

MOPAC External Reference Group Meeting
9th of January 2023 (Union Street/Hybrid) 18:00pm-20:00pm
Room-US-1.8W

Attendees

Aba Abeka-Mensah, Yusuf Deerow, Piran Dhillon-Starkings, Lynn Ferguson, Paul Mundy-Castle, Leona Smith, Sara Owusu, Dionne Usherwood, Natasha Plummer, Mel Asare

Apologies

Jamilia Bernard-Stevenson

Purpose

The ERG will come together as a group up to four times a year in ERG meetings. Its members will take on lead roles where required and represent the wider group's views/ insights. These will include representation on:

- The Mayor's Disproportionality Board (this will involve two ERG members for a two-hour meeting, four times a year);
- Public Mayor's Action Plan review meetings (two ERG members for a two-hour evening meeting, four times a year);
- Task and finish groups (approx. six times a year and some ad hoc meetings, involving two members for half day meetings);
- Pan-London scrutiny (two ERG members for a half day, up to four times a year).

This is the first of quarterly meetings

Welcome and Post Public Review Meeting debrief

The Chair welcomed attendees and shared his MOPAC involvement since their initial induction. He gave his reflection of the last Disproportionality Board and initiated discussions related to the 5th of December event-two year anniversary of the Mayor's Action Plan for Transparency, Accountability and Trust in Policing.

Terms of Reference

The group reviewed the ToR outline and refined this further including|:

Quarterly ERG Meetings

The first meeting to be held on the 9th of January 2023 at Union Street. The expectation is that all members of the ERG come to all four quarterly meeting per year either in person or via the link provided. At least one member of the MOPAC team will be present at these meetings. Should a member not be able to attend due to exceptional circumstances they shall feed into the meeting in advance as much as possible.

Quorum

If there are less than 50 percent of attendees confirmed a decision will be made by the Chair of whether the meeting will proceed and this will be based on the contents of the agenda. Should the Chair not be available to make this decision, a vote will be held amongst the confirmed attendees in advance of the meeting.

Meetings with Officials/stakeholders

ERG members can request to meet with relevant identified officials or stakeholders as they deem necessary to carry out their function. This could include the Deputy Mayors, the Commissioner, MET and MOPAC staff and or teams and other relevant justice bodies.

Disproportionality Board

As representatives of the disproportionality board, an ERG presence is required at each quarterly board meeting but all members do not need to be present. Members are expected to review the board papers and feed in as necessary as well as prepare a quarterly briefing which should arise from the ERG quarterly meeting-thus ERG meeting should always take place before the disproportionality board wherever possible.

Training and Shadowing

Members shall be provided with training and shadowing opportunities to help them carry out their function this may include evidence and insight, MPS recruitment and training, ride alongs, walk and talks etc. Each member shall identify the most suitable options for them given the MAP activities that they will be associated with.

Communication

Members may find the most suitable communication platform to meet their needs such as Whatsapp provided that no confidential information is shared on these platforms and are closed to all other parties outside of the ERG function.

Stop and Search Research

Members discussed their views on the Stop and Search research commissioned by the Disproportionality Board. Members questioned the need for the research about why disproportionality in stop and search exists when 'we' already know why this exists. Members expressed that these funds would be better spent actually trying to do things to address this rather than more research. Members also expressed that if this research was going to go ahead, then qualitative research should also be commissioned to capture voices of the affected communities living in different localities, as their local experience brings different views, perceptions and challenges.

MAP Priorities and Allocation

Training, Shadowing and Opportunities

Members viewed the documents to select the learning and development opportunities they are interested as well as which areas of the MAP they most want to focus on. **Action:** Members to send back their forms to MOPAC if they haven't already.

Members proposed that they need to focus on a few key areas where the most impact can be made, as members expressed that they do not want to spread themselves too thin given their tenure is only 3 years. Individually they can do more if possible.

Disproportionality Board Discussion

The Disproportionality Board ToR was circulated and a summary of the purpose of this Board was provided by MOPAC. Members agreed who would be in attendance at the next meeting (January 16th 2023). It was agreed that the Chair would provide a quarterly ERG update at the Board which would include ERG activity, advice and recommendations.

Recruitment of Additional Members

It was agreed that greater representation is required to cover the following communities: Disability, LGBTQ, Young People and more male representation. Agreed to explore how recruitment should take place at the next sitting.

Black Thrive Consultation

MOPAC provided an update of the community engagement consultation currently being led by Black Thrive and provided the link to their microsite for ERG consideration.

AOB and Meeting Schedule

- Member profiles to be sent to the Chair to feed into the Disproportionality Board
- Previous Board minutes to be circulated to members