

Appendix 3: Summary of Achievements by the IAG in 2021

- 1.1 The Independent Advisory Group (IAG) is set up to:
 - a. Offer independent advice which can help the police to provide a better service to the communities they serve;
 - b. Improve communication between the police and the community;
 - c. Help to forge a greater mutual understanding;
 - d. Improving trust and confidence in the MPS; and
 - e. Acting as a bridge between the communities and the MPS to tackle tensions communities have been facing.
- 1.2 The IAG acts as a critical friend and does not shy away from challenging the Lambeth MPS on where operations go wrong and commending where operations are done correctly. The IAG is being led by Lorraine Jones and Umar Mahmood, who serve as the Chair and Vice Chair respectively. The membership is wide ranging and reflects people from a variety of fields including higher education, community development, youth services, mental health, teaching and more.
- 1.3 The COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact like no other and the IAG also felt the impact of this in terms of meetings and activities. However, the IAG has still managed to build on several of the key aspects it has been working on.
- 1.4 The IAG is working with a number of key groups through its various members, and this includes charities, local community groups, faith groups, youth groups and the like. This has filtered through several meetings, mainly online, such as the local ward panels.
- 1.5 Some of the year's activities of the IAG include:
 - a. Several community and leadership activities attended by Lorraine Jones and Umar Mahmood;
 - b. Pan-London Community Reference Group for Covid-19: this group is attended by Umar Mahmood in the capacity of Vice Chair and has resulted in several local issues being fed into New Scotland Yard including the appropriate use of COVID-19 regulations and raising concerns of the community on policing activity;
 - c. Walk around with Commissioner Cressida Dick on Violence against Women and Girls;
 - d. Visit of Brixton Town Centre Team and Community Liaison Officers by Umar Mahmood to local community groups and Lambeth Councillors Nanda Manley-Browne and Irfan Mohammed to discuss local issues including Islamophobia, hate crime and community partnerships;
 - e. Through the police Learning & Development team, training over the year has continued with several different members from the IAG attending to speak to new recruits as they get an understanding of the borough and important factors to build relationships with the community. This has been ongoing for the last two years;
 - f. The IAG has continued to be invaluable to improving police and community relations and whilst there is still significant distrust in some areas, the MPS is determined to be a more open organisation and the role of the IAG is key to this. They have supported several areas including the Police Encounter Panels, attending Gold Groups in response to key incidents that have taken place in the borough and local ward meetings;
 - g. Attending Pan London IAG Chairs meetings attended by senior officers including the commissioner and deputy commissioners;

- h. Some of the key gold group meetings that have been attended by Lorraine Jones and Umar Mahmood, including the Sarah Everard murder and several incidents including firearms, weapons and other critical incidents (e.g., traffic related incidents and fires). This has led to detailed considerations from the IAG in the Community Impact Assessments. The IAG continue to be consulted before Section 60s are implemented across the borough with any concerns from the IAG being fed into the strategic decision making;
 - i. Meetings with the Violent Crime Task Force (VCTF) and Territorial Support Group (TSG) on how they should approach incidents;
 - j. Part of the judging panel with the TSG urban arts project for the 1London Design Project with London Nautical School where children designed a logo;
 - k. Attending operations as “observers” to ensure policing procedures are being followed properly; and,
 - l. Regular review of briefing notes being sent out by the police on incidents that have taken place.
- 1.6 Future activities from the IAG suggested to the Lambeth MPS include training for recruits on culture, faith, mental health and police engagements with the youth. A work plan is currently being designed by the IAG to focus their work on important areas such as stop and search, impact of night time economy, engagement with faith groups, tackling hate crime and continuing to build community confidence.