

## To whom it may Concern

8 July 2019

MOPAC03062019-D2723

Dear Colleague,

I am pleased to be writing to you on the subject of London's Blueprint for a Whole Systems Approach to Women in Contact with the Criminal Justice System. This letter is officially seeking your organisation's sign-up to the Blueprint, which entails your official support of this vision for women in the criminal justice system, and your willingness to work towards improving outcomes for women.

MOPAC has been working closely with the Prison Reform Trust and partners in the development of the Blueprint, the aim of which is to provide a clear shared vision and foundation for ongoing multi-agency work in this area. The Blueprint sets out the commitment to transform the criminal justice response to women in London, recognising the common underlying causes of offending for women, including experiences of domestic and sexual abuse and coercion, trafficking and exploitation, poverty, homelessness, mental health needs, and substance use.

Over the next three years the Blueprint will act as a vision statement, committing us to working together to develop and implement an evidence-based, sustainable, whole system approach aimed at improving outcomes for women and reducing women's imprisonment. I write to ask your official support of the Blueprint, demonstrating partners' collective commitment to this strategic approach. Implementing a whole system approach involves different agencies aligning to invest in prevention and community-based alternatives where these offer better outcomes to the use of costly incarceration of women who present a low risk of harm.

An accompanying Annex holds more detail on current provision, an analysis of need, and potential areas for future work.

Following the launch of the Blueprint this Summer, an action plan will be developed within six months, through close engagement with key stakeholders including yourselves. This plan will be developed by a cross-sector delivery group, made up of the Blueprint's key signatories. I would very much wish for your organisation to be engaged in this delivery.

London is positioned to become a national leader in responding to women in contact with the criminal justice system, improving outcomes for families and the wider community in the capital. The partnership working in this space has been exceptional and we look forward to continuing to work together and building on what we have achieved so far.

I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sophie Linden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sophie Linden  
**Deputy Mayor for Policing And Crime**