

London Policing Ethics Panel Minutes of Meeting

Monday, 10 October 2022

Membership

Professor Suzanne Shale (Apologies)
Dr Jyoti Belur
Professor Jennifer Brown (Deputy Chair)
Abdul Hye Miah
Professor Bryan Edwards

Research Adviser

Professor Ben Bradford, Institute of Global City Policing

Observers

James Bottomley, MOPAC
Commander Jon Savell, MPS

Openness and Transparency in Policing Report

1. The Panel had a detailed discussion to tease out and encapsulate the ethical issues relating to openness and transparency in policing. This included:
 - The concept of procedural justice
 - The experience of individuals
 - The ability to assess consistency in the application of the law
 - Openness and transparency's role in establishing trust and legitimacy and in policing by consent
 - When secrecy might be ethical
 - The meaning of openness and transparency in a policing context
 - The ideal level of openness versus a pragmatic level, and where that line should be drawn
2. There was a discussion of further literature research that could assist the Panel, and it was agreed that they would research concepts of openness and transparency in fields outside of policing. They would also undertake a piece of work looking into the public's understanding of policing.
3. Panel members discussed their recent visits to MPS custody suites where they observed operations. The difference in the relationship the custody sergeant has with the arrested individual to that of the arresting officer was noted. There was a discussion of the poster displayed in a room where searches exposing intimate parts (MTIP) were carried out. The poster outlined the steps for MTIP searches and was considered to be a good example of openness and transparency.

The Panel's next meeting will be on 14 November 2022.