

Special Joint Scrutiny Session - Child Q April 25th 2023 Item 3 - Urgent Business Strip search of children in England and Wales: Analysis by the Children's Commissioner for England	Item No 3
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Outline

The Children's Commissioner for England conducted her first analysis on strip searching in response to the Child Q incident in Hackney last year. Those findings were published in August 2022 and highlighted systemic problems across the Metropolitan Police Service with transparency, scrutiny and non-compliance with guidelines when children were being strip searched under stop and search powers.

In March 2023 the Children's Commissioner for England published further analysis of strip searches of children conducted by police under stop and search powers across England and Wales. This highlighted that it is not an isolated problem limited to London.

The Commissions have therefore invited the Children's Commissioner for England to highlight the findings and recommendations arising from this analysis, their relevance to local policy and practice, and the next steps that local policing authorities should now take to ensure children are protected and effectively safeguarded.

Members are asked to consider the Children's Commissioner for England report and verbal update, and ask questions of those in attendance.

Attending for this item

- Dame Rachel de Souza, Children's Commissioner for England
- Cynthia Uthayakumar, Private Secretary to the Children's Commissioner for England

Attached Report(s)

- Strip search of children in England and Wales - Analysis by the Children's Commissioner for England, March 2023

Background Information

- [Hackney Council response](#) to the Children's Commissioner for England's analysis of the strip search of children in England and Wales
- [Strip search of children by the Metropolitan Police Service](#) - Analysis by the Children's Commissioner for England, August 2022