

Stop and Search Community Monitoring Network
Wednesday 9th June 2021

Attendance List

Names taken from sign in screen on MS Teams

Barking and Dagenham	Steve Thompson
Barnet	Ifran Hussain
Bromley	Ian Smith
Croydon	Marzia Nicodemi
Greenwich	Steve Bone
Hackney	Nicola Baboneau
Hammersmith and Fulham	Jane Davis
Havering	Ian Weatherley(CMN Vice Chair)
Hillingdon	Michelle Dibble
Hounslow	Meenu Dhili
Kensington and Chelsea	Lucy Smith-Ryland
Islington	Sheri Lawal
Lambeth	Abdul Karim
Lewisham	Tayo Disu
Newham	Chris Roffey
Redbridge	Julie Fallon-Bradley
Richmond - Upon - Thames	Carole Atkinson
Southwark	Avril Jones
Wandsworth	Barbara Madelof, Andy Healey
Westminster	Nathalie Stewart (CMN Chair)
MPS	T/DAC Jane Connors Insp John Evans Sgt Chris Williams Chief Insp Steve Willers PC Bilal Sani-Mohammed

Apologies: Sarah Chambers

1. Housekeeping

NP welcomed the group and went over housekeeping.

2. Chair's welcome

The Chair welcomed the group and confirmed apologies. NS explained that IW (Vice Chair) would chair the meeting.

3. Chief Inspector Steve Willers - Department of Professional Standards

SW introduced himself to the meeting and explained that his team handles the complaints that come into the Met. Typically his team handle 6000 public enquiries per month, this terminology is used as not all communications received are complaints.

SW went on to explain that every complaint will be triaged through his team, complaints can be made through;

- An online portal on the MPS website
- Over the phone
- Complaining in person to a police officer

SW explained that all public enquiries are triaged by two Sergeants within his team. For something that isn't serious a member of the public will typically receive a response within eight days however this can vary around public holidays. Currently there are a lot of videos uploaded to social media sites highlighting incidents which can result in a complaint, the MPS are sometimes tagged. If this happens the team will review the video and decide if it fits the criteria for a complaint. The police will then take the following actions;

- Draft press lines
- Escalate to senior officers who will direct the response
- Respond to the complaint (could be a holding reply)

When incidents like this take place the DPS may go into the borough to work with the local community to discuss the incident and provide updates around how the complaint is progressing.

Question & Answer

In order to improve transparency stop and search complaints data should be available to the public.	SW agreed to take the question away to the intelligence unit and will get back to the group with an answer. MOPAC are also working with the MPS on complaints data where the internal Evidence and Insight team are developing a complaints dashboard. JC confirmed that the complaints report that is published internally in the MPS will soon be provided to CMGs.
What are the figures for complaints received by young people (under 18) or those representing young people.	<i>MOPAC will gather a response from the DPS and share with the CMN</i>
How many complaints are generated by those who have been searched and "no further action taken", are any referrals made to safeguarding agencies should this happen.	<i>MOPAC will gather a response from the DPS and share with the CMN</i>

Many members of the public highlight that there are considerable delays to resolving complaints, this impacts public confidence in the police and further reduces trust.

Transformation work is currently ongoing which has been piloted in South London, the objectives of the pilot were to make contact with complainant within 24 – 48 working hours. Because of this process the majority of those dealt with were resolved during a 30 minute call. The ambition after this trial is to expand the project across London. Commander Betts is committed to delivering improvements to the Mets complaints process.

Action MOPAC: Share questions with CI Steve Willers so he can speak to DPS and respond with answers for the CMN.

4. Bilal Sani-Mohammed - Police Encounter Panels (PEPs)

BS introduced himself confirming that he works in Inspector Owen Pyle's team who are leading on the development of Police Encounter Panels (PEPs) which are being formed as a result of the Mayors Action Plan to improve accountability in policing. This also reflects recommendations from other bodies such as Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services and Independent Office for Police Conduct. He referenced that the PEPs will not be limited to just stop and search and will instead encompass a wide range of interactions including;

- Stop and search
- Use of taser/ CS spray
- Viral videos
- General encounters

BS confirmed that the groups will be chaired by both a member of the public and Commander or an assigned deputy. The aim of the groups is to scrutinise the MPS and provide feedback on how they can improve any negative encounter with a member of the public. PEPs will be aligned to the Basic Command Units encompassing multiple boroughs rather than individual boroughs. The groups will be different from CMGs and Ward Panels. BS went on to explain that the MPS are aware of how the membership needs to focus on diversity and is clearly a reflection of London's communities.

BS confirmed that the PEPs will have between eight and twelve members, they will be able to look at Body Worn Video (BWV) should it be relevant to the situation. The meetings will be held on a monthly basis however can also be called in response to an incident which has taken place in a borough that requires a PESP to hold an extraordinary meeting, this may include viral videos. Members will be subjected to a security check to ensure they are not currently involved in any serious criminality however adverse encounters with the police will not prevent an individual from joining. Community members will receive an induction pack and will be invited to go on ride alongs and, where resource permits, attend Officer Safety Training sessions.

The attendance list will include;

- Community Members
- Borough Commander or assigned deputy
- Support Officers
- Police Federation Representative

Question & Answer

Concern that the process for recruiting members will be difficult and not necessarily as simple as just opening up groups and receiving an influx of applications. What training will be provided to ensure those selected have the required knowledge.	All individuals will receive an induction pack upon recruitment. The MPS are consulting a wide range of experts in how to recruit suitable members.
Concerns with GDPR and the PEPs	The Met have taken advice and guidance from experts and have conducted a Data Protection Impact Assessment.
Recruitment and attracting a range of participants with a detailed understanding of the process and legislation	BSM has worked hard to lower the restrictions for those who are interested in joining to ensure a range of those impacted by police tactics eg: young black men
Should an incident take place in a borough that requires a PESP to hold an extraordinary meeting what will be the time frame for setting it up	Panels can form virtually which may assist with a quick response.
What protection is in place for officers who are involved in an interaction	Member of the police federation to represent and support the interests of the officer in question. The DPIA has also covered the risks with officer data.
What is the time scale for full implementation of PEPs across London	<i>MOPAC will gather a response from BS and share with the CMN</i>

Action Send Bilal and email with summary of questions and ask if he is happy for me to share his email

5. Inspector John Evans & Sgt Chris Williams

JE welcomed the group and apologised for the late Section 60 figures which were circulated to the group just before the meeting. JE went on to reference the Section 60 figures which are highlighted below.

S60 authorities are put in place for defined geographical areas. These areas may be entirely within one borough or they may straddle borough boundaries. The table below shows the borough or boroughs on which the s60 authority took place. To explain this with an example, the second row of the table shows a figure of "1" for "Barnet". This means that there was a section 60 authority which took place in defined area which lies solely within the borough of Barnet. The fourth row gives a figure of "5" for "Brent". This means that there were five section 60 authorities which took place in defined areas which lie solely within the borough of Brent. The fifth row gives a figure of "2" for "Brent : Barnet". This means that there were two section 60 authorities which took place in defined areas which straddle the Brent/Barnet border.

The second table, shows where authorisations are linked in terms of the grounds/incident. Again, as an example, the "5" for "Greenwich : Bexley" all stem from an initial incident or set of circumstances, which have then led to further incidents / grounds prompting further s60 authorities at later dates (a day or two later).

Section 60 Authorisations from March to end of May 2021

Borough(s) on which s60 authority was given	Number of s60 Authorities
Barking and Dagenham	4
Barnet	1
Bexley	1
Brent	5
Brent : Barnet	2
Bromley : Croydon : Sutton	1
Camden	1
Camden : Islington	3
Croydon	6
Greenwich	3
Greenwich : Barnet	1
Greenwich : Bexley	4
Hackney	6
Hackney : Islington	1
Hammersmith and Fulham	1
Haringey	1
Harrow	1
Harrow : Brent : Barnet	1
Havering	1
Hillingdon	3
Hounslow	1
Islington	4
Kensington and Chelsea : Hammersmith and Fulham	2
Kensington and Chelsea : Westminster : Brent	1
Kensington and Chelsea : Westminster : Hammersmith and Fulham : Brent	1
Lambeth	3
Lambeth : Southwark	2
Lambeth : Wandsworth	1
Lewisham	1
Lewisham : Bromley : Greenwich	1
Lewisham : Greenwich	1
Lewisham : Greenwich : Bexley	1
Merton	2
Merton : Wandsworth	1
Newham	10
Redbridge	1
Richmond : Kingston	1
Southwark	3
Southwark : Lewisham	3
Tower Hamlets	3
Waltham Forest	5

Waltham Forest : Newham	1
Waltham Forest : Redbridge	1
Wandsworth	1
Westminster	4
Total	102

Barking and Dagenham	2
Croydon	2
Greenwich	2
Greenwich : Bexley	5
Hackney	2
Kensington and Chelsea : Hammersmith and Fulham	2
Southwark : Lewisham	3
Grand Total	18

The group then engaged in a question and answer session which has been recorded below.

Why are Section 60 extensions brought in as precautionary measure.	Section 60 extensions should only be authorised if new information has come to light that justifies an extension. This question arose from a comment regarding Newham borough. The Central Stop and Search team will speak to the Newham stop and search lead to understand the justification for section 60 extensions from W/C 31st May 2021.
Can the Central S&S Team look at a consistent Section 60 model for informing CMG chairs of authorisations, an example of best practice was from the method used in Hackney.	<i>MOPAC will gather a response from the Central Stop and Search Team and share with the CMN</i>
Hackney's local police team have a good process for sharing section 60 information could this be adopted across other boroughs who struggle to get the information they need.	The MPS Central Team will look into this method and see if its possible to share.
Can the bitesized stop and search training videos be made publicly available for training and transparency purposes.	The MPS are looking into if its possible to share these publicly.
Is there an update on BWV Feedback form amendments which were raised by chairs.	The forms have now been revised and incorporate all of the feedback. They will be shared with chairs in the coming days.
Why cant CMGs watch BWV clips for the Violent Crime Taskforce.	<i>MOPAC will gather a response from the Central Stop and Search Team and share with the CMN</i>

Action MOPAC: Share questions with the Central Stop and Search team and respond with answers to the CMN.

Action MPS: Speak to Newham S&S lead to understand the justification for section 60 extensions from W/C 31st May 2021

6. Natasha Plummer – MOPAC Update

NP confirmed to the group that Sadiq Khan has been reelected for three years. That means that the Police and Crime Plan (PCP) will be produced at a faster pace to ensure there is enough time to deliver the actions. The PCP will be produced after a consultation in July which will focus on;

- Manifesto commitments
- Crime data
- Public concerns

The group discuss the possibility of running future CMN meetings in person. NP confirmed that It may be possible however this will be COVID dependent and will have to take into consideration the option of hybrid meetings with some attendees virtual and some physical.

The group requested that the key points from the MS Teams Call chat feature were recorded on the notes, these can be found below;

I'd add that there is a need to look at the training of the Ops Rm inspectors specifically on s60s, CMGs, and the geography of the BCUs as well as adjacent BCUs. I think we all accept fast pace scenarios but there is no excuse for vague intel based s60s with partner messages an hour or more afterwards and no CMG Chair contact. I accept the out of hours but we can arrange local measures.

The geographic boundaries are often pretty poorly defined

There is a WhatsApp Group in SW/Merton. Section 60 alerts come through at any time day/night.

Cant the MPS leave a voice mail/ txt if there is an authorisation overnight so it can be picked up in the morning by CMG Chairs.

In the past, we have been contacted when S&S complaints have passed a %age threshold. One aspect is the length of time in the pipeline that leads to complaints data being in the current period thus distorting current data. How can S&S complaints be better reflected to show the origination date?

What work is being done to open up the NFA data (generally around 75%) to show that actions have taken place be it YOTS or some other intervention that has some sort of effect and outcome. As the data is currently presented, some members of the public gain the perception of unnecessary and potentially damaging stops.

BWV risks - criminal case evidence, potential civil case, potential disciplinary case, potential IOPC case, other legal issues

The review panel is an excellent tool. I have to chase our lead and single inspectors. One stabbing and the entire borough is under a S60. The MPS may not even have the deploying ability to cover Croydon.

Discussion around the table to cover all eventualities on Sec 60 needs to be made. Can't be done here. Many various ways of responding to the conversation. All Bcus are doing different, and it's time to meet and merge

There is an issue with BWV deleted that needs to be discussed. Redacted data is issued around 8th of each month and by the time that CMG Chairs can arrange to get in, say 28th of the month, we may have lost access to most of the previous month's data. The DPIA needs to be reviewed and a 60 day retention period considered. I also contend that we should have sight of the DPIA so we can input for a better regime.

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