

London Policing Ethics Panel Minutes of Meeting

Monday, 10 July 2023

Membership

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

Research Adviser

Professor Ben Bradford, Institute of Global City Policing

Observers

Commander Jon Savell
Inspector Ben Smith, MPS
James Bottomley, MOPAC
Tay Sarwar, MOPAC
Alf Harris, MOPAC

Policing in Schools

1. Superintendent Matt Cox and members of his team attended the meeting to outline for the Panel the aims of its Safer Schools Project and the role of Safer Schools Officers (SSO). There was discussion of:
 - What sets schools apart from other places of work such that they require structured police attendance.
 - Tension in the SSO role between safeguarding, educating and law enforcement.
 - The training and guidance provided to SSOs.
 - Evaluating outcomes.
2. The Panel reviewed and agreed the terms of reference for the project
3. There was a discussion of the next steps. The Panel agreed that it would seek to explore the views of young people, teachers, safeguarding leads and organisations and people who have raised concerns regarding having SSOs in schools.

MPS's Tackling VAWG Pilot Initiative

4. The Panel discussed its draft advice to the MPS on its initiative to focus on London's 100 high harm offenders against women and girls. They agreed that they were supportive of the underlying aim of the pilot initiative. However members of the panel expressed some reservations about aspects of the method and these would be outlined in their advice, with the aim of ensuring the pilot was methodologically as well as ethically sound.

5. The Panel's report would use the 'Algo-care' framework which had been developed for ethical analysis relating to the deployment of algorithmic assessment tools in British policing.
6. They agreed that they would include recommendations in the response to the MPS, with the intention of being supportive of both the initiative and the public's understanding of it.
7. The Panel agreed to continue to discuss the advice outside of the meeting and would finalise its views for submission to MPS during the latter part of July.

The Panel's next meeting will be on 14 August 2023