

# London Policing Ethics Panel Minutes of Meeting

Monday, 9 May 2022

## **Membership**

Professor Suzanne Shale (Chair)  
Dr Jyoti Belur  
Professor Jennifer Brown  
Abdul Hye Miah

## **Research Adviser**

Ben Bradford, Institute of Global City Policing

## **Observers**

James Bottomley, MOPAC  
Commander Jon Savell, MPS

## **MPS Openness and Transparency Project**

### *Information Gathering Session*

1. The Panel reflected on the issues they had discussed with colleagues from the MPS and MOPAC who had attended the information gathering session held earlier in the day. This included:
  - The work the MPS was doing with the Open Data Institute and the training provided to officers.
  - The information needs of communities and members of the public, particularly around police search powers.
  - Requirement for the police to maintain confidentiality of some information but to also to be transparent.
  - The effectiveness of approaches to monitoring and reviewing supervisory oversight of more thorough searches exposing intimate parts (MTIPs)
  - Data sets that could not be easily combined for analysis.
  - The access academics required to enable them to undertake research.
  - Approaches to information quality assurance and monitoring of key activities.

### *Youth Voice – Input into Openness and Transparency Project*

2. The Young People's Action Group (YPAG) had held a discussion on strip search (including more thorough searches exposing intimate parts or MTIPs), and two members of the Group attended the meeting to present the views and experiences that had been expressed at that discussion.
3. The Panel reflected on the issues and comments raised by the YPAG, agreeing that they provided valuable insights for the project. This included:

- How some officers undertook stop and search of young people was still a concern and indicated that a duty of care mindset required further development.
- Police intelligence underpinning search decisions may be inaccurate and/or biased.
- The challenges that officers faced.
- That while YPAG recognised there may be a need for officers to have the power to carry out a more thorough search of young people, how that power was exercised can be of concern.
- Importance of officers explaining, in appropriate language, what they were doing and why; and the positive impact that could have on the encounter.
- Perceived “good cop/bad cop” routine was manipulative.
- The actions of some officers in carrying out unjustified or undignified searches were perceived as immoral.

#### *Research*

4. The Panel discussed the research that they wished to undertake to inform the project. They agreed that they would engage a consultant to conduct the research, which would involve interviewing a number of police officers and local authority partners. They agreed they wanted to interview officers with a range of experience, including in custody suites, stop and search, community engagement and supervisory roles.

---

The Panel’s next meeting will be on 13 June 2022.