

Overview & Scrutiny

Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission

All Members of the Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission are requested to attend the meeting of the Commission to be held as follows

Thursday, 31st January, 2019

7.00 pm

Room 102, Hackney Town Hall, Mare Street, London E8 1EA

Contact:

Tom Thorn

☎ 0208 356 8186

✉ thomas.thorn@hackney.gov.uk

Tim Shields

Chief Executive, London Borough of Hackney

Members: Cllr Sharon Patrick (Chair), Cllr Sade Etti (Vice-Chair), Cllr Ian Rathbone, Cllr Michelle Gregory, Cllr Anthony McMahon and Cllr M Can Ozsen

Agenda

ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- 1 Apologies for Absence
- 2 Urgent Items / Order of Business
- 3 Declarations of Interest
- 4 Evidence gathering for review - trends in Stop and Search (and Section 60 notice) activity - numbers, outcomes and profiles (Pages 1 - 16)
- 5 Evidence gathering for review - Stop and Search - ensuring quality interactions - work by the police and community (Pages 17 - 26)
- 6 Evidence gathering for review - engagement between the police and community (Pages 27 - 30)
- 7 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 31 - 50)
- 8 Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission- 2018/19 Work Programme (Pages 51 - 68)

9 Any Other Business

Access and Information

Getting to the Town Hall

For a map of how to find the Town Hall, please visit the council's website <http://www.hackney.gov.uk/contact-us.htm> or contact the Overview and Scrutiny Officer using the details provided on the front cover of this agenda.

Accessibility

There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall.

Induction loop facilities are available in the Assembly Halls and the Council Chamber. Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

Further Information about the Commission

If you would like any more information about the Scrutiny Commission, including the membership details, meeting dates and previous reviews, please visit the website or use this QR Code (accessible via phone or tablet 'app')

<http://www.hackney.gov.uk/individual-scrutiny-commissions-living-in-hackney.htm>



Public Involvement and Recording

Scrutiny meetings are held in public, rather than being public meetings. This means that whilst residents and press are welcome to attend, they can only ask questions at the discretion of the Chair. For further information relating to public access to information, please see Part 4 of the council's constitution, available at <http://www.hackney.gov.uk/l-gm-constitution.htm> or by contacting Governance Services (020 8356 3503)

Rights of Press and Public to Report on Meetings

Where a meeting of the Council and its committees are open to the public, the press and public are welcome to report on meetings of the Council and its committees, through any audio, visual or written methods and may use digital

and social media providing they do not disturb the conduct of the meeting and providing that the person reporting or providing the commentary is present at the meeting.

Those wishing to film, photograph or audio record a meeting are asked to notify the Council's Monitoring Officer by noon on the day of the meeting, if possible, or any time prior to the start of the meeting or notify the Chair at the start of the meeting.

The Monitoring Officer, or the Chair of the meeting, may designate a set area from which all recording must take place at a meeting.

The Council will endeavour to provide reasonable space and seating to view, hear and record the meeting. If those intending to record a meeting require any other reasonable facilities, notice should be given to the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting and will only be provided if practicable to do so.

The Chair shall have discretion to regulate the behaviour of all those present recording a meeting in the interests of the efficient conduct of the meeting. Anyone acting in a disruptive manner may be required by the Chair to cease recording or may be excluded from the meeting. Disruptive behaviour may include: moving from any designated recording area; causing excessive noise; intrusive lighting; interrupting the meeting; or filming members of the public who have asked not to be filmed.

All those visually recording a meeting are requested to only focus on recording councillors, officers and the public who are directly involved in the conduct of the meeting. The Chair of the meeting will ask any members of the public present if they have objections to being visually recorded. Those visually recording a meeting are asked to respect the wishes of those who do not wish to be filmed or photographed. Failure by someone recording a meeting to respect the wishes of those who do not wish to be filmed and photographed may result in the Chair instructing them to cease recording or in their exclusion from the meeting.

If a meeting passes a motion to exclude the press and public then in order to consider confidential or exempt information, all recording must cease and all recording equipment must be removed from the meeting room. The press and public are not permitted to use any means which might enable them to see or hear the proceedings whilst they are excluded from a meeting and confidential or exempt information is under consideration.

Providing oral commentary during a meeting is not permitted.



<p>Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission</p> <p>31st January 2019</p> <p>Item 4 - Evidence gathering for review - trends in Stop and Search</p>	<p>Item No</p> <p>4</p>
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Outline

The Commission is coming to the end of evidence gathering for its review exploring the response of the Council and partners to an escalation in levels of serious violence. This occurred during a period starting in late 2017. The rise in Hackney was reflective of patterns across London (and the UK).

Around the time that the terms of reference for the review were being developed there was commentary by both the Mayor of London and the Metropolitan Police Commissioner around a stepping up of ‘targeted and intelligence led’ stop and searches, as one of the responses to the escalations in violence.

These announcements came after a period in which the Metropolitan Police made concerted efforts to reduce stop and search. Total numbers of stops and searches reduced by 42% between 2014 and 2017¹.

There had also been a re-emergence in the use of Section 60 orders, including those covering the whole of Hackney. Section 60 orders allow for searches to be carried out without suspicion. Hackney was subject to nine borough-wide Section 60 orders in the year up the 15th May 2018, the third highest in London.

There have been long standing concerns around people from particular ethnic groups being much more likely to be stopped and searched than others. Currently, black individuals in London are more than four times more likely to be stopped and searched than white individuals².

The above considered, Members felt it timely for the review to receive an update on Stop and Search activity in Hackney. This is in terms of numbers, the profiles of those being stopped, and outcomes achieved from them. Within this, Members requested an update on Section 60 deployment in the borough.

The paper enclosed has been provided in support of the item.

Guest Expected:

- Sue Williams, Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service

¹ Review of the Metropolitan Police Service Gangs Matrix, 2018

² MPS Stop and Search Dashboard. Disproportionality is calculated on year projection population figures (source: London Data Store).

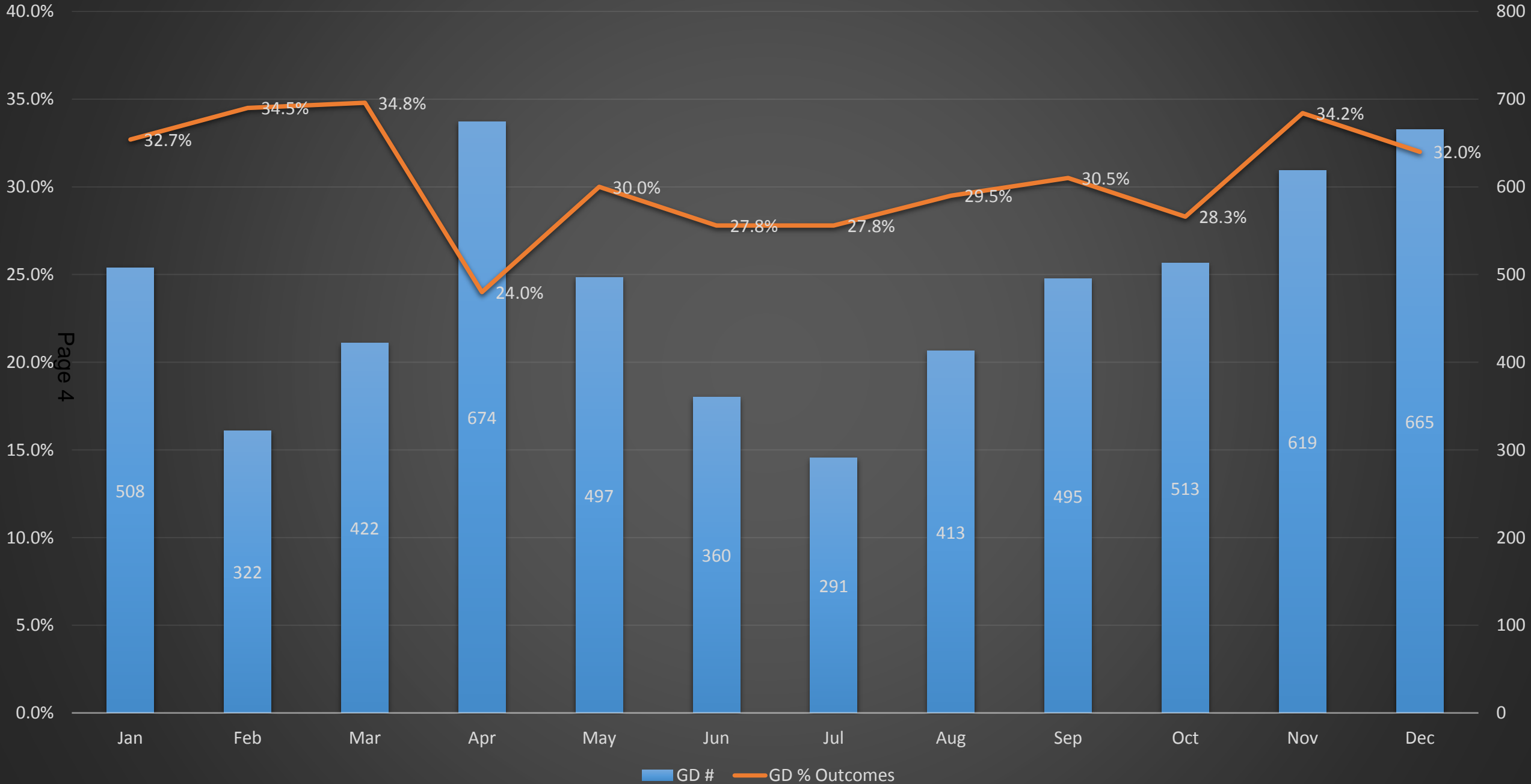
Action

The Commission is asked to review the paper enclosed in advance of the meeting. They are asked to hear any opening comments from the Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service, before asking questions on Stop and Search activity in the borough.



Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission
31st January 2019

Jan 2018 - Dec 2018 Stop & Search Volumes & Positive Outcomes



Trends in Stop and Search - Totals

Between January and December 2018....5794 Stop & Searches were carried out in Hackney.

Overall 30.5% of the searches have resulted in a positive outcome. Positive results are broken down as follows -

18.6% arrests

2.3% cannabis warnings

2.3% PNDs

0.7% postal charges

6.6% community resolutions

The overall positive outcome rate across the MPS for the same period is 28.1%.

For comparison Tower Hamlets positive outcomes overall is 26.5%, Lambeth - 23.7%, Newham - 27.2%, Waltham Forest - 22.4%, Haringey - 27.4 and Islington - 29.7%.

Trends in Stop and Search

Search powers are covered by various pieces of legislation and officers are required to record which legal power they have used when conducting a search. Over the past year, in Hackney, half of the searches carried out have been for drugs. The chart below outlines what reasons officers have searched individuals for in the past year.

Reason for Search	Hackney	MPS
Drugs	50.8%	56.7%
Weapons	25.3%	18.7%
Stolen Property	10.6%	11.5%
Going Equipped	5.0%	5.6%
Section 60	6.0%	4.8%
Firearms	1.2%	0.9%
Fireworks	0.2%	0.4%
Criminal Damage	0.3%	0.3%
Other	0.2%	0.8%
Psychoactive Substances	0.4%	0.2%

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Towards the end of November, TSG were posted to Central East BCU for 4 weeks. During this posting they carried out...

939 Stops

640 Stop & Searches

149 Arrests

24 Penalty Notice for Disorder

29 Community resolutions

24 of the arrests were for Possession with Intent to Supply drugs and 29 were for Possession of Drugs.

Trends in Stop and Search - Self Defined Ethnicity (SDE)

The SDE appearance of those searched in Hackney for all reasons between January and December 2018 is split as follows -

SDE	Hackney	MPS
White	27%	36%
Black	55%	43%
Asian	15%	17%
Other	3%	4%

The SDE appearance of those searched under Section 60 authorisations between January and December 2018 is split as follows -

SDE	Hackney	MPS
White	23%	20%
Black	61%	67%
Asian	11%	11%
Other	4%	2%

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Ethnic Appearance of individuals living in Hackney (2011 Census) -

White - 54.7%

Black - 23.1%

Asian - 10.5%

Other - 11.7%

Trends in Stop and Search - Self Defined Ethnicity (SDE)

In Hackney over the past 12 months there have been 946 suspects who have been witnessed as having used or been in possession of a knife during the commission of a crime.

Below show the ethnic appearance of these suspects;

Suspects EA	Number of Suspects	% Share
Unknown	18	1.9%
White European	193	20.4%
Dark European	68	7.2%
Afro Caribbean	595	62.9%
Asian	47	5.0%
Oriental	7	0.7%
Arabian/Egyptian	18	1.9%

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These figures do not represent the number of individuals charged with knife crime offences but how they were first described by witnesses and or victims.

Trends in Stop and Search - Self Defined Ethnicity (SDE)

In Hackney over the past 12 months there have been 939 suspects who have been suspected of a crime involving cannabis. Whether this be simple possession or Possession with Intent to Supply.

Below show the ethnic appearance of these suspects;

Suspects EA	Number of suspects	% Share
Unknown	1	0.1%
White European	142	15.1%
Dark European	99	10.5%
Afro Caribbean	545	58.0%
Asian	114	12.1%
Oriental	13	1.4%
Arabian/Egyptian	25	2.7%

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These figures do not represent the number of individuals charged with cannabis offences but how they were first described by witnesses and or victims.

Trends in Stop and Search - Self Defined Ethnicity (SDE)

In Hackney over the past 12 months there have been 375 suspects who have been suspected of a crime involving Class A Drugs. Whether this be simple possession or Possession with Intent to Supply.

Below show the ethnic appearance of these suspects;

Suspects EA	Number of Suspects	% Share
Unknown	1	0.27%
White European	107	28.53%
Dark European	26	6.93%
Afro Caribbean	184	49.07%
Asian	47	12.53%
Oriental	3	0.80%
Arabian/Egyptian	7	1.87%

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These figures do not represent the number of individuals charged with Class A Drug offences but how they were first described by witnesses and or victims.

Stop and Search - Section 60 Authorisations.

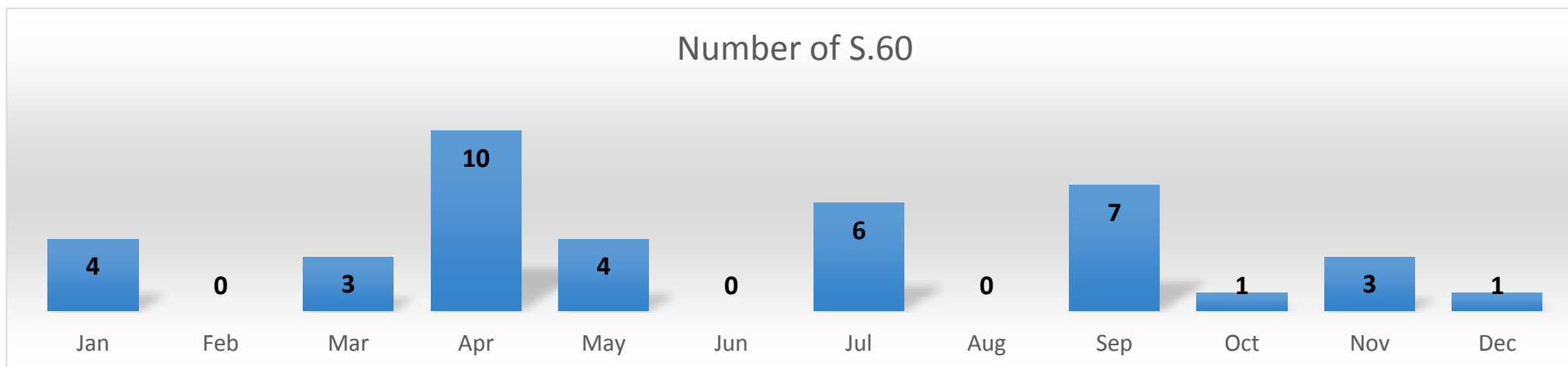
Section 60 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 - **Power to stop and search in anticipation of, or after, violence.**

Between January and December 2018 Hackney had 39 Section 60 authorisations. 12 of those were borough wide and 27 were for localised areas only. Hackney has had the second highest number of total authorisations behind Newham with 51.

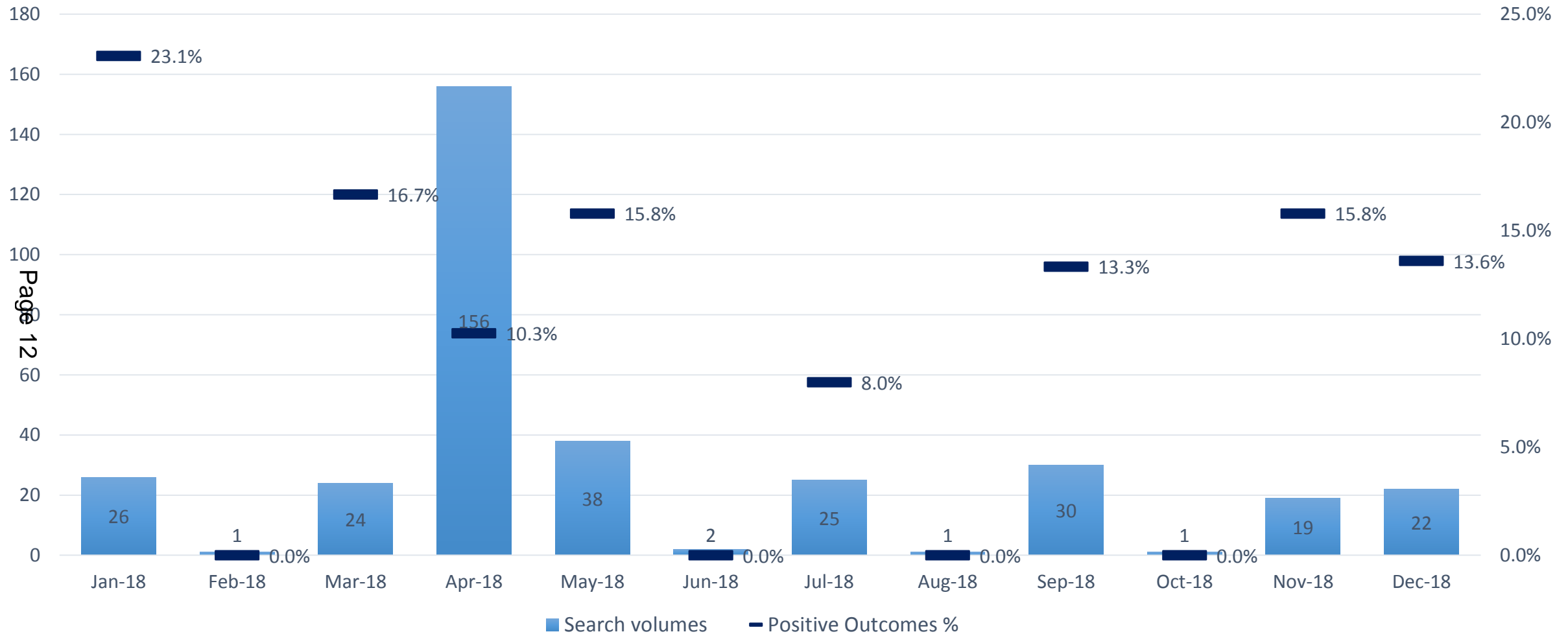
The MPS total over the year is 359. (107 borough wide and 252 for localised areas.)

In total, over the 12 months, 345 searches under Section 60 were carried out in Hackney. The overall level of positive outcomes was 12.8% this is compared with 12.3% for the MPS.

At 27, along with Waltham Forest, Hackney have had the most localised section 60s authorised however Newham have had the highest total number at 51 with 46 of those being borough wide.

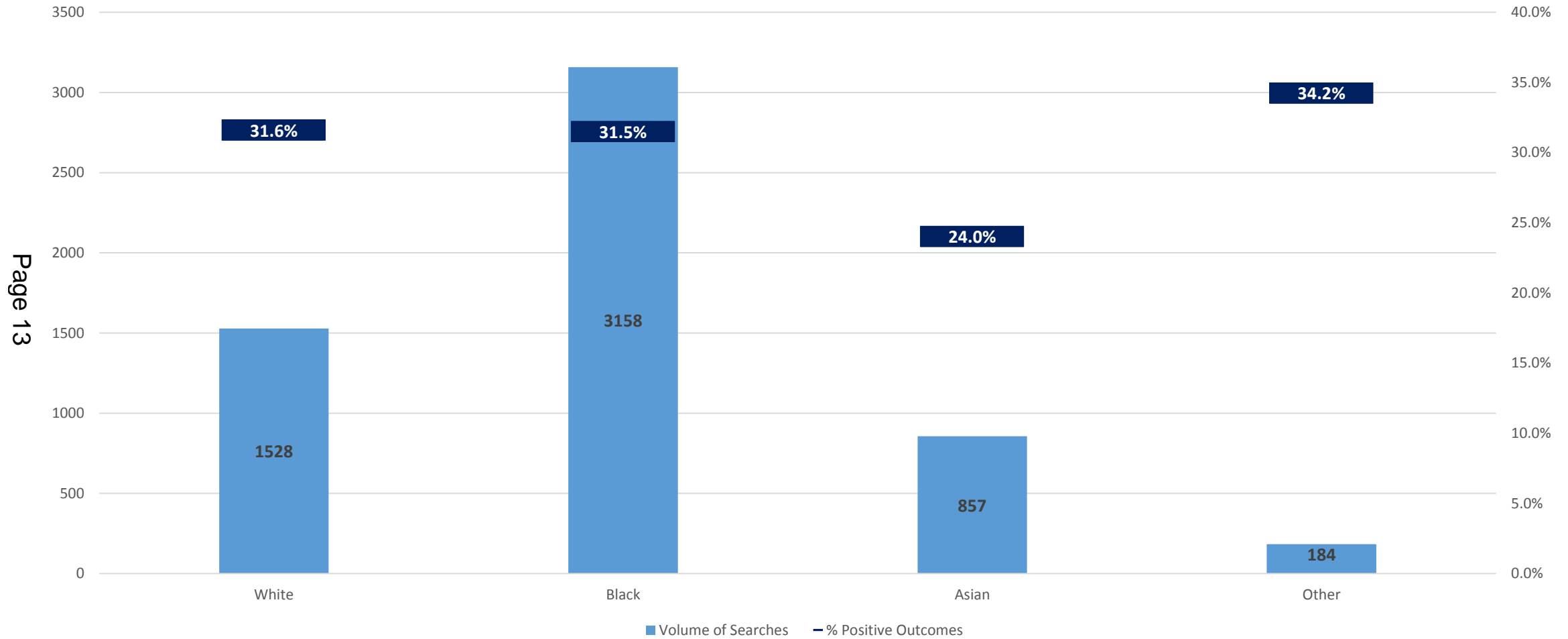


Stop and Search - Section 60 Authorisations Cont.



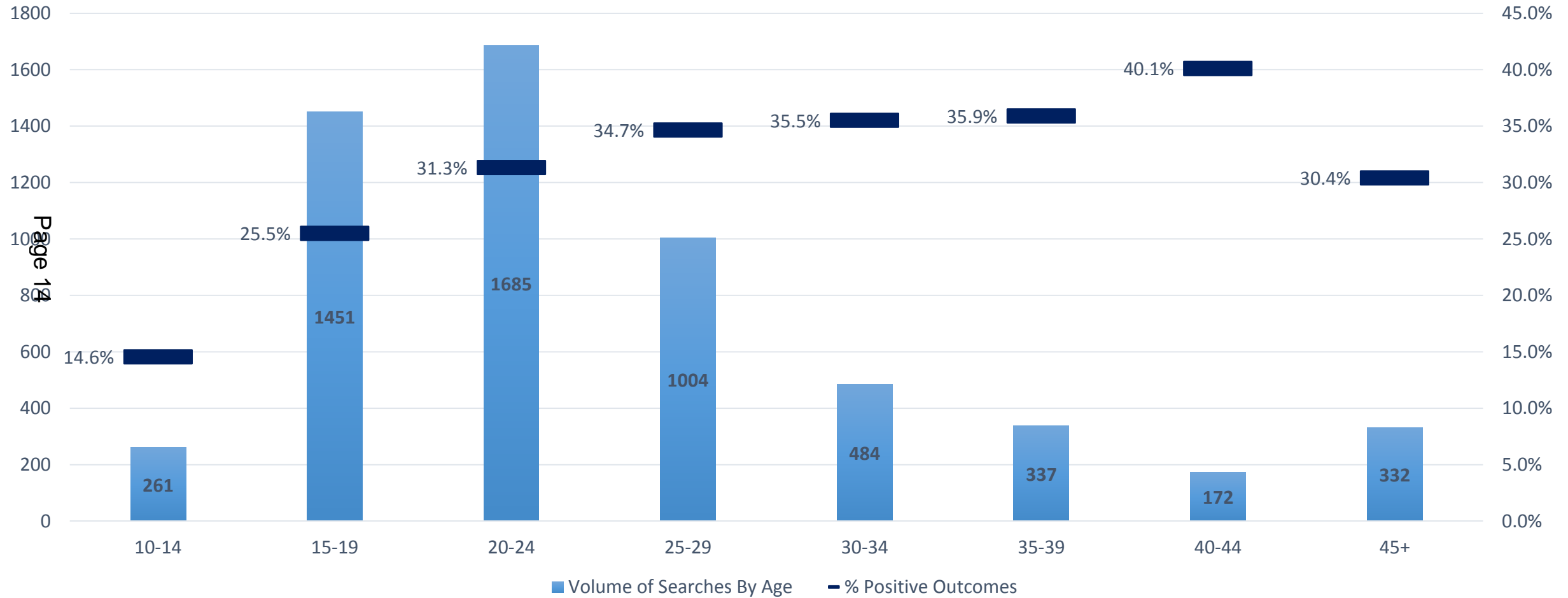
Trends in Stop and Search - Positive outcomes by Ethnicity

Hackney - Overall positive outcomes by Ethnicity.



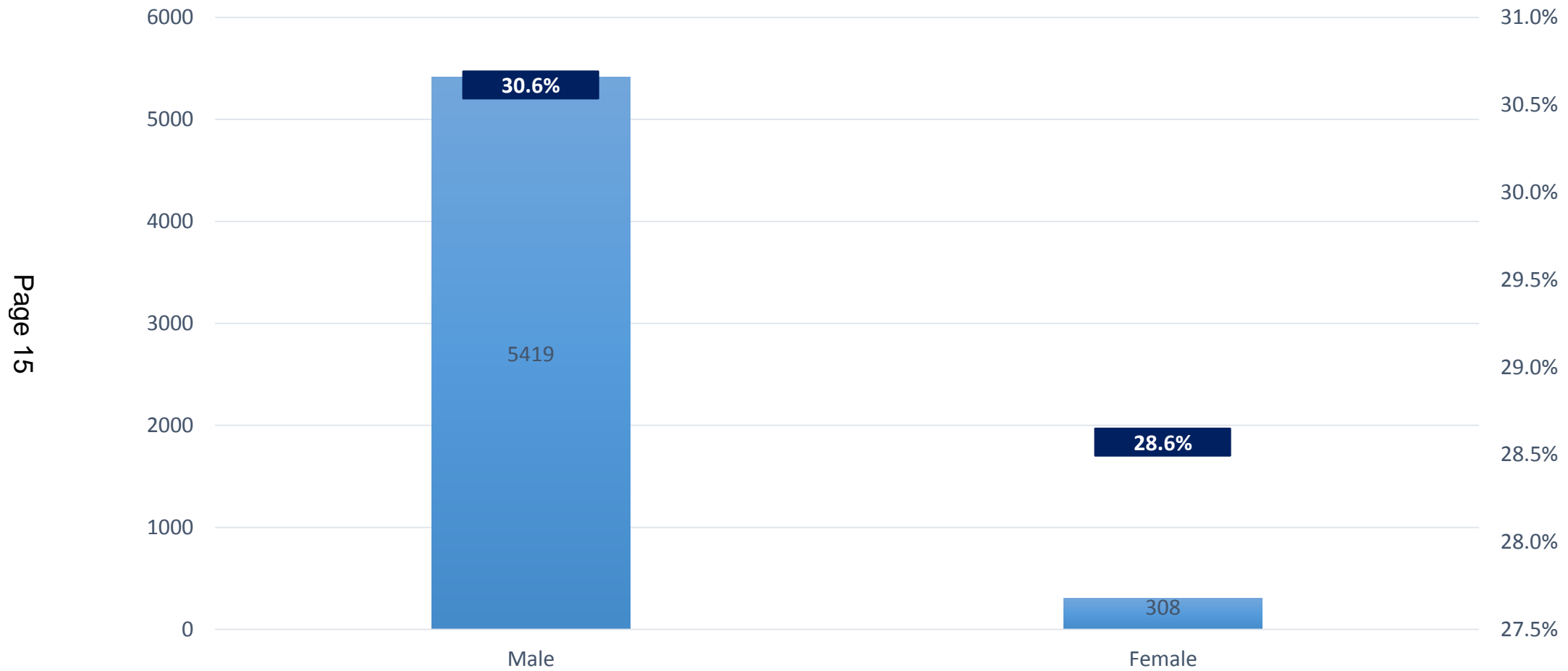
Trends in Stop and Search - Positive outcomes by Age

Between January and December almost 55% of all searches were carried out on individuals aged between 15-24. Those aged 20-24 are the most searched age bracket.



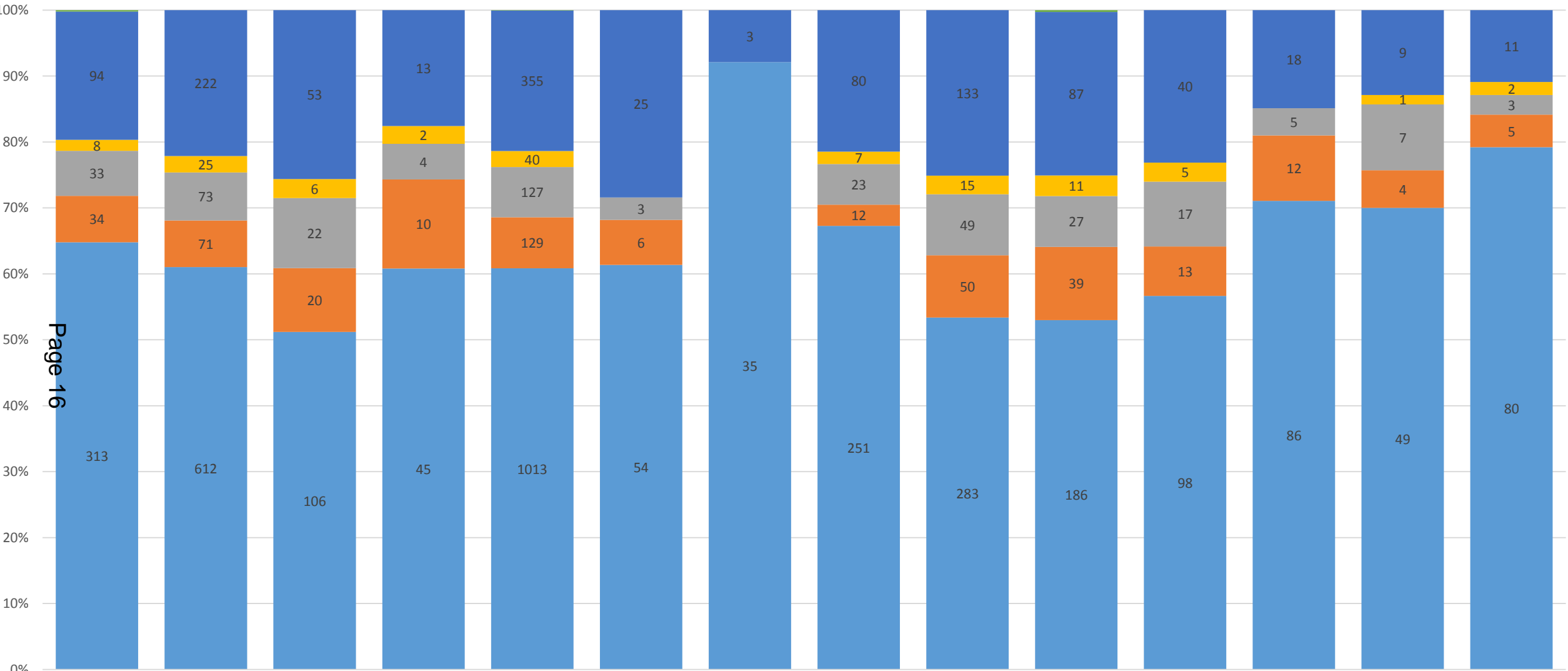
Trends in Stop and Search - Positive outcomes by Gender

Males were more than 18 times more likely to be searched than females.



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Trends in Stop and Search - Positive Outcomes Different Groups



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<p>Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission</p> <p>31st January 2019</p> <p>Item 5 - Evidence gathering for review - Stop and Search - ensuring quality interactions - work by the police and community</p>	<p>Item No</p> <p>5</p>
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Outline

There have been historical concerns around the quality of interactions between the police and the community during the deployment of stop and search, and the further impact that these can have on trust and confidence¹.

There is concern that Section 60s and stop and search activity generally - often regarded as ‘coercive tactics’ - can bring negative impacts on police relationships with the communities they serve².

This item is intended to gauge the action being taken to reassure the community, to keep them informed, and to help ensure good quality interactions with the public during the use of stop and search.

The Police will be in attendance for this item.

Each London Borough has a Local Community Monitoring Group with responsibility for scrutinising the use of stop and search³. This group meets with local senior police officers to discuss operational practice and local data including volumes, arrest rates and disproportionality. The Chair of these groups come together quarterly in a Community Monitoring Network meetings in which Metropolitan Police Officers are held to account.

In addition to the Community Stop and Search Monitoring Group, Hackney also has a Young Person’s Stop and Search Monitoring Group in place, supported by Hackney CVS.

Members of both Monitoring Groups will be in attendance for this item.

¹ <https://www.justiceinspectrates.gov.uk/hmicfrs/wp-content/uploads/metropolitan-police-service-stop-and-search.pdf>

² <http://criminaljusticealliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/No-Respect-290617-1.pdf> and <https://www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/human-rights/justice-and-fair-trials/stop-and-search> and <http://www.stop-watch.org/uploads/documents/StopAndAccountConsultation.pdf>

³ The overarching responsibility to ensure that monitoring takes place lies with the Safer Neighbourhood Board

This is in order for the Commission to gain an insight into their work in monitoring and seeking to enable improvement in the police's deployment of stop and search, and any observations from this work.

Guests expected:

- Sue Williams, Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service
- Nicola Baboneau, Support Officer to Hackney Safer Neighbourhood Board, and Designated Chair of Hackney's Stop and Search Monitoring Arrangements
- Members of Hackney Stop and Search Community Monitoring Group (to be confirmed)
- Deji Adeosun, Youth Leadership Manager, Hackney CVS (and support for (Young People's) Stop and Search Monitoring Group

(Young People's) Stop and Search Monitoring Group Members:

- Javade Wilson
- Olamide Olusegun
- Oluwatosin Adegoke
- David Agan

Papers enclosed:

- The paper enclosed in pages 19 - 23 has been provided by the Police in support of the item.
- The paper on pages 25 – 26 is a summary of the terms of reference for the Hackney Stop and Search Community Monitoring Group

Action

The Commission is asked to review the papers enclosed.

They are asked to use these to ask questions of the police on its work to help ensure good quality encounters in its deployment of Stop and Search, and of the Stop and Search Monitoring Groups around the insights gained from their work.

Trends in Stop and Search - Body Worn Video

Recording a stop & search incident on an officer's body worn camera is considered mandatory by the MPS.

In Hackney compliance and officer's diligence in completing admin for stop & searches has increased steadily over the year and in December 2018 93% of all stop & searches were recorded on Body Worn Video.

Searches with no BWV are challenged by supervisors every month.

Overall across the MPS in December 2018 85% of all stop & searches were recorded on body worn video.

New officers are given a day long input by TSG at their base. They have input on the law and legislation around stop & search and they take part in various stop & search scenarios, role plays and have practical input around stop and search of people and vehicles.

We are organising a workshop with 'The Crib' who are looking at breaking down barriers between the police and young people and looking at communication and community engagement.

We are organising a pilot scheme involving a neurolinguistics programming which looks at non verbal signs and how to read body language. This will be worked into polices' best practice and will filter out into every day policing.

Youth Work

For the past year Sgt Ian Turner from the Safer Schools team has been meeting each month, with the Hackney Youth Stop and Search Monitoring Group.

Monthly stop and search figures are discussed and the tactic of Stop & Search is openly discussed. The meeting does not shy away from sensitive topics such as the death of Rashan Charles following police contact in 2017. Within the youth Community Monitoring Group forum they have also had input and presentations from Taskforce (TSG) and SCO19.

In partnership with the SNB (safer Neighbourhood Board) 10 stop and search workshops were delivered across secondary schools with the assistance of the ARC theatre group. These were targeted at year 9+ students where they watched a play demonstrating the story of a stop and search encounter both from the police side and that of the 'youth' this was well received and funding is being applied for to deliver this again.

Officers have also delivered a "know your rights session" within school PHSE lessons at schools both as bespoke drop down day sessions supported by the TSG or delivered by the schools officer.

How is the community kept informed when considering the use of Section 60.

During Business Hours:

At the point of a section 60 being considered for implementation in Hackney community leads will be contacted for valuable input. This would be by one of our BCU Superintendents. On occasions where the Superintendent declines the Section 60 request then no contact would be made.

Once a section 60 is agreed the expectation of community leads would be to inform any people deemed appropriate through local networks. Suggestions include IAG, SNB and CMG. Ward panels may also be considered for the area concerned but this would be a local decision. Police would use Twitter, OWL and partnership messages to convey the deployment of a section 60.

Out of hours:

The local duty inspector will make contact by text notifying that the section 60 is being considered. If consultation is required then contact may be made with the Inspector to discuss & consult. Responses & concerns would then be fed back to the on call Superintendent who would then take them to the National Police Chief's Council (NPCC)

Once the time frame of the Section 60 reaches it's end the results will be posted.

How are good quality interactions with the public best achieved?

Stop & Search roadshows are planned in partnership with the Community Monitoring Group where role-plays of stop & searches are used to explore different scenarios and points of view.

The Community Monitoring Group also conducts the viewing of random BWV showing stop & searches, which are then broken down and discussed to inform best practice.

Stop & Search engagement events at ward panel meetings, SNBs etc.

We have plans to deliver 6 “Police Academies” in 2019. These will include Stop & Search as well as other police processes with a view to being open and transparent.

Our Senior Leadership Team (SLT) are running “Ask Me” events where members of public can ask any question to the SLT members.

We have recently reinstated our Confidence & Satisfaction meetings. We will hold 6 meetings throughout the year. 3 will be with our partners and community leaders and 3 will be internal.

A Youth IAG is in the process of being created and stop & search is expected to feature heavily.

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Hackney Community Stop & Search Monitoring Group

Terms of Reference

The aims and objectives of Hackney's Community Monitoring Group are to:

- Support local communities across Hackney to secure an effective monitoring process for stop and search activities in the borough
- Provide an arena for representatives of the local community to engage in discussion and debate of stop and search policing, operation, safety and community engagement
- Represent and be a voice for members of local communities and vulnerable groups who are disproportionately targeted or experience negative interactions with the police
- Monitor stop and search impact and progress in Hackney through the receipt and interpretation of local data, reports and presentations and underlining issues in relation to stop and search
- Share information with the wider community and support other boroughs through sharing of best practice
- Commission reports and request the attendance of local police officers, other statutory partners, representatives of local voluntary/community organisations and young people to support the monitoring process
- Discuss complaints and bring reoccurring stop and search

issues to the attention of the Superintendent – Partnerships, LB Hackney’s Assistant Chief Executive with responsibility for Community Safety and other key stakeholders to attain early resolution

- Promote access to the local complaints system so as to resolve stop and search complaints at borough level; to receive briefings on outcomes of complaints and lessons learned.
- Observe police operations and feed back to local communities
- Increase the capacity of membership to ensure representatives are diverse and their interests are to improve local policing around stop and search operations
- Inform, influence, support and/or challenge community policing policies that impact on the communities in the borough and promote equality of opportunity
- Represent the borough at London-wide level to monitor Stop & Search across London
- Facilitate discussions between the Mayor’s Office for Policing & Crime (MOPAC) /the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), community groups and organisations concerning stop and search activities
- Provide feedback from consultation, to inform the improvement of MPS stop and search practice, to MOPAC and MPS.

Agreed – November 2012



<p>Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission</p> <p>31st January 2019</p> <p>Item 6 - Evidence gathering for review - Engagement between the police and community</p>	<p>Item No</p> <p>6</p>
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Outline

Items 4 and 5 of the agenda are intended to explore recent trends in Stop and Search, and work by both the Police and partners to improve interactions and community confidence in this area.

This item will look at the work of the police around community engagement generally, and some relevant initiatives underway in the community.

London’s Police and Crime Plan¹ states that the British system of policing by consent is dependent on the support of the public....and that ‘People who have trust and confidence in the police are more likely to cooperate with the police and comply with the law’.

When producing the terms of reference for its review, the Commission found data for Hackney to suggest that trust and confidence aspect should be an area of focus. MOPAC’s Public Attitudes Survey showed there to have been quite significant reductions in the proportions of Hackney residents reporting positive perceptions of the police, across a range of measures. The scale of these reductions had not generally been replicated at a London level.

More positively, Hackney residents were among the most likely in London to feel that the police can be relied on to be there when needed.

However, they were significantly less likely to likely to feel well informed about local police activities, to feel that the police are dealing with the things that matter to the community, and to believe that the police are doing a good job in the local area. Perhaps most concerning is the fall in the proportion of residents feeling that the police treat everyone fairly regardless of who they are. This placed Hackney in bottom place of all London boroughs on this measure.

This item will receive input from the police around their work to improve community confidence.

¹ www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/mopac_police_and_crime_plan_2017-2021.pdf

Hackney's Safer Neighbourhood Board is the primary borough-level mechanism for local engagement in policing. It also oversees the Independent Advisory Group which works to encourage positive interactions between the police and community. Members of these groups will be in attendance to talk about their work and findings.

The Crib (a Social Inclusion Charity in Hackney) have also been asked to attend this discussion. The Crib project has run youth work sessions in and around Hackney for 16 years. It delivers initiatives for young people aged up to age 21.

The Crib's Trading Places project is one example of its work. This enables young people to reverse roles with representatives of a range of organisations which interact with them, including the police. The scheme aims to build trust and respect between the community and these organisations. The Chief Executive of the Crib will be in attendance to talk about this project and others of relevance to this review.

A group of the Inspirational Leaders (a group of young black men who advise the partnership-wide Improving Outcomes for Young Black Programme) will also feed into the item. The group's activities include the brokering of discussions between the police and the community. They have been invited to discuss observations from this work and to relay community views on how trust and confidence can best be achieved.

Guests expected:

- Sue Williams, Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service
- Janette Collins, CEO, The Crib social inclusion charity
- Nicola Baboneau, Support Officer to Hackney Safer Neighbourhood Board, and Designated Chair of Hackney's Stop and Search Monitoring Arrangements
- Members of Hackney Stop and Search Community Monitoring Group (to be confirmed)
- Deji Adeosun, Youth Leadership Manager, Hackney CVS (and support for Inspirational Leaders)

Inspirational Leaders:

- Javade Wilson
- Olamide Olusegun
- Oluwatosin Adegoke
- David Agan

Papers enclosed:

- No papers have been provided for this item.

Action

The Commission is invited to ask questions of guests around trust and confidence in the police, and how this can be best achieved.

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<p>Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission</p> <p>31st January 2019</p> <p>Item 7 – Minutes of the Previous Meeting</p>	<p>Item No</p> <p>7</p>
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Outline

The draft minutes of the meeting of the 10th December 2019 are enclosed.

Matters arising from November and December meetings:

ACTION 1 (Scrutiny Officer):

To write to Cabinet Member for Finance and Housing Needs, further to the Cabinet Member's response to the Commission's findings from its exploration of Lettings polices in Camden and Lambeth. To seek clarity on the timings for the start of the Council's review of its Lettings Policy, and to state the Commission's current view that it will intend on requesting updates throughout its development.

RESPONSE 1:

The Cabinet Member for Finance and Housing Needs has confirmed that - due to other current and significant priorities - it is envisaged that outward facing work on the Lettings Policy Review will not begin before April 2019. The Cabinet Member has also advised that it is intended that extensive, all-Councillor engagement in the exercise will be sought during the process. This is due to the level of interest in and importance of the policy. Given the timescales and the likelihood of engagement going wider than Scrutiny, it is suggested that the Commission gives further consideration to the nature and extent of its involvement with the review at the point of developing its work programme for the 2019/20 Municipal year.

ACTION 2 (Community Safety Partnership Manager)

To provide information on support available to Integrated Gangs Unit staff

RESPONSE 2:

A response to this action was awaited at the point of agenda publication.

Action

The Commission are asked to review and agree the minutes, and to note the matters arising.

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London Borough of Hackney
Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission
Municipal Year 2016/17
Monday, 10th December, 2018

Minutes of the proceedings of
the Living in Hackney Scrutiny
Commission held at
Hackney Town Hall, Mare
Street, London E8 1EA

Chair: Councillor Sharon Patrick

Councillors in Attendance: Cllr Sade Etti (Vice-Chair), Cllr Michelle Gregory, Cllr Anthony McMahon and Cllr M Can Ozsen

Apologies:

Officers In Attendance: Brendan Finegan (Service Manager - Youth Justice Service), Maurice Mason (Community Safety Manager) and Jan Stout (Integrated Gangs Unit Manager)

Other People in Attendance: Emma Harradine (Probation Officer, Integrated Gangs Unit), Samir Khattab (Case Worker, SOS Project, St Giles Trust, Integrated Gangs Unit), Nichole McIntosh (Director for Operations, Safer London), Damion Roberts (Case Worker, SOS Project, St Giles Trust, Integrated Gangs Unit), Councillor Vincent Stops, Sue Williams (Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service), Oladele Woye (Community Engagement Officer, DWP, Integrated Gangs Unit) and Councillor Caroline Selman (Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Policy and the Voluntary Sector)

Members of the Public:

Officer Contact: Tom Thorn
☎ 0208 356 8186
✉ thomas.thorn@hackney.gov.uk

Councillor Sharon Patrick in the Chair

1 Apologies for Absence

1.1 Cllr Etti had sent apologies for lateness.

2 Urgent Items / Order of Business

2.1 There were no urgent items and the order of business was as laid out.

2.2 However, the Chair advised Members that under the any other business item at the end of the agenda consideration would be given to the Executive's response to the Commission's investigation into segregated cycle lanes.

3 Declarations of Interest

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4 Evidence gathering for review - work and approach of Hackney's Integrated Gangs Unit

4.1 Guests in attendance for this item were:

- Maurice Mason, Community Safety Partnership Manager
- Jan Stout, Integrated Gangs Unit Manager
- Emma Harradine, Probation Officer, Integrated Gangs Unit
- Brendan Finegan, Service Manager - Youth Justice Service
- Oladele Woye, Community Engagement Officer, DWP, Integrated Gangs Unit
- Samir Khattab, Case Worker, SOS Project, St Giles Trust, Integrated Gangs Unit
- Damion Roberts, Case Worker, SOS Project, St Giles Trust, Integrated Gangs Unit
- Steve Gowan, Researcher, Integrated Gangs Unit
- Nichole McIntosh, Director for Operations, Safer London

4.2 The Chair noted that during the scoping stages of its review looking at serious violence, the Commission had heard about the successes of the Hackney Integrated Gangs Unit in reducing gang violence in the borough.

4.3 This item was intended to build on that introduction to the Gangs Unit received in September. A number of partners and commissioned services operating within the unit were in attendance to talk and answer questions on their work.

4.4 She welcomed guests and thanked them for coming. She particularly wished to thank Samir and Damion from St Giles Trust. Samir and Damion had offered to talk at the meeting on their own journeys from being involved in gang related activity to now working to prevent others going down these paths.

4.5 There were two papers in support of this item. The first on pages 5 to 10 was intended to give an insight into the work of the IGU overall.

4.6 The second paper on pages 11 to 18 looked specifically at the work of the Youth Justice Service, which had officers based in the IGU. This had been requested to help the Commission explore what happened to young people

involved with gang activity, after they reach 18, in terms of transitions from youth justice to adult probation services.

- 4.7 In terms of the format of the item the Chair said she would firstly ask Samir and Damion to speak on their experiences and their work, prior to Members being invited to ask questions.
- 4.8 Following that discussion, Officers would be asked to introduce the papers for this item which were available in the agenda packs. There would then be a second question and answer session.
- 4.9 Invited to make any opening points, Samir Khattab made the following substantive points:
- He had been invited to talk to the Commission about his life and his journey from his earlier days to where he was today. He was not a self-publicist and as such was generally sceptical around requests to talk about his own story. This said, he had agreed to the request in the hope that it would give benefit and purpose to the Commission's work.
 - He had grown up in West London where - in the wider environment - violence and drugs were visible. He had fallen into a culture involving these factors during his teenage years.
 - There had been a culture where young people could feel pressure to establish a name for themselves, or to be able to name drop others. This could be felt to be a means to protect themselves and their families and friends.
 - From the age of 14 he had become involved in incidents of ABH and common assault. Then at aged 18 he had been involved in an argument between a group of peers which had led to a death. He had served a custodial sentence; three years in a young offenders unit before a move to an adult prison at age of 21. He had been released 17 months ago.
 - He would previously disagreed with anyone claiming that he had been involved in gang activity, or that he was part of a gang. He had not worn a gang logo, a bandana or any other type of uniform. He had not felt that he represented a particular postcode. However, it was the case that he grew up and socialised with a core group of peers on his estate. He would have met other people's definition of someone who was involved in gangs.
 - From his work now with young people who had become or were at risk of becoming involved in harmful behaviour, he could see that they were suffering from similar issues that he and or his peers were suffering from in his younger years. These included mental ill health, low self-esteem, a lack of identity, peer pressure and other factors.
 - He himself had come to realise that despite having quite high levels of confidence, he had suffered from low self-esteem and had had no self-identity.
 - If he was asked how or what had turned his life around, he would say three things:
 - The first of these was the establishing of a more positive peer group. The move to an adult prison had actually been positive for him. At the Young Offenders unit high numbers of the inmates had had something to prove. It was easy for

incidents to escalate from small issues like someone accidentally touching the toes of another person.

- Adult prisons had these issues too, but there were also people behaving positively. He had identified inmates who were more tolerant and had an ethos that it was better to be respected through love rather than through fear. He had made the conscious decision to become one of these people.
- Victim awareness was the second. A priest had worked with him on this aspect. It had been pointed out to him that Criminal Justice Legal documents often stated on the front page that cases were set as the defendant against the state (Regina). There was little mention of the victim. He had been shown evidence of the impact of crimes on victims, which had been powerful and rehabilitative.
- Islam was the third. It had enabled him to build a positive self-identity and had given grounding to his efforts to explore what he would do upon his release. Reading had given him an insight into the importance that Islamic faith paid to showing kindness. Islam taught the need to hold neighbours in the highest regard. It taught that whatever little you had, that this should be shared with others in need.
- In preparation for and after his release he worked with a Job Centre Advisor. They had recommended that he seek support from St Giles Trust.
- This support had helped him secure a job working in rail maintenance, through Carillion.
- Further to Carillion's collapse, he lost this job. Setbacks like these could make the road rocky. However, he had moved on to enrolling on a course. He had then been interviewed for a job by St Giles Trust. This had resulted in him meeting and now working for Jan Stout in the Integrated Gangs Unit. Jan Stout was a talented and excellent officer. He had now completed his course.
- He really valued working in the Integrated Gangs Unit. Staff in the unit were supportive and did not look down on one another. Jan Stout and others enabled staff to grow and develop rather than be locked down in their roles. Everyone appreciated everyone's contributions. It delivered excellent work. He was pleased to contribute to this by working with young people who were currently gang affiliated. Hackney was a challenging borough which was not soft. The IGU's work was crucial.

4.10 Damion Roberts made the following substantive points:

- He grew up in Hackney and had lived a positive lifestyle up to the age of 13. He had played basketball at a borough wide level.
- However, he then started to transition into criminality. At age 16 he was arrested in Islington for possession with the intent to supply. He spent time in a Youth Offenders Institute between the ages of 17 and 19. This did not turn around his behaviour and he then served a longer term sentence. This started in a Youth Justice setting before moving into an adult prison.
- What had changed his outlook was a realisation that his attitudes towards loyalty had been misconceived. He came to realise that his family and his home setting was where there was true loyalty, rather than the social networks he had been operating in.

- In the adult prison setting he had taken up a wide range of interventions and training courses. This included training in questioning skills. These courses led him towards wanting to work in youth services. He followed through on this on his release; taking up a role in Southwark mediating between gangs and or individuals who were in conflict. He had also lived in Southwark during that period.
 - He had then moved to a Head of Year post at Hackney New School before joining St Giles Trust and now being based within the IGU. His work involved speaking to young people on the activities that they were involved with. He agreed with the point made by Samir around the unit working very well.
 - He also agreed that there was a need to get to understand the issues being faced. There were issues around self-esteem as mentioned by Samir. Some young people's parents were absent. This included cases where single parents were facing difficulties be that mental ill health and or significant financial pressures, and were effectively absent from the young person's life as a result.
- 4.11 Members gave Samir and Damion a round of applause. The Chair noted that in their accounts both spoke more positively about the Criminal Justice System – adult prisons in particular – than might have been expected. She noted that both Samir and Damion worked with young people. She asked what they told young people to make them think twice about going down the road towards crime.
- 4.12 Damion said the risk was that young people could gravitate towards these lifestyles as they could be seen as exciting and glamorous. Some young people talked about the money and the goods which they believed were open through these avenues. In his discussions with young people he sought to tone these aspects down and provide a dose of realism. He tried to highlight how these roads could involve much more negative elements; the loss of family and freedom, exposure to violence, and manipulation by others.
- 4.13 Samir agreed with these points. The wide range of partners operating in the IGU played crucial and different roles in addressing his issues. In his role he used his past as an asset. It helped enable him to build trusting relationships in which he was able to influence young people, and to undermine the negative behaviour which they were exhibiting or being at risk of doing. Others played other valuable and specialist roles but were less likely to be able to 'reach some young people'.
- 4.14 He was able to show how working hard and being legitimate had enabled him to achieve things like owning a motorbike and Nike Air Jordan's. There was an issue around what he called the fingertip generation, where young people wanted to get to these positions immediately.
- 4.15 A Member said he had now been a Councillor for 16 years. As the Council Speaker in 2009 he had been involved in the response to a tragic murder of a young person. In discussions with young people and their families he had heard accounts that some young people were removed or alienated from society, with nothing to belong to. He wondered how to get around this. He worried that rampant capitalism and the creation of need for material goods to demonstrate success was driving more young people to become involved in gang activity.

- 4.16 Samir said it was a shame if young people were feeling that they had nothing to belong to. He said that self-esteem was crucial to giving a grounding to young people. As someone who now had high self-esteem he was happy with one pair of Jordan's. Some others wanted five pairs. There was a desire for immediate gains.
- 4.17 This had helped to create a culture where a 9 to 5 job or a job in the supermarket was not seen as sexy. He tried to give messaging that working hard and receiving a regular and reliable wage in return was the route to eventually being able to afford a Mercedes.
- 4.18 In terms of the desire to possess material goods, there was also a need to challenge things that were not realistic. People posted pictures of themselves standing next to the cars of strangers, claiming them to be their own. A Young person he had worked with did at one point have a bundle of money, but within a week he had had nothing. He worked to myth bust around the earning potential which was actually open through taking harmful routes.
- 4.19 Damion agreed on these points. Music videos of artists often contained cars which were on hire. These displays of wealth were usually a façade. The challenge was to highlight the positives of working in legitimate employment and drawing a salary every month. It was about showing the negatives – being sent far away through county lines, living in the cold and alone without being able to wash.
- 4.20 A Member asked Samir and Damion what more they felt schools could do to help keep young people safe and to ensure that wrap around support was provided.
- 4.21 Damion said that in his role of Head of Year at a school he had seen the range of issues which some young people suffered from. He wished to say that teachers did really good jobs and were committed to young people. However, while some young people had mum and dad at home, had everything given to them yet still misbehaved for example by answering back or not wearing the school uniform, others only had mum at home and could not afford the uniform. There needed to be greater support for these pupils.
- 4.22 This was particularly in terms of approaches to school exclusions. The question needed to be asked what some young people who were excluded for a fixed term would do during the days. There were risks that they would move towards smoking weed and other potentially harmful behaviours which could lead to others. There needed to be greater caution around excluding pupils who were vulnerable.
- 4.23 Samir agreed with these points. A County Lines project run by St Giles found that all of the young people it aimed to support had been excluded from mainstream education and were students of Pupil Referral Units.
- 4.24 He had seen how the rejection which exclusion from schools gave young people left them very vulnerable to seeing criminal activity as the only viable option for them.

- 4.25 The Chair said that colleagues on the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Commission were exploring school exclusions in their review. She appreciated that there were issues but also that it was an area over which the Council had limited control.
- 4.26 She said that the Commission was aiming to explore the gaps in support and provision for young adults aged 18 to 25. She noted that while it was often felt that it was predominantly under 18s involved in serious violence that this was not always the case, partly indicated by the majority of the people that the Gangs Unit supported being aged between 18 and 25. She asked if there were any views around this.
- 4.27 Emma Harradine, Probation Officer, Integrated Gangs Unit, responded to this point. The young adults she worked with were in the criminal justice system and had often been in and out of custody.
- 4.28 She said that the lack of accessible opportunities was the biggest hurdle. These could dry up after young people reached adulthood. Criminal records could hinder people. In addition, those opportunities which might otherwise be accessible were often unsuitable. Large numbers of the cohort had previously been in care. Those she supported had often suffered from trauma in their childhoods from issues including parental addictions and domestic violence. There was a prevalence of mental health conditions. The service visited those in custody to work with and support them in preparation for their release. This often led to a presence of a mental illness which had not previously been identified. This was sometimes due to the stigma around mental health leaving those in custody reluctant to seek support from those inside the prison.
- 4.29 The opportunities which could be brokered for the cohort were often in the form of full time employment. Many were not ready to enter immediately into this despite having the will to do so. The lack of accessible, realistic options meant that the cohort was less likely to believe that legitimate and legal lifestyles were possible for them.
- 4.30 One thing that would really help would be more sympathetic employers willing to phase people into work. If employers enabled the cohort to start a job on the basis of one or two shifts a week this would really help.
- 4.31 A Member asked whether Faith Leaders were involved with the work mentioned by the Probation Officer.
- 4.32 The Probation Officer, Integrated Gangs Unit said that chaplains based within custody settings did some very helpful work. She was not aware of support programmes led by them in the community.
- 4.33 The Chair thanked the Probation Officer. She now invited Maurice Mason, Community Safety Partnership Manager to introduce the paper on pages 5 to 10 of the agenda packs.
- 4.34 The Community Safety Partnership Manager introduced the officers in attendance for the item. While this was rare to achieve, he felt it fair to say that this was a dream team. These were only words and he looked forward to

- himself and others receiving questions so that Members could make up their own minds. However, he very much felt it to be the case.
- 4.35 The unit had a three pronged approach. It did have an enforcement role in order to keep the community safe. However, this was set within an appreciation that the issue was not one which could be arrested the way out of. As such, there was a main and significant focus on prevention and diversion. Within this, a key challenge was to identify and work with young people who were or were at risk of exploitation. Significant safeguarding was needed in these cases, rather than criminalisation.
- 4.36 The integrated nature of the unit was crucial, bringing partners together in one location. It enabled close dialogue and information sharing. The unit had access to quality data. This was through the IGU Researcher who was in attendance and also the Intelligence Hub within the Community Safety Partnership's wider resource. These two aspects enabled joined up and intelligent-based interventions. This included the identifying of young people who were at risk of exploitation. The Unit worked closely with the Children's and Families Service.
- 4.37 The service also sought to harness the strength of the community in Hackney. It had worked with the community to deliver interventions in Woodberry Down and the Nightingale. The IGU was not resting on its laurels and was working to improve further. The unit was working towards recruiting to a Community Gangs Worker post to help further improve community links.
- 4.38 The number of people worked with by the IGU regularly shifted. However, the cohort generally stood at around 90, around a third of which were in custody.
- 4.39 Looking at the last 12 months, there had been a spike in tragic gang related murders and in tension between gangs generally. Hackney was far from unique in having seen this; it was the case on a London wide and national level. However, it was important to note that indicators for Hackney now showed violent crime to be reducing. Levels of Knife Crime, Gun Crime, Serious Violence and Serious Youth Violence had reduced.
- 4.40 There was no complacency and there were always improvements to be made. However, he did feel confident that the borough was now coming out of what had been a traumatic time.
- 4.41 He was proud of the Unit. It was recognised internationally as having an excellent model. It was not an over estimate to state that it was amongst the best in the world. Delegations from other London boroughs had visited and were seeking to install the same arrangements in their areas. Only this week there had been a visit from London's Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime. The IGU had also hosted visits from Columbia and Canada.
- 4.42 A Member thanked the Community Safety Partnership Manager. She welcomed the work of the IGU. She wished to explore how those in need of support might gain access to its services. She asked how a young person who was at risk of becoming involved in gang activity and needed help to avoid this but was not aware of the IGU offer, could become aware and then access the service.

- 4.43 The Community Safety Partnership Manager said that the Council website contained a range of information on the IGU. Alongside this, the IGU actively went out into the community. For example it had attended a recent event at the Salvation Army. It did not work in isolation, and sought to raise awareness through its links with the Children and Families Service, and others. The Contextual Safeguarding approach being installed within the Council was relevant to its work to address the causes of ASB, gang activity and other harmful behaviour. It had helped inform the approaches taken on one estate which had seen a concentration of these issues.
- 4.44 In response to a Member asking whether information could be added to the noticeboards on estates, the Community Safety Partnership Manager said that he would respectfully suggest that the challenge was to ask community leaders to cascade information to residents. He was keen the service followed a 'community on top, professionals on tap' ethos.
- 4.45 The Member accepted this point, but felt that estate noticeboards and Neighbourhood Offices should still be used to publicise the support available from the IGU.
- 4.46 A Member noted and welcomed that Hackney appeared to be on a downward slope from the spike in serious violence. He asked for some background in terms of what caused the spike and why and how levels had had been reduced.
- 4.47 Steve Gowan, Researcher, Integrated Gangs Unit said analysis had shown one of the causes of the spike to have been the emergence of new gangs which were made up of people of younger ages than those usually involved in gang activity. These groups had been involved in conflicts. They appeared to have not been formed on a territory-based way, but through social media.
- 4.48 The escalation in violence appeared to have been caused more by perceptions around respect and disrespect, than by drugs. Social media had increased the capacity for these issues to escalate. In the past if one party was disrespected for example by being made to strip in the street, only a handful of people would know. Now these incidents were recorded and posted on YouTube. There was then peer pressure within schools and elsewhere for retaliation.
- 4.49 Invited to introduce the second paper for this item and to make any initial comments, Brendan Finnegan, Service Manager - Youth Justice Service, said that he had been in this post since 2014. Youth Offending Teams had been made statutory services in 1998. One of these was based in the Integrated Gangs Unit in order to work with young people involved in gang activity and or serious violence.
- 4.50 Youth Justice was based at the end of the line. The offer of other services through Education and Young Hackney was a crucial reason why the cohort was relatively very small – with 87 currently on their books.
- 4.51 Sanctions delivered varied from the lower level Community Orders, through to the taking of young people into custody. However, he was proud of the focus on diversion, and of the breadth of support which the service delivered to a cohort of young people who had found themselves in trouble.

- 4.52 Bespoke plans were in place for the 87 young people in the cohort. Services delivered within a multi-agency integrated resource included individual and family therapists / psychotherapists and the Virtual School. The service had also installed speech and language therapists based on evidence that high shares of the youth justice cohort had needs in this area. These elements of support worked to divert people from a path towards adult offending.
- 4.53 There was a strong need to help young people through a range of issues caused by factors including poverty, previous exposure to trauma and loss. Some of the cohort were being raised by single parents who were working 2 or 3 jobs to make ends meet for the household. They were sometimes understandably weary and tired and had little capacity left for the emotional presence which children required. The service would work and support parents in these cases.
- 4.54 The multi-agency team included Probation Officers. Some young people would – unfortunately – graduate from Youth Justice to being under the remit of probation services. Probation Officers worked to ensure an effective transition in these cases.
- 4.55 A Member said that she was keen to know what care and support was available to staff based within the IGU. She appreciated that it was likely to be a challenging area to work in. As an action, she asked if a written summary of the support could be made available to the Commission following the meeting. The Community Safety Partnership Manager agreed to this.

Action 1: Community Safety Partnership Manager

To provide information on support available to Integrated Gangs Unit staff

- 4.56 Guests were thanked and excused.

5 Evidence gathering for review - police resources to tackle serious violence

- 5.1 Sue Williams, Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service, was in attendance for this item. She made the following substantive points:
- Policing in Hackney had faced some significant recent challenges. This – tragically – had included the response to a number of murders.
 - However, following the spike in violence, evidence did point to things being turned around. Levels of knife crime, knife crime involving young people aged up to 25, and gun crime, were all down. As a partnership, things were moving in the right way.
 - She would give a brief summary of the different central units which had helped to deliver this improvement.
 - The Violent Crime Taskforce was set up earlier this year, made up of local Met Officers. The Taskforce went around London providing support in areas where there was concern. Deployment was based on bids from boroughs / Basic Command Units (BCU), which were made on a day to day basis. The unit on a pan London level had delivered some strong outputs including 473 weapons seizures, 871 stop and searches

and 838 vehicle searches. Hackney had received significant shares of the support from this unit meaning that many of these cases would have been delivered in the borough.

- To give reassurance around the deployment of this unit in the borough, the Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service wished to advise that all units received bespoke briefings on the Hackney context. All Officers in the unit wore body cameras in the interests of safeguarding officers and individuals.
 - Another unit - Operation Venice - focused on making people safe from the threat of moped enabled crime. Some of these crimes had been perpetrated by people linked to gang activity.
 - Road Transport Police came into the borough to perform patrols and to assist other operations.
 - The Territorial Support Group was comprised of two elements. One of these was made up of teams deployed for periods of between 2 weeks and a month. The other – the Commissioners Reserve TSG – could be bid for by the boroughs / BCUs on a daily basis. These units had roles in responding to disorder and reducing priority crime.
 - Centrally controlled armed response vehicles included Hackney in their patrols. These units held firearms and also Tasers and other non lethal weapons. Armed officers were also in place through operation Radian.
 - A role of armed response vehicles and armed officers was to perform hard stops, where vehicles or people were stopped due to intelligence or information suggesting that weapons including guns may be in evidence. By way of providing assurance around the professionalism and standards practiced in these cases, community leaders including members of the Safer Neighbourhood Board were able to join these patrols.
 - The BCU worked closely with Operation Trident to help tackle organised crime in the borough. This joint work had delivered tangible outcomes. The period between December 2017 and March 2018 had seen a spike in violence in the N16 area. A covert operation in response had resulted in 37 arrests, drugs seized, and a number of drug supply lines closed. Cases had now journeyed through the courts and had resulted in a number of convictions and prison sentences.
 - It was important to note that Trident incorporated community engagement and prevention elements, in addition to its reactive and proactive operations. She had joined Trident units in delivering sessions in youth clubs which aimed to help foster better relationships with young people and to promote diversion and prevention.
- 5.2 With the agreement of the Chair, the Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service proceeded to present on the next agenda item. There would then be a discussion covering both of these items.
- 6 Evidence gathering for review - opportunities and risks of changes to local policing in relation to tackling serious violence**
- 6.1 Sue Williams, Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service, made the following substantive points to introduce this item:

- Police restructures leading to the establishment of BCU structures had been carried out to make operations more efficient and streamlined.
- The BCU model would see 32 boroughs supported by 12 operational units.
- It needed to be acknowledged that funding reductions had left the old individual borough model unsustainable, particularly in relation to the outer London boroughs.
- The BCU model had five strands:
 - Emergency Response
 - CID investigations
 - Neighbourhoods
 - Safeguarding
 - Leadership and Governance
- Hackney's Integrated Gangs Unit and the Gangs Taskforce were based within the CID element.
- She had delivered a restructure bringing significant (18) changes. The BCU model was giving greater flexibility to tackle serious violence; it allowed resources to be flexed between the two boroughs to deal with issues emerging in either one. The restructure had been based on the principle of learning best practice from both sides. An example was her recognition of the value of the co-located, borough-specific gangs unit which was in place in Hackney through its IGU. This learning had led to the installation of a similar arrangement in Tower Hamlets.
- The Neighbourhoods strand incorporated ward-based activities and focus on licensing and anti-social behaviour (ASB). Within the ASB aspect, there was a strong focus on drugs.
- ASB initiatives included work to implement an ASB Warning System in Hackney, which was in place in Tower Hamlets. This was better enabling action to be taken by the police and or partners when people were known to be involved in activities including drug dealing but where the police had been unable to catch them in act. In these cases information sharing with other partners including registered social landlords, better enabled family based issues to be tackled and for people to be aided out of criminality. There had been an 80% reduction in ASB in Tower Hamlets following implementation of the scheme there. MOPAC had identified the initiative as good practice.
- The Safeguarding strand was aimed at protecting the most vulnerable. This included young people suffering from child sexual exploitation and or exploited into county lines activities.
- On children and young people, the Police Cadets scheme was a very important tool to aid prevention and diversion. The police sought to engage students who schools had identified as being on the edge of criminality. The Cadets enabled young people to be directly involved with a range of operations, including test under age purchasing of alcohol.
- There was lots of commentary around stop and search. In Hackney, numbers had reduced. The borough also had a positive outcomes rate which was in the top third

across the Met. 30% of Stop and Searches in Hackney had delivered positive outcomes compared to the 20% target. Only 4 Section 60s – orders which allowed officers to stop and search people without reasonable grounds criteria being in place – had been put in place in Hackney since October.

- In response to a question, the Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service advised that a positive outcome was where action had been taken against someone who had been stopped and searched.
- 6.2 A Member thanked the Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service for what she said had been a comprehensive description of the action being taken. However, she was aware from feedback she received that residents did not feel that they were seeing this on the ground. For example, there had been an absence of community reassurance by the police following shots being fired in her ward.
- 6.3 Another said that that residents in his ward also felt a lack of a local policing presence.
- 6.4 The Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service said that the London Mayoral target of having two dedicated PCs and one Police Community Support Officer in place per ward, was largely in place. Efforts were also made to balance the need to deploy these resources elsewhere due to specific incidents, with the appreciation of the importance that these abstractions were limited. The BCU was working hard to limit these siphoning's off.
- 6.5 It was not the case that these Ward Officers would be visible all of the time. They were not a 24 hour a week, 7 day a week presence. They also had specific objectives as set locally and by MOPAC, which they were tasked with focusing on. However, they were there.
- 6.6 A Member noted that the Commission's review would be exploring the Community Safety Partnership's work to improve community trust and confidence in the police. Large shares of residents had difficulties in their relationships with the police. He aired frustration that staff turnover – in his view – could hinder progress on this agenda. His ward had lost an excellent sergeant who had built up trust with people from across the community. He asked if work was being done to improve recruitment and retention.
- 6.7 The Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service acknowledged that the retention of good officers was a challenge. She had sought to address this. When Officers first arrived in the borough she asked that they signed a statement of intent that they would remain in the position for a minimum of two years. In addition, these statements were refreshed as a condition of particular training courses being provided such as advanced driving. These statements could not be made legally binding. However, she felt that they did give better prospects for reasonable lengths of service.
- 6.8 She was lobbying decision-makers and Human Resources to enable those gaining promotion to be retained rather than being deployed elsewhere. While it was satisfying to see officers develop, it was a source of frustration that they needed to move to other areas when achieving promotion. She would continue to flag this.

- 6.9 The Chair noted the reductions to police numbers and budgets. She asked whether this had impacted on the police presence within the IGU.
- 6.10 The Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service advised that it had not. Numbers of Police Officers in the Hackney IGU had been maintained. Rather than reduce the police presence in the IGU, the model was one that she was replicating in Tower Hamlets.
- 6.11 She added that while some front line policing functions had shrunk, others – including Trident – had grown. She was aware that there were concerns around this approach, but there were valid reasons for it.
- 6.12 The Chair noted this point. She worried that increasing centralised units at the expense of local resources could bring an approach which was reactive and not preventative. Residents wanted bobbies on the beat. There was a view that this was not in place anymore, enabling crimes such as drug dealing to go unchallenged. There was sometimes a perception that the police were nowhere to be seen, except for when there were mass deployments which residents could sometimes feel were excessive. She worried that these issues could impact on trust and confidence.
- 6.13 The Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service said that there was significant proactive work happening, both by central and local units, which she could not discuss.
- 6.14 On drug dealing, she said that the police did actively target areas where it was happening, reviewing and acting upon CCTV footage.
- 6.15 On the point around mass deployments, the Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service said that these could occur due to a range of issues including a serious incident when there were outstanding suspects, or where intelligence suggested that an issue might escalate.
- 6.16 In terms of prevention and also the community relationship, a lot of work was happening. This included work in schools (for which additional funds had been allocated) and youth clubs, including The Crib. There were show and tell sessions on Stop and Search, and regular engagement through the stop and search monitoring groups. The police also gave opportunities to community leaders to witness stop and searches.
- 6.17 A Member noted the reference to the ASB Warning System. She asked why it was not in place in Hackney.
- 6.18 The Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service said that she was keen for the system to be put in place in Hackney, and training was being delivered currently. As a first step, the police would work with Registered Social Landlords. The system once in place would enable the police to issue ASB Warnings and to pass on details of these to the relevant Registered Social Landlord. This could help in situations where young people were known to be involved in criminal activity such a drug dealing but where the police had been unable to catch them in the act. It could enable support interventions to be delivered at a household level, and provide legislative options which were open

to RSLs as a landlord but not the police. Evidence from Tower Hamlets showed that the initiative was very successful at reducing repeat incidents of ASB by those served with a warning. MOPAC had backed the approach.

- 6.19 The Chair noted that Lynne Troughton, a Member of the Safer Neighbourhoods Board and a Ward Panel Chair, was in attendance. She asked if she had any questions or comments around policing and the impact of the operational changes on the experiences of residents.
- 6.20 Lynne Troughton said she had found the item useful. She said that the points made around police being less visible, were commonly heard in the forums she was involved with. She said that an item for both Ward Panels and the Safer Neighbourhood Board on the organisational structure of the BCU, would be useful.
- 6.21 The Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service thanked Lynne Troughton. She agreed that there was a gap in terms of information on the BCU being cascaded through to Ward Panels. She had now asked the Safer Neighbourhood Board to convene a meeting including the Ward panel Chairs in order for them to be briefed on this.

7 Minutes of the meetings of 13th and 21st November

- 7.1 The minutes of the meetings of the 13th and the 21st November were agreed as accurate records.

8 Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission- 2018/19 Work Programme

- 8.1 The Work Programme was noted.

9 Any Other Business

- 9.1 The Chair pointed Members to the papers on their desks; the recommendations from the Commission's report on segregated cycle lanes, and the Executive Member's response to this. She advised that the response had been agreed at Cabinet in November.
- 9.2 She advised that Cllr Stops who was a Member of the Commission during its review, was in attendance to speak about the response.
- 9.3 Cllr Stops thanked the Chair. He said that he had a number of concerns with the response to the report. However, he wished to focus on recommendation 1, as stated below below:
- *That the Council consults on and publishes a clearer criteria for deciding when segregated cycling provision should be used.*
 - *We understand the Council's Transport Strategy to place the Council in a position to consider segregated cycling provision on main roads where it would be felt to improve the safety and comfort of cyclists, where some other types of intervention would not fully achieve this or are not practical, and where a range of other considerations (including interactions between bus users and cyclists and junction safety) can be effectively managed.*

- *This is the Commission's understanding based on a number of paragraphs of the Cycling Plan section of the Council's Transport Strategy.*
 - *Paragraph 7.54 states that: "The Council is open and willing to examine proposals for segregated and semisegregated cycle lanes on principal roads but it will be considered on a case by-case basis - taking into account concerns about: high collision rates at intersecting junctions where segregated lanes end; visual impact on the streetscape; interaction between bus users and cyclists at bus stops; and other competing demands for road space on Hackney's busiest routes." Paras 7.4 and 7.5 and the hierarchy of provision sets out that the Council will consider segregated cycle lanes in cases where a number of other intervention types are not appropriate, or do not achieve the full 'clear safe space for cyclists' principle.*
 - *We appreciate that the segregated provision will not always be the most appropriate intervention and support the Council in their approach of considering it on a case by case basis.*
 - *However, we also feel that the Council position could be made clearer in terms of the specific circumstances / criteria in which segregated provision should be delivered. For example this could include measures around road widths, traffic volumes (PCU), etc.*
 - *We ask that the Council develops and consults on a clear criteria to be used to help determine where segregated provision should be used.*
- 9.4 Cllr Stops said he was disappointed that this recommendation had not been accepted. He noted the explanation given for this was that each location had to be considered on a case by case basis, that it was unlikely that the Council could produce a clearer criteria nor to make it fully applicable to each location, and that instead the Council should continue to work with TfL and other boroughs and draw on growing London wide evidence in this area.
- 9.5 He noted that the review had heard real concerns from residents with disabilities about the impact of schemes on their ability to feel safe when moving around the borough. He said that the detrimental impact of some schemes meant it was important in his view that there was clarity within policy on the cases where segregated cycle lanes would be delivered. He tabled pictures of schemes in some other boroughs which he said compromised pedestrian safety and comfort. He said that by making Hackney's Transport Policy in this area more clear, the risk of similar schemes appearing in the borough would be reduced.
- 9.6 A Member agreed with Cllr Stops. She felt that a clear criteria should be in place to help determine when segregated cycle lanes would be considered. She worried about the impact of segregated cycle lanes on the journey times for both pedestrians and bus users. Another Member felt that all necessary steps should be taken to avoid the delivery of schemes in Hackney like the ones in the pictures tabled by Cllr Stops (which were not of schemes in Hackney).
- 9.7 The Chair thanked Members. She advised that both she and Cllr Stops were meeting with the Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care,

Monday, 10th December, 2018

Transport and Parks and the Mayor to discuss the response. She would raise the concerns of Members at this meeting.

Duration of the meeting: 7.00 - 10.00 pm

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Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission 31st January 2019 2018/19 Work Programme	Item No 8
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Outline

The latest version of work programme for the current year is enclosed.

Action

The Commission is asked to note the work programme.

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Overview & Scrutiny

Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission: Work Plan June 2018 – April 2019

Each agenda will include an updated version of this Scrutiny Commission work programme

Meeting	Item	Directorate / lead	Comment / purpose of item
14th June 2018 Room 102, Hackney Town Hall Agenda dispatch: 6 th June 2018	Introduction to Director of Housing Services, and priorities for the next year	Neighbourhoods and Housing / Ajman Ali, Director of Housing Services	
	Discussion about work programme for 2018/19	Tom Thorn, Overview and Scrutiny Team	For the Commission to agree review topic and one off items for this year.
9th July 2018 Room 103, Hackney Town Hall Agenda dispatch: 28 th June 2018	Cabinet Question Time – Cllr Sem Moema, mayoral Advisor for Private renting and housing affordability		Topic areas for questioning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private rented sector licensing. Progress made towards the planned launch of the wider private rented sector licensing schemes in October 2018. Work to address research finding significant conditions issues with properties already falling within mandatory licensing criteria. Member roles in reporting unlicensed properties. Housing Association liaison. Engagement with Registered

Meeting	Item	Directorate / lead	Comment / purpose of item
			Housing Providers on maintenance and repairs performance. Any work to monitor / influence the lettings policies of Registered Housing Providers operating in Hackney, including any replacement of social rent tenancies with other tenancy types.
	Cabinet Question Time – Cllr Jon Burke, Cabinet Member for Energy, sustainability and community services	Tom Thorn, Overview and Scrutiny Team	<p>Topic areas for questioning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring the Mayor's manifesto commitment to the delivery of a municipal energy company. Any emerging strategy and programme for delivery, including around renewable energy installations on Housing assets. • Profiles of leisure centre usage and work to engage underrepresented groups • Current waste and recycling collection models and any scope for change.
August Recess – no meetings			
13th September 2018 Room 102, Hackney Town Hall	Healthwatch Hackney report on single homelessness and mental health, Council response, and discussion on	Tom Thorn, Overview and Scrutiny Team	Healthwatch Hackney have been invited to present and answer questions on their report on the experiences of single homeless people with mental health needs living in temporary accommodation. The Housing Needs and Private Sector Housing Services will be in attendance to present the Council's response.

Meeting	Item	Directorate / lead	Comment / purpose of item
Agenda dispatch: 5 th September 2018	site visits to hostels		
	Background / fact finding for review – introduction to Hackney’s Integrated Gangs Unit	Maurice Mason, Community Safety Team Manager, Chief Executive’s Directorate	<p>This item is intended to give Members an introduction to Hackney’s Integrated Gangs Unit (IGU).</p> <p>The Unit was establishment in 2010 following the Community Safety Partnership identifying tackling gang violence as a strategic priority and a detailed analysis being carried out of gang violence in the borough to develop a comprehensive understanding of the alliances, disputes and tensions between different gangs.</p> <p>The IGU brings together the police, a range of Council services, and others including Probation Services, the DWP and organisations providing one to one advice, training and support to divert people at risk away from gangs¹. It was the first co-located Integrated Gangs Unit (IGU) in the UK².</p> <p>While designing the Unit the Council and partners drew learning from the approach taken by Glasgow’s Violence Reduction Unit, which has received wide recognition for following what is sometimes defined as a public health approach.</p> <p>After it opened in 2010 gang-flagged violence fell for a number of years. There were 114 gun related crimes in the borough in the year to February 2011, compared to 66 in the year to February 2018. In the 2 years to November 24th 2018 there were no gang-related murders. This was prior to the recent spike in violence both in Hackney and elsewhere.</p>

¹ <https://www.hackney.gov.uk/media/11221/Our-approach-to-violent-crime/pdf/approach-to-violent-crime>

² <https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/node/31170>

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	Review into Segregated Cycle Lanes – Draft Report	Tom Thorn, Overview and Scrutiny Team	
<p>13th November 2018</p> <p>Room 102, Hackney Town Hall</p> <p>Agenda dispatch: 5th November 2018</p>	Progress on implementation of recommendations of Fire Risk Assessments	Ajman Ali, Director of Housing Services	<p>At the June meeting Members received a verbal update from the Director of Housing Services on the progress made in implementing the recommendations arising from the Fire Risk Assessments (FRAs) the Council had carried out following the Grenfell Tower tragedy.</p> <p>The Commission was advised that good progress had been made. With work being progressed according to its priority, all critical (highest priority) recommendations had been addressed. Large numbers of the high priority (second highest priority) recommendations had been progressed. However, it was also acknowledged that further progress was needed.</p> <p>The Director of Housing Services has been asked to provide a paper for this item setting out the latest progress against the FRAs. He will be in attendance at the meeting to present the paper and answer questions. With Members having asked to keep progress under review moving forward, a further update will be submitted to the meeting of 11th April.</p>
	Evidence gathering for review - setting the scene - Council and Partnership work to tackle violent crime and high level findings of new Community Safety Partnership Strategic	Tim Shields, Chief Executive supported by Karen Law, Partnership Strategic Analysis & Performance Manager	<p>The carrying out a review looking in broad terms at the response of the Council and its partners to an escalation in levels of the most serious forms of violence. These occurred in a period starting in late 2017. The escalation in Hackney is reflective of increases both regionally and nationally.</p> <p>This item has been scheduled for Members to ask questions about the findings of the relevant elements of the Strategic Assessment.</p> <p>With the Council's Chief Executive - who is also joint Chair of the</p>

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	Assessment		Community Safety Partnership - in attendance, it will also be an opportunity for the Commission to gain further insight into the work of the Partnership to tackle and reduce violent crime over recent years.
	Evidence gathering for review - Council response to spike in serious violence - findings emerging from mapping exercise	Cllr Caroline Selman, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Policy and the Voluntary Sector, supported by Jason Davis, Policy Advisor	<p>The Commission will receive an update on the Council's mapping exercise conducted further to the community reassurance event in April. The Commission will explore its emerging findings and or recommendations, and seek to hold discussions on these with relevant guests from the community and the community and voluntary sector.</p> <p>With the review predominantly focused on young adults, we will seek to look in particular at the findings as they relate to provision for people aged 18 – 25, and their parents and carers. This will include an exploration of how those who have previously been known to be at risk of gang involvement / exploitation, are supported after they become 18.</p>
	Evidence gathering for review - Insight into Victim Support	Dina Sahmanovic, Senior Operations Manager, North and East London Victim Support	Victim Support to give views on findings of mapping exercise (above) and to set out their support offer to those affected by violent crime
	Evidence gathering for review - update on Improving Outcomes for Young Black Men Programme -	Cathal Ryan, Service Manager, Children and Families Service	The Council, its partners, young people and parents come together to form the Improving Outcomes for Young Black Men (YBM) Programme . This programme recognises and seeks to respond to the fact that young black men tend to fare worse than their peers across a wide range of areas.

Meeting	Item	Directorate / lead	Comment / purpose of item
	Reducing Harm work strand	and Lead for Reducing Harm Working Group	<p>These inequalities include aspects around serious violence.</p> <p>With the Commission's review looking at the response of the Council to a spike in serious violence, this item has been scheduled to give Members an insight into the role which the YBM Programme will play within this, and the actions needed to help address the disproportionalities in the area.</p>
<p>21st November 2018</p> <p>BSix Sixth Form College, Kenninghall Road, London, E5 8BP</p> <p>Agenda dispatch: 13th November 2018</p>	Thames Water Main Burst in the Leabridge Ward - summary of response by the Council	Andy Wells, Manager, London Borough of Hackney Civil Protection Service	
	Thames Water Main Burst in the Leabridge Ward - evidence from Thames Water and question and answer session	Thames Water staff	
<p>10th December 2018</p> <p>Council Chamber, Hackney Town</p>	Evidence gathering for review - Summary of policing resources (local and central) to tackle serious	Chief Superintendent Williams, Central East	The review looking at the response of the Council and its partners to the recent escalation in serious violence considers a number of topics relevant to the Police. These include the use of Stop and Search, the work to improve community confidence, the risks and challenges associated with changes in local policing (in relation to the capacity to

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Hall Agenda dispatch: 30 th November 2018	violence	(Hackney and Tower Hamlets) BCU Commander	tackle serious violence). This item has been scheduled for the Commission to receive context at an early point around the different sections of the Metropolitan Police (both those managed and operated locally and others which are managed centrally but which will be deployed in Hackney at various times).
	Evidence gathering for review - local policing changes and associated opportunities and risks in relation to tackling serious violence	Chief Superintendent Williams, Central East (Hackney and Tower Hamlets) BCU Commander	Local policing is undergoing significant change. This is in relation to the establishment of 12 Basic Command Units to replace the 32 borough model, with local boroughs merging with others. The announcement was made alongside an acknowledgement of significant financial challenge, with the Met required to make savings of £325m by 2021/22, and expected continued reductions in officer numbers. This builds on significant reductions in funding already imposed. The Council's own Foot the Bill lobbying campaign has highlighted the impact of £600 million in Met Police funding reductions since 2010, with Hackney having seen a reduction from 770 Officers to 584 in the 7 years to October 2017, the most severe cut in London. Within the new Basic Command Unit structure, Hackney has joined with Tower Hamlets to form a Central East Command Unit. This item will explore the implications of these changes on the capacity of the police to respond effectively, and any work of the Safer Neighbourhood Board to gather assurance around this.

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			<p>It will seek to involve community groups in discussions on policing in their areas, and their views on any impact of changes already made. Plans on this will be further developed.</p>
	Evidence gathering for review - Work and approach of the Integrated Gangs Unit		<p>The review sets out to explore how the Integrated Gangs Unit is working to tackle serious violence, and the benefits and any disbenefits of its approaches.</p> <p>This item will explore the approaches taken by the IGU. We hope to hear from staff from the range of agencies operating in the unit, including police and probation officers, DWP staff and Council Officers. We also wish to hear from some of the organisations commissioned for prevention and diversion work such as Mentivation and St Giles Trust.</p> <p>The item is intended to help answer the questions below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What approach is the Integrated Gangs Unit taking to tackle gang related violence? • What tools does it use? • How is the Metropolitan Police's Gangs Matrix used by unit partners and what are its benefits and risks?
31st January 2019 Room 102	Evidence gathering for review - trends in Stop and Search (and Section 60 notice)	Sue Williams, Central East Commander,	This item is set in a context of announcements at a London wide level by both the Mayor of London and the Metropolitan Police Commissioner around a stepping up of 'targeted and intelligence led' stop and searches as one of the tools to tackle escalations in violence ³ .

³ <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/sadiq-khan-reveals-police-will-significantly-increase-stop-and-search-to-tackle-knife-crime-a3736501.html> and <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/942469/London-news-met-police-knife-gun-crime-stop-and-search-powers>

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Hackney Town Hall Agenda dispatch: 23 rd January 2019	activity - numbers, outcomes and profiles	Metropolitan Police Service (or other Police representative)	<p>We are also aware of a re-emergence in the use of Section 60 orders, including those covering the whole borough. Section 60 orders allow for searches to be carried out without suspicion. Hackney was subject to nine borough-wide Section 60 orders in the year up to the 15th May, the third highest in London⁴.</p> <p>This item will explore the numbers of and outcomes from stop and search in Hackney.</p>
	How is the community being kept informed, and how are good quality interactions with the public during the deployment of Stop and Search being best achieved?	<p>Sue Williams, Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service (or other Police representative)</p> <p>Central Police Units (to be confirmed)</p>	<p>We note differing views from different quarters around greater use of stop and search powers – including Section 60s - within the wider response to the escalations in violence.</p> <p>A recent report from the Centre for Social Justice⁵ has called for increased stop and search activity as a means of tackling violence, and is critical of how <i>'proactive policing in the form of stop and search has been under sustained attack for years'</i>.</p> <p>On the other side of the debate, one of the major concerns around stop and search is the disproportionality in terms of those who are being searched. For many years evidence has shown that stop and search is used disproportionately on those from (BAME) groups – in particular young black men - and young people⁶.</p> <p>This disproportionality is commonly linked with the lower levels of confidence that these groups have in the police and the criminal justice</p>

⁴ http://questions.london.gov.uk/QuestionSearch/searchclient/questions/question_298652

⁵ <http://www.centreforsocialjustice.org.uk/core/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/CSJJ6499-Gangs-Report-180824-FINAL-WEB.pdf>

⁶ It should be noted that the Centre for Social Justice report challenges the basis for this finding.

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			<p>system, and (despite the stated focus of stop and search on tackling serious violence) their greater likelihood of being penalised for more minor crimes.</p> <p>Critics of the use of Section 60 powers - such as Liberty – argue that they are overly broad.</p> <p>There is concern that Section 60s and stop and search activity generally - often regarded as ‘coercive tactics’ - can bring negative impacts on police relationships with the communities they serve⁷.</p> <p>There have also been historical concerns around the quality of interactions between the police and the community, and the further impact that these can have on trust and confidence⁸.</p> <p>This item will gauge the action being taken to reassure the community, to keep them informed and to achieve good quality interactions with the public during its deployment.</p>
	How is the Community Safety Partnership working to ensure effective relationships with the community?	Sue Williams, Central East Commander, Metropolitan Police Service (or other Police representative)	<p>Data for Hackney suggests that the trust and confidence aspect should be an area of focus. MOPAC’s Public Attitudes Survey shows there have been quite significant reductions in the proportions of Hackney residents reporting positive perceptions of the police, across a range of measures. The scale of these reductions have not generally been replicated at a London level.</p> <p>More positively, Hackney residents are among the most likely in London</p>

⁷ <http://criminaljusticealliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/No-Respect-290617-1.pdf> and <https://www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/human-rights/justice-and-fair-trials/stop-and-search> and <http://www.stop-watch.org/uploads/documents/StopAndAccountConsultation.pdf>

⁸ <https://www.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/hmicfrs/wp-content/uploads/metropolitan-police-service-stop-and-search.pdf>

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		Central Police Units (to be confirmed)	<p>to feel that the police can be relied on to be there when needed.</p> <p>However, they are significantly less likely to likely to feel well informed about local police activities, to feel that the police are dealing with the things that matter to the community, and to believe that the police are doing a good job in the local area. Perhaps most concerning is the fall in the proportion of residents feeling that the police treat everyone fairly regardless of who they are. This places Hackney in bottom place of all London boroughs on this measure.</p> <p>Hackney's Safer Neighbourhood Board is the primary borough-level mechanism for local engagement in policing. It also oversees the Independent Advisory Group which works to encourage positive interactions between the police and community. We will seek to hear from these groups around their work and findings. In addition – and given the falls in confidence levels – we hope to hear from the police directly.</p>
<p>4th March 2019 Room 102 Hackney Town Hall Agenda dispatch: 22nd February 2019</p>	<p>Thames Water Main Burst in the Leabridge Ward – follow up on session 21st November 2018</p>	<p>Thames Water staff</p>	<p>Thames Water attended a specially convened Commission meeting on the 21st November 2018. This was to discuss their response to the trunk main burst which had caused significant flooding in the Leabridge Ward the previous month.</p> <p>At that meeting and in response to questions from residents, local organisations and Commission Members, Thames Water advised that investigations on the cause of the event and its response still being carried out and that insurance, compensation arrangements were being worked through, and that the latest burst would help inform future improvement programmes. This item has been scheduled to receive</p>

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			updates on these elements and others.
	Cabinet Question Time – Cllr Rebecca Rennison, Cabinet Member for Finance and Housing Needs		<p>Topic areas for questioning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rough sleeping – work by the Council and partners to tackle and alleviate over winter period, and any learning for 2019/20. • Other topic areas to be confirmed.
	Presentation by William Hodgson on research into Micro-sites in Hoxton		<p>As part of a PhD, William Hodgson has been seeking to answer the following questions:</p> <p>Can sites be identified, which are not currently considered suitable or whose ownership is not clear, where self-building offers a solution to their development? What kind of engagement process is required to ensure such projects are acceptable to local communities?</p> <p>With the Commission having an interest in the area of housing availability and affordability, William Hodgson has been invited to present his findings.</p>
	Update on discretionary private rented sector licensing	Kevin Thompson, Head of Private Sector Housing	<p>In the July 2018 Commission meeting the Mayoral Adviser for Private Renting and Housing Affordability answered questions on the Council's preparations for the launch of wider private rented sector licensing schemes planned for October 2018. These schemes would bring more private rented properties than those already covered by the mandatory scheme for larger HMOs, into a licensing framework.</p> <p>This item included discussions around the extent of inspection activity which would take place in the schemes and the costs which landlords would incur.</p>

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			<p>Members also noted that the research carried out to help shape the proposals had identified high numbers of HMOs which were subject to mandatory licensing but which did not have a license in place, and that health and safety hazards were in evidence in many of these properties.</p> <p>This item has been scheduled for Members to receive updates on the introduction of discretionary licensing schemes, the Council's work to target properties which should be licensed but are not, and that health and safety in these properties are rectified.</p>
	Update on establishment and activity of Housing Company	John Lumley, Director of Housing Regeneration	<p>In the question time session with the Mayoral Adviser for Private Renting and Housing Affordability in July 2018, the Commission was advised that a new Housing Company was being set up by the Council.</p> <p>Members were advised that around 40 Councils had already moved to set up similar arrangements in their areas. Approaches and aims differed; some provided and managed temporary accommodation units, some built homes directly, and others delivered housing management.</p> <p>Members were advised that plans for Hackney would – if enacted further to substantial consultation – see a Housing Company procure some of the open market homes being delivered (alongside those for social rent and shared ownership) through the Council's Housing Regeneration and Housing Supply Programmes.</p> <p>Members were advised that units would be rented as Living Rent Homes by the Housing Company, within the initiative announced by the Mayor of London. Living Rent charged a rent of a third of the median income levels in a Ward. This would typically see a rent for a two bedroom</p>

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			<p>property of between £900 and £1,100.</p> <p>Members were advised that a key benefit of taking the approach of creating a Housing Company separate of the Council was that units procured would not at a later point be lost to right to buy, enabling the Council to provide affordable and long term rented accommodation to more residents.</p> <p>This item has been scheduled for the Commission to receive an update on the development of the Housing Company, timescales, and the approach that it will take.</p>
<p>11th April 2019 Room 102 Hackney Town Hall Agenda dispatch: 3rd April 2019</p>	<p>Progress on implementation of recommendations of Fire Risk Assessments</p>	<p>Ajman Ali, Director of Housing Services</p>	<p>This is further to the previous update of November 2018.</p>
	<p>Housing Services' development of an Asset Management Strategy</p>	<p>Ajman Ali, Director of Housing Services</p>	<p>In the meeting of 14th June 2018 the Commission heard that the Council was developing an Asset Management Strategy setting out the investment requirements over the next five years.</p> <p>The strategy would be informed by the undertaking of detailed stock condition surveys, and would help shape the revision of the 30 year HRA Business Plan. Ensuring strong governance was in place and that the service best utilised opportunities offered by the coming to an end of a number of major contracts, would enable investment to be delivered effectively.</p>

Meeting	Item	Directorate / lead	Comment / purpose of item
			<p>Fire Safety would be likely to be a key element of planned work.</p> <p>This item has been scheduled for the Commission to receive and discuss the finalised strategy and to explore how it might gauge progress against it moving forward.</p>
	<p>Findings of investigations into contract management Cabinet Member for Housing Services – Discussion with Cabinet Member for Housing Services</p>	<p>Cllr Clayeon McKenzie, Cabinet Member for Housing Services</p>	<p>During the last 18 months the Commission held a number of items relating to the management of contracts by the Council's Housing Services. These saw it receiving regular updates on the performance and management of one specific major contract - that for Specialist Electrical Works with Morgan Sindall - and holding a more general discussion item focusing the benefits, risks and issues with some of Housing Services' larger 'partnering' contracts.</p> <p>In July 2018 a detailed set of findings from this work were handed over to the Scrutiny Panel. With the Scrutiny Panel planning to contribute to the Council's planned development of a Sustainable Procurement Strategy which it is understood will include defining an approach to outsourcing and insourcing of services, this was in order that the findings could help inform this.</p> <p>In addition, the Commission wrote to the Cabinet Member for Housing Services asking for his attendance at a Commission meeting.</p> <p>This is in order that he can respond to three issues with specific regards to Housing Services which the work identified. The letter set out in detail the findings of the Commission in these areas. It explained that questioning on the evening would be focused on these. The areas are:</p>

Meeting	Item	Directorate / lead	Comment / purpose of item
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Cabinet Member for Housing Services') view around the need to achieve sustainable in house Clerks of Works and Quantity Surveying functions and to ensure their effective deployment, and any plans to support this. • Resident liaison functions within contracts - any work by Housing Services to enable the in-house delivery of resident liaison functions, within both existing partnering contracts and any future large housing contracts. • Any update on work to tackle issues around underpricing at tender stage
	Cabinet Question Time – Cllr Clayeon McKenzie, Cabinet Member for Housing Services	Cllr Clayeon McKenzie, Cabinet Member for Housing Services	<p>Topic areas for questioning:</p> <p>Finance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latest position on the HRA • Emerging views of budgets for 2020/21 and onwards, • Envisaged priority areas for spending.