

## CEP Report Appendix 3

### MPA Domestic and Sexual Violence Board

The Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA) Domestic Violence Board is being expanded to include sexual violence and will be a Domestic and Sexual Violence Board<sup>48</sup>. The Board aims to monitor, scrutinise and support the MPS in its performance and response to domestic and sexual violence. The Board will aim to secure continuous improvement in the MPS' response and disseminate best practice and innovation across the 32 Borough Operational Command Units (BOCUs).

### Draft Terms of Reference

#### Purpose

- To lead on the effective monitoring, scrutiny and support of the MPS in its response to domestic and sexual violence on behalf of the Community Engagement and Citizen Focus (CECF) Sub-committee.
- To secure continuous improvement in the MPS' response to domestic and sexual violence by ensuring a consistent and structured follow-up of actions.
- To robustly and effectively address the issue of consistency of service with regard to domestic and sexual violence by focusing monitoring and support on the 32 BOCUs, and the MPS as a corporate body, thereby monitoring coordination and implementation of policy and practice across the MPS.
- To identify needs and gaps highlighted by the 32 BOCUs and corporate MPS units and, where appropriate, ensure these are raised with relevant MPA Committees and/or other fora.
- To link to other pan-London and/or national domestic and sexual violence and related bodies.
- To disseminate best practice and innovation not only across the 32 Borough Operational Command Units (BOCUs), but corporately across the MPS.
- To increase trust and confidence in the community by sharing the successes of the MPS and allowing members of the public to participate in the scrutiny process.

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<sup>48</sup> Domestic violence is any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between adults who are or have been in a relationship together, or between family members, regardless of gender or sexuality. Rape is classified as penetration by the penis of somebody's vagina, anus or mouth, without their consent. Sexual assault covers other forms of physical sexual intrusion that is unwanted and unwelcome - including touching, rubbing and masturbating on or over someone.

## **Accountability**

- The Board is a standalone structure reporting up to CECF and works on its behalf to lead on the effective monitoring, scrutiny and support of the MPS in its response to domestic and sexual violence.
- The MPS will report to the Board on any aspect of its response to domestic and sexual violence. Any issues, which the Board cannot resolve, will be referred to CECF for decision. The Board will report to CECF and other committees as required through written and verbal updates at committee.

## **The structure and remit of the Board**

- The Board will hold meetings bi-monthly and aims to cover 10 boroughs per year.
- Board members, external practitioners from domestic and sexual violence support services and community members will discuss reports from two boroughs at each meeting, with the exception of the one meeting in the annual cycle when reports from MPS corporate units and/ or on specialist subjects will be discussed. Opportunities will also be made available for time limited sub-groups to focus on specialist areas in addition to the scheduled Board meetings.
- Board meetings will be structured to ensure each meeting will involve discussion with MPS colleagues, community members and external practitioners from domestic and sexual violence support services.
- The Board will seek to involve community members and external practitioners from domestic and sexual violence support services in order to share best practice and innovation, and to support the process of holding the MPS to account.
- The Board will work to address inequalities based on race, gender, disability, age, religion &/ or belief, or sexual orientation in service provision and employment practice.
- The Board will work with existing pan-London and/or national domestic and sexual violence and related bodies to ensure that its efforts are enhanced and duplication is minimised.