

# MAYOR OF LONDON

**Dr Suzanne Shale**

Chair  
London Policing Ethics Panel  
C/o MOPAC  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
More London  
London SE1 2AA

**Our ref:** MGLA040118-9394

**Date:** 23 JAN 2018

*Dear Suzanne,*

Thank you for your letter of 19 December 2017 updating me on the work of the newly constituted London Policing Ethics Panel and seeking my approval of your work plan for 2018. With Deputy Assistant Commissioner Richard Martin attending your meetings as an observer, it is reassuring that the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) is giving such high priority to this area of work.

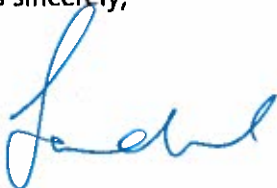
I am content with your proposed programme of work, in particular your initial investigation on the use of digital policing within the MPS, with a focus on facial recognition software. The new and developing surveillance technologies can have a huge impact on an individual's privacy and it is right that thought is given to the ethical implications of its use, as well as the benefits it may provide for effective policing.

Your second area of investigation, prioritisation within the MPS, will be extremely valuable at this time of rising and changing demand and reducing funding from central government. I look forward to seeing what ethical issues you identify and any recommendations you may make.

I am also supportive of your ambitions to develop and share ethical expertise within the MPS. You and your Panel members have a wide breadth of knowledge and experience in this area, and bringing that to a policing environment will, I am sure, be incredibly beneficial to the MPS.

I look forward to receiving your report into digital policing.

Yours sincerely,



**Sadiq Khan**  
Mayor of London

Cc: Sophie Linden, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime  
Cressida Dick CBE QPM, Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis