinder Vigurs	NPS
Nick Bowes	Mayor of London's Private Office
James Bottomley	MOPAC
Tom Pickup	London Councils
Andy Davis	MOPAC
Tom Burnham	MOPAC
Nicky Critchfield	MPS
Rory Murray	MPS
Daniel Houghton	London Councils
Mehboob Khan	London Councils
Jade Appleton	London Councils
Tony Hawker	MOPAC

Agenda Item 1: Notes of the last meeting and Actions

The Board notes of 8 July 2020 were agreed. All outstanding actions were covered in the meeting.

Agenda Item 2: Disproportionality and Race Equality in the Criminal Justice System

Race disproportionality in the criminal justice system had been agreed as a standing item for the LCRB since January 2020.

The forthcoming Mayor's Action Plan on trust and confidence in policing was discussed and it was agreed that this focus needs to be applied to the whole of the criminal justice system and public services in London, not just policing.

The criminal justice agencies updated the Board on their work on engagement, data sharing, and out of court disposals. A proposed Youth Justice Action Plan was being developed by partners in relation to what can be done in the criminal justice system to tackle disproportionality. It was agreed that a new sub-Board to the LCRB will track the delivery of the Mayor's Action Plan and the Youth Justice Action Plans.

The disproportionate outcomes for BAME communities seen in the CJS were to a significant extent the product of underlying inequalities in public life. London Councils presented an assessment of the role that local authorities had in identifying key milestones and interventions, prior to entry into the criminal justice system. Disproportionality was also to be tackled through improvements in childrens' services, education and schools. The Board discussed the benefits of partnership, data sharing and the sharing of best practice by local authorities.

Agenda Item 3: Covid Response (Court Backlogs and Emergency Funding)

Updates were provided by HMCTS on the current position in the Magistrates and Crown courts. In the Magistrates courts there was a steady reduction on the outstanding caseload. Difficulties were much worse in the Crown courts with net receipts greater than disposals. HMCTS updated the Board on its work to increase court and jury trial capacity to counter this and deal with the backlog. This included the repurposing of the courts estate, Nightingale courts and other commercial property options. There was also a pilot to increase operating hours. Multi-hander cases were problematic due to the way business was being conducted and social distancing requirements. HMCTS was continuing to support the judiciary to ensure that there was the necessary prioritization of cases involving young persons and vulnerable victims and witnesses.

With some cases being over three years old, the London Victims Commissioner raised significant concerns about the effects of poor communication and last-minute notice of postponement for victims. Support services for victims – Rape Crisis for example – were struggling with capacity issues due to the length of time the cases are taking. An enhanced response, with better communication and support was urgently needed.

Agenda Item 4. Violence Update

The Deputy Commissioner updated the Board on violent crime. Taking into account the Covid effect, there was a downward trend in many violent crime categories including knife injury on victims under 25. Homicide also has seen a reduction on the previous 12-month period.

The Director of the VRU updated the Board on the unit's work on prevention and the development of partnerships. There was good work underway with the police via a secondee from the MPS working on the Divert programme and Violence Champions within the Met. A joint meeting with the NHS was held recently to look at the violence reduction work undertaken by the NHS and the challenges around data, evaluation and joint work with youth workers in hospitals. The VRU was working with local authorities on the development of violence reduction action plans, hubs and the sharing of best practice.

Agenda Item 5: Any other business

There was no other business.

Date of next LCRB meeting: February 2021 (date TBC)
