

# EQUAL QUARTERLY UPDATE



## STOP AND SEARCH MANCHESTER AND LONDON

Following previous engagement with Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham and his office, we have worked to establish the details of Manchester's current Stop and Search consultation groups and IAG's. We plan to commence a roundtable with relevant Stop and Search scrutiny groups to identify where EQUAL can assist in reducing racial disproportionality in Stop and Search in Greater Manchester.

In London, BTEG CEO Jeremy Crooke, has participated in several conversations with the Mayor of London, Deputy Mayors for Policing and Equalities and Assistant Commissioners for the Met Police. He has called for a fresh examination of Stop and Search, the police complaints system and the Gangs Violence Matrix.

## JUSTICE SELECT COMMITTEE ON POLICING POWERS DURING COVID-19

Head of Policy, Shadae, gave evidence to the Justice Select Committee in June with Clinks and Barrow Cadbury Trust on children and young people in custody and racial disparities. We raised concerns on the disproportionality in policing of young people during lockdown.



## HER MAJESTY'S PRISON AND PROBATION SERVICES USE OF FORCE, PAVA SPRAY AND RACE PROGRAMME



We have submitted a letter on behalf of our members to Lucy Frazer MP on the decision to continue with the PAVA incapacitant spray rollout across the adult estate. This is an ongoing matter which has been raised by the NIAG and by EQUAL as members of the HMPPS External Advice and Scrutiny Panel. We have also provided a consultation response to the HMPPS use of force policy framework, and feedback on the HMPPS new Race Programme. The new programme aims to ensure appropriate data sets are in place to evaluate the programme's success for staff and service users, with suggestions to carry out staff surveys into the state of inclusion, as well as considered approaches to training and accountability.

## SENTENCING COUNCIL CONSULTATION DISPROPORTIONALITY IN OUTCOMES FOR DRUG OFFENCES

EQUAL submitted a consultation response to the Sentencing Council's consultation on disproportionality in outcomes for drug offences, recommending a roundtable be held to discuss with civil society organisations how the SC can address the racial disparities evidenced in their research. EQUAL have now attended SC roundtable and provided valuable feedback on future research proposals. We anticipate that the SC will carry out further research to understand racial disparities within sentencing.



## WHAT ELSE HAVE WE DONE? LOBBYING AND ADVISORY ACTION

EQUAL is planning a set of legal action workshops between Criminal Justice Alliance, Maslaha, and Liberty.

Shadae, Head of Policy, has written for the Association of Members of Independent Monitoring Board on the MOJ's 'Tackling racial disparity in the criminal justice system update: 2020'. It makes recommendations for areas of improvement, although it has not yet published.

Select members of EQUAL met with Alex Chalk MP to discuss progress in BAME disproportionality since the Lammy review. We made several recommendations for the MOJ in a draft letter to Minister Alex Chalk MP to support the future direction of the MOJ's race disparity work.

EQUAL also joined the Standing Committee for Youth Justice and has secured funding to support frontline BAME organisations working in the CJS.

**EQUAL is a National Independent Advisory Group established to address the poorer outcomes experienced by black, Asian and minority ethnic groups and Muslims in the Criminal Justice System.**

**If you would like to get involved or collaborate with us on any of our work please contact [Philip@bteg.co.uk](mailto:Philip@bteg.co.uk).**

**Find us on our recently launched Instagram:  
[@equal\\_cjs](https://www.instagram.com/equal_cjs)**

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