

Police and Crime Plan for London – 2022-2025

Consultation Summary

March 2022

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires that each Police and Crime Commissioner, in London's case the Mayor, produce a Police and Crime Plan (PCP) by the end of the financial year in which he or she is elected and that they must consult with the Commissioner, the Police and Crime Committee, Londoners and victims of crime on a draft Plan.

The consultation draft for this Police and Crime Plan was published on 16th November 2021, with the consultation period running until 21st January 2022. The consultation itself comprised multiple elements to ensure that we a) had a robust sample that was representative of London and b) any Londoner who wanted to take part could have a way to do so. This included surveys of a representative sample by YouGov, an additional survey of BAME Londoners, an online survey and discussions hosted on Talk London and a comprehensive package of meetings with stakeholders and members of the public. In total, nearly 4,000 responses were received.

This document provides more details on the responses received to the consultation and a summary of how the final Plan has been informed by those responses.

How we consulted

Surveys

A total of 2,726 Londoners took part in the surveys conducted for the Police and Crime Plan consultation. A full summary and analysis of our surveys – conducted with YouGov and via the Mayor's Talk London consultation platform – is published alongside the Police and Crime Plan.

Consultation workshops and events

During the consultation period, MOPAC hosted 36 workshops and consultation events with stakeholders and Londoners to inform both the Police and Crime Plan and forthcoming VAWG Strategy. Given the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and safety measures in place during the consultation period, these events were hosted online. A total of 820 people participated in these sessions.

MOPAC hosted four open sessions for Londoners to share their priorities and discuss policing and crime issues. MOPAC held a similar open session for young Londoners to participate in the consultation.

In addition, MOPAC held numerous working sessions and discussions with key stakeholders, including the MPS Senior Leadership Team, all London Borough Councils, Criminal Justice System partners and community and voluntary groups.

Groups consulted for the PCP and VAWG Strategy included: The London Victims Reference Group, the London Victims Board, London Heads of Community Safety, hate crime stakeholders, frontline MPS officers, the London Reducing Reoffending Board, GLA staff, London Councils, Borough Leaders and Chief Executives, the London Jewish Forum, MPS

Independent Advisory Groups (IAGs), business groups and representatives, VAWG sector representatives, modern slavery voluntary and community groups, Premier League Kicks, Haringey and Enfield Young Londoners Fund organisations, Newham Residents (hosted by the Mayor of Newham), representatives of London's Black communities, mental health professionals and support organisations, online harms experts, Inclusion London, the Deaf and Disabled Londoners Forum, men and women in the criminal justice system, the TfL External Reference Group, the VRU Parent network, Peer Outreach Workers, youth justice partners, the Home Office, the Ministry of Justice, women involved in sex work, harmful practices experts, public health experts, the London Young People's Action Group, cross-party Councillors, FGM survivors and experts, academic experts, faith groups, LGBTQI+ representatives, organisations working with migrant women.

Written consultation responses

MOPAC received 213 written responses from stakeholders and members of the public. The below list indicated where MOPAC has received an official written response from an organisation as part of the consultation either via post or via email.

We provide a list of those who responded in writing in Appendix A. Some of these responses came to MOPAC with multiple signatories, as such, we have tried to include the names of all organisations. We include the names of elected representatives who responded. To protect privacy, we have not included the names of private citizens who responded in this way. In line with other GLA family consultations we do not publish all the responses we receive. The usual practice is to provide a summary such as this "You said, we did" document which is a more useful summation of the many comments received.

London Assembly - Police and Crime Committee feedback

The London Assembly's Police and Crime Committee examines the work of MOPAC. It also investigates key issues relating to policing, crime and safety in London. The Committee plays an important role in the development process for the Police and Crime Plan, and we welcome their feedback and engagement in the process.

The Committee held an evidence gathering session with a range of experts on 1st December 2021. The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and MOPAC's Director of Strategy and MPS Oversight then gave evidence to the Committee at a session on 15th December. The Committee subsequently provided their written feedback and recommendations on the Plan in February 2022, with the Deputy Mayor responding to this in March.

Key themes

As part of our surveys and consultation sessions, we asked Londoners what they felt was missing from the draft Police and Crime Plan for London that was published for people to give their views on. Some key themes emerged that we have reflected in the final Plan.

Tackling police misconduct, improving accountability and restoring confidence

We heard through our surveys and consultations about Londoners' concerns around police misconduct and accountability – issues which have been very prominent in the public eye for several years. There have been further significant developments since the end of the consultation.

The final Plan reflects the Mayor's clear expectation that the MPS deliver a complete plan for restoring the trust and confidence of Londoners in the police and driving out the racism, homophobia, transphobia, bullying and misogyny which still exists within its ranks – and the stronger oversight and accountability measures we will take to ensure this happens.

We also heard how important trust and confidence is to Londoners. We heard many comments about excellent policing and good community engagement from police, and we also heard examples of poor policing and situations where respondents felt let down by the response they had received to their issue. Trust and confidence is a key priority in the final Plan, and in it we set out our comprehensive package of actions to address and improve on all of the different aspects of policing that feed into community confidence – including engagement mechanisms, investigations and visibility.

Local policing and neighbourhood crime

We heard that, while Londoners and partners welcomed and understood our focus on the most harmful problems such as knife crime, gangs, violence against women and girls and terrorism, it was important that the final Plan reflected more strongly what we were going to do about neighbourhood crimes (also known as volume crimes), anti-social behaviour and about improving local policing. These are issues that directly affect more Londoners in their daily lives, and that can influence the safety and wellbeing of whole communities. Within this, we also heard about how important local policing is to Londoners – and about how you wanted to see more officers and more joined-up working to tackle local problems.

In the final Plan we set out a range of additional actions to address volume crime, including greater oversight over the MPS to improve detection rates for these offences and establishing a regular meeting of local authorities, police and other partners to assess and improve responses to anti-social behaviour in London.

We also heard from partners about the impact of the move to the Basic Command Unit (BCU) model through which the MPS organises its local teams, and challenges to local working. The MPS moved to this system of larger and fewer local police commands in 2018 in the face of Government austerity measures that, up to that point, had seen cuts of £700m to the MPS budget.

In the final Plan, and in recognition of the feedback from partners, we commit to bringing together the MPS and partners to improve mutual understanding of the impact of the BCU model and identify opportunities for improving partnership working on key issues - beginning with a look at the issue of child protection/safeguarding.

Tackling the harm caused by drugs

Drugs were frequently raised by participants in our public and stakeholder consultations – from the violence and exploitation driven by serious organised crime to the impact of drug dealing, drug use and associated anti-social behaviour on communities’ sense of safety and wellbeing. Respondents wanted to see more done to directly address the harms caused by drugs.

During the consultation period, the Government published its 10-year Drugs Strategy – which was also an important document for us to consider in finalising our Police and Crime Plan.

In the final Plan we have significantly expanded the section on drugs, including the creation of a new London Drugs Forum to join up all partners and drive collaborative working to reduce the harms caused by drugs; and an additional £2m funding to support the MPS to tackle the supply of drugs across the capital, whilst also enhancing treatment and recovery services.

Online harms and fraud

Online safety and the impact of fraud and other crimes enabled by the internet was another frequently raised issue – including by participants in the Police and Crime Committee’s Evidence Session on the draft Plan in December 2021. Surveys also showed a widespread concern amongst Londoners about safety online, particularly that of young people. Respondents recognised the challenges facing the MPS and other local agencies in policing and protecting people against crimes that are often committed from other countries but wanted to see more in the final Plan about our plans to do everything we can within that context to keep people safe online.

In the final Plan we commit to establishing an Online Harms Working Group to co-ordinate City Hall’s work in this space, and to work with the MPS, partners, communities and the tech sector to make online platforms safer. In addition, we call for the Government to bring forward a national strategy for tackling fraud and economic crime in London, including tax evasion and money laundering.

Preventing and reducing violence against women and girls

We also consulted on the forthcoming Violence Against Women and Girls strategy for London during this consultation period, and the views of Londoners and partners we received have been an important input to the development of this key document. The Strategy is due to be published later in 2022, including more information on how the consultation findings have guided our work.

Appendix A - Written Responses to the Police and Crime Plan Consultation

Action Vision Zero

Association of Convenience Stores

Ben Kinsella Trust

British Youth Council

Buddi Ltd

Caroline Pidgeon AM

Caroline Russell AM

Chairs and Scrutineers of London's Local Safeguarding Partnerships

Children's Right's Alliance

Drive Partnership

End Violence Against Women and Girls

Federation of Small Businesses

GALOP

Howard League

IKWRO

Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner

Inner Strength Network

Into the Light

Julia Lopez MP

Latin American Women's Rights Service

Liberal Democrats of Merton

London Assembly Liberal Democrat Group

London Borough of Barking and Dagenham

London Borough of Barnet

London Borough of Bexley

London Borough of Brent

London Borough of Ealing

London Borough of Enfield

London Borough of Greenwich

London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham

London Borough of Harrow

London Borough of Hounslow

London Borough of Lambeth

London Borough of Merton

London Borough of Newham

London Borough of Richmond and Wandsworth

London Borough of Southwark

London Borough of Tower Hamlets

London Borough of Tower Hamlets (VAWG & Hate Crime Team)

London Borough of Waltham Forest

London Borough of Westminster

London Bridge BIDs

London Councils

London Gypsies and Travellers, Southwark Travellers Action Group, Outreach Service for Gypsy Roma Travellers, Lewisham Irish Community Centre and The Traveller Movement

London Heads of Community Safety

London Probation

London's Deaf and Disabled People's Hate Crime Partnership

Metro (equality and diversity charity)

The Metropolitan Police Service

Modern Slavery London Working Group

Neighbourhood Watch - Croydon

NHS England

North Uxbridge Residents Association

Oasis Community Partnership

Plan International

Prison Reform Trust

Redthread

Release

Respect

Road Danger Reduction Forum

Safe Lives

Safer Business Network

Safer London

Safer Neighbourhood Board - Bexley

Safer Neighbourhood Board - Brent

Safer Neighbourhood Board - Camden

Safer Neighbourhood Panel- Sidcup

Safer Neighbourhood Board & Independent Advisory Group - Hackney

Shout Out UK

Siobhan McDonagh MP

Solace Women's Aid

South Bank Employers Group

Suzy Lamplugh

The Lighthouse

Toynbee Hall

Ubele

Vavengers

Victim Support

Why Me?

Women's Resource Centre

Youth Justice Strategic Leaders