

Minutes

MOPAC External Reference Group Meeting
11th of July 2023 Team meeting 18:00pm-21:00pm

Attendees

Aba Abekah-Mensah, Jamila Bernard-Stevenson, Yusuf Deerow, Piran Dhillon-Starkings, Lynn Ferguson, Paul Mundy-Castle, Leona Smith, Dionne Usherwood

Not in Attendance

Sara Owusu

Officers

Natasha Plummer, Mel Asare, Havana Wellings-Longmore, Paris Williams

Item 1: Met Presentation-Commander Colin Wingrove

ERG members were provided an update on the Met's response to the Casey Review and recommendations. Members had the opportunity to ask questions and challenge Sir Mark's reasoning for not using the term "institutional racism" despite this term being used within the review. Commander Wingrove explained that there has been a lot of discussion, debate, criticism leading up to how Sir Mark arrived at this view and despite Sir Mark not using this terminology, how Baroness Casey arrived at the decision is fully accepted by Sir Mark and the Met. Commander Wingrove explained that the Met accepts 99 percent of Casey's findings and recommendations.

Members questioned why things would be different this time given previous windows for change. Commander Wingrove explained that over the last 40 years things have been done to the community but now the Met have reset its values and guiding principles and have identified what needs fixing, resetting is relationship with communities.

Commander Wingrove further explained how the voice of Londoners is brought into policing and the current mechanisms in place for this, is not always a true collaboration and co-productive process. Mindsets of how the Met work is as important as our structures, systems, and processes. The Met is addressing this through three areas Community Firefighting (rebuild trust, restore connections) Culture Change (policing by consent, strong culture that is positive and maintains high standards) How we fix our foundations (training, competency, tools etc for staff).

Members asked about engaging 16–19-year-olds as this is a demographic that is often left out. Commander Wingrove responded that the Met strives to encourage

local engagement teams to go to where young people are, this is just a starting point and there will be a blend of youth engagement.

ERG member extended an offer to help inform the Met's engagement strategy to help reach colleges (16–19-year-old demographic).

It was noted by another ERG member that it can be helpful to identify prominent leaders within a local community who will know how to reach certain demographics.

Action: Commander Wingrove to connect with ERG regarding College engagement

ERG member asked a question on how the Met undertakes their survey's i.e., the right voice, questions, information, dissemination.

Commander Wingrove informed that the Met use Smartsurvey.co.uk #metlistens-QR code, asking simple survey questions such as how best to engage, how to get involved etc. The Met also uses polling-“ minutes tell us what you think”. This another layer of digital data.

ERG member informed that College have compulsory tutorials and survey's can be provided through this route via PHSE or tutorial-we can filter this through.

Commander Wingrove informed that the Met are working on a new children and young people strategy-how to get the voices of young people and offered the ERG to engage in this in future.

Action: Met to link with the ERG regarding the Met's Children and Young People Strategy.

ERG member asked if there is training for officers who are lower ranking to see how effective they are with their engagement.

Commander Wingrove informed that some of the best events have been led by local ward officers. The Met has an internal think tank that drives a lot of this planning.

ERG member raised that the terminology used should be clear i.e. co-production is about sharing the power which is not the same as engagement.

The section about coproduction. Think after the bit about learning from abroad it should have said something about it would be useful for us as an erg to be kept abreast of what is planned and what has and hasn't worked for London communities.

ERG member asked about Met reference groups and that it would be great to connect with them.

Action: MOPAC to connect ERG members with Met reference groups.

ERG member asked how the Met scrutinises i.e. what does success look like so are plans measurable i.e., what is the impact in six-months.

Colin Wingrove responded to The New Met for London and that there are key measures in this relating to the three priority areas.

ERG member asked if the Met can be more proactive in its engagement activities.

ERG member- ERG felt that Borough Commanders should be empowered to undertake work relevant to their communities - Met officer emphasised that the Commissioner is very supportive of this.

An ERG member mentioned the recent news about a sixth suspect in the Stephen Lawrence inquiry and explained the feelings of mistrust and deception that accompany this. There was a query about why this was not being reviewed by a different force, particularly when issues that trigger White Britain (eg Partygate or BBC presenters) appear to take the Commissioner's attention.

ERG member-feels like the same thing keeps repeating itself over and over. Stephen Lawrence was such a pivotal event when growing up. Therefore, so many Black people have issues with the Police, generation after generation. Re-occurring trauma. Something needs to be done.

Action: ERG group-to put forth a collective response about the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry to the commissioner.

Item 2. Matter Arising from Previous Meeting

Minutes have been ratified-no changes.

Action Log reviewed:

- MOPAC to circulate Adverts
- ERG members to book their ride-a-long
- MOPAC send link to website
- MOPAC to circulate ERG profiles for updating
- Action: MPS to plan-community led training observations visits
- Action: Send Terms of Reference update

Item 3. Individual updates

Members gave their individual updates about what they have been involved in over the last quarter including the Public Review meeting on the 20th of June in Newham, attendance at the 2nd Safer School Panel on the 10th of July, involvement with the CJS outcomes framework development and body worn video footage scrutiny. They have highlighted key areas to support the MPS with their engagement activity including assisting with access to colleges to engage 16–19-year-olds, helping to make data dashboard narratives more accessible for the public.

Remuneration: Chair provided an update about having contacted Sophie regarding increasing the ERG remuneration.

MOPAC updated that HR are reviewing this currently.

Item 4. MAP Update

ERG reflections on the Public Review Meeting were positive although still challenging when attending online.

MOPAC are exploring other options to improve digital experience as well as engagement tools within the room, i.e., safe places, restorative circles etc.

MOPAC sent through the post event evaluation which included key discussions, and actions, this could help inform the ERG work plan.

Action: Send the post event feedback once Categorized

Action: We Transfer the last two Public Review videos

All keen to attend an ERG away day to help deliver their detailed workplan.

Action: MOPAC to circulate a voting poll for the best date.

Discussed the possibility of ERG leading on the Dec Public Review Meeting.

Action: Explore further at Away Day

Action: Dionne and Aba to link with Evidence and Insight regarding the narratives of dashboards.

AAM offered to review the stats within the dashboard to share the formulas behind them and then write a more accessible summary. Can take a view of what most people will be interested in and then the best way to present it.

AAM can offer this as work experience to her students.

MOPAC-political science students can potentially look at the qualitative aspect to the data.

ERG member -young barristers network. Barristers that just started, work in the criminal sector as part of their initial training, they are interested in inequalities and how you keep things out of the courts, they may have a role in this, lets explore.

Item 5. Disproportionality Board

AAM and LF will be in attendance-MOPACI to send a summary for their Board update.

Item 6. AOB

Minutes to be ratified after meeting rather than at the next quarterly meeting so that it can be published swiftly

Next meeting date: Tuesday 3rd October 2023-City Hall

Actions

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Action: Met to link with the ERG regarding the Met's Children and Young People Strategy.

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