

Caroline Russell AM
London Assembly Member
Chair of the Police and Crime Committee
City Hall
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Our ref: MOPAC050923-C4716

8 November 2023

Dear Caroline,

Thank you for your letter dated 5 September about Transparency in MOPAC and the Met. I apologise for the delay in responding.

Mayor's Questions

I can assure you that we take Mayoral Questions (MQs) very seriously. MOPAC receives a high volume of MQs and many require a deep dive or obtaining additional information from the MPS. Moreover, the information required to respond to MQs is often contained in data sets and takes time to prepare.

I am conscious of the backlog of unanswered MQs and we are implementing a plan to ensure that outstanding MQs are cleared before the pre election period.

With regard to the MQs you have mentioned in your letter I can update as follows:

MQ 1844 – Stop & Search June 2022 – This MQ is being reviewed by DMPC following a regrettably long delay in the response from the MPS to MOPAC.

MQ – 2586 Uber – This MQ has been submitted to Mayor's Office but has not yet been published on the website.

MQ 0651 – hit and run prosecutions – This MQ is being led by TfL and I understand it is with the MPS for their input.

Serious Sexual Offences Problem Profile and other FOI requests

In relation to the management of Freedom of Information requests (FOIs), the MPS have full independence in the management of FOIs submitted to them and MOPAC is therefore unable to intervene in any decisions made in the disclosure or non-disclosure of information. However, I agree that the effective management of FOI requests is a vital component in maintaining transparency in policing.

I sought an update from the MPS on the FOI request from George Greenword and have been assured that the original decision to not disclose this information is being reviewed by the ICO as the appropriate authority overseeing the handling of FOI requests and

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associated issues. As with all FOI requests, authorities must carefully consider the risks associated with the disclosure of information.

Safer Schools Review

The report into the impacts of Safer Schools Officers (SSOs) you refer to has now been published on the MOPAC website [here](#).

The primary conclusion of this report is that the data capture associated with the activity of SSOs is not sufficient to determine robustly if SSOs confer disproportionate impacts on Black school children.

With this in mind, MOPAC has tasked the MPS with clarifying both their activity and timescales to plan, undertake and report on the additional research required to sufficiently respond to the commitment as documented in the Mayor's Action Plan

The next Safer Schools Partnership Board is scheduled for Tuesday 14 November. MOPAC agrees that the terms of reference, membership and minutes should be published. MOPAC representatives on this Board will be tabling this as an item at the upcoming Board, requesting the MPS action this, to ensure transparency of activity.

Legal defences and costs

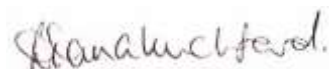
You asked specifically about the MPS commitment to reduce the time taken to investigate complaints and misconduct. MOPAC has been working with the MPS on this issue for some time and since the introduction of the MPS Complaints Resolution Unit in early 2022, we have seen the time taken to record complaints and conduct reduced significantly.

There has been a significant increase in the volume of complaints and conduct matters over the last 12 months. In the rolling 12 months to August 2023 a total of 11,341 public complaints were received, up 1,799 cases compared to the previous rolling 12 month period. In the same period a total of 1,942 conduct matters were received, up 515 cases compared to the previous rolling 12 month period. However, the time taken to finalise both complaints and conduct cases has remained broadly static in the last 12 months, recognising the impact of resources moved into the Directorate of Professional Standards (DPS) by the MPS.

You asked that MOPAC work with the MPS to improve transparency. The London Policing Board will bring both a wealth of new skills and expertise to MOPAC's oversight, but also will bring much needed transparency and enable Londoners to see oversight in action.

Thank you for writing.

Yours sincerely,



Diana Luchford CB

Chief Executive

Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime

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CEO'S OFFICE ADVICE NOTES

(TO BE COMPLETED BY DRAFTING OFFICER AND CORRESPONDENCE TEAM)

<p>Drafted by / or on behalf of: and Date of Draft:</p>	<p><i>Enter name of officer/s and date</i></p>
<p>Unit/Team:</p>	<p>WDPS /MOPAC</p>
<p>Cleared by (line manager): This <u>includes</u> approval of formatting, information provided and that due diligence has been carried out <i>i.e. if commending their work – relevance/ importance/value to community/ City/society/background</i></p>	<p><i>Enter name of line manager and date</i></p>
<p>*NB: If correspondence is to a <u>Government/Shadow Minister, Council Leader, Council Chief Executive or Borough Mayor</u> it must be cleared by Sarah Gibson (Government Relations team manager)</p> <p>*Confirm has been cleared by (Sarah Gibson/Government Relations Officer)</p>	<p><i>Enter name and date draft cleared</i></p> <p><i>Leave blank if not applicable.</i></p>
<p><i>Draft to be cleared by Chief Executive Officer Please advise of any additional clearance required:</i></p> <p><i>Or</i></p> <p><i>Draft to be cleared by (CEO/Head of Private Office/MOPAC Director/Special Appointment)</i> <i>This part of the clearance process will be completed by the Correspondence Team once draft uploaded</i></p>	<p><i>Diana Luchford cleared the draft on xxxxx DATE</i></p>

Background/Comments:

Add additional information here – e.g. Cc contact details/date of any meetings or events referred to:

If correspondence is urgent:

Provide reason(s) for urgency and specify if correspondence needs to be sent out by a certain date (if different to Write On 20-day deadline).

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