

London's Voice: In Focus

MOPAC Public Attitude Survey
Quarter 2 2022-23

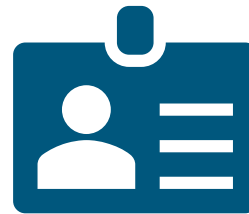
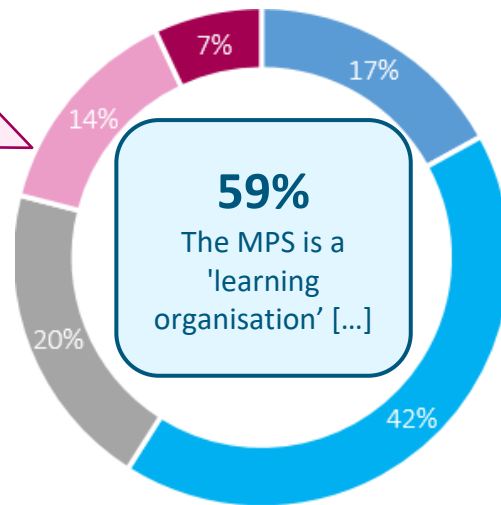
Londoners' perceptions around MPS accountability and standards

Londoners are divided in their perceptions of MPS work to improve accountability

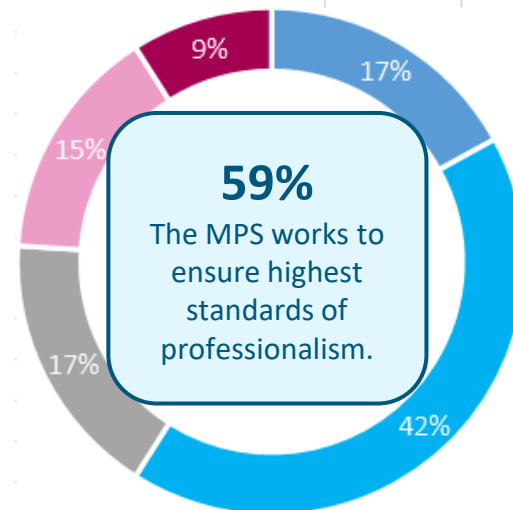
In Q2 22-23, PAS respondents were asked new questions that sought to understand their views of how the MPS is working to improve accountability and transparency. To this end, Londoners were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with two statements: that *'the MPS is a learning organisation that continually responds to feedback and seeks to develop its staff and officers'* and that *'the MPS works to ensure all its police officers adhere to the highest standards of professionalism'*.

Opinions for both measures were divided – 59% of Londoners agreed with each statement.

- Strongly Agree
- Tend to Agree
- Neither
- Tend to Disagree
- Strongly Disagree



Responses were closely interlinked. To illustrate, 86% of those believing the MPS is a learning organisation in turn also felt reassured that it works to ensure high standards of professionalism.



In addition, around one in ten Londoners said they **'do not know'** for each measure - perhaps highlighting some uncertainty around MPS processes.

Certain groups of Londoners were less likely to feel the MPS is working to improve accountability.

		The MPS is a 'learning organisation'	The MPS works to ensure highest standards of professionalism
Gender	Male	1%	2%
	Female	-1%	-1%
Age	16 to 24	-2%	-1%
	25 to 34	-4%	-2%
	35 to 64	1%	0%
	65+	5%	5%
Ethnicity	White British	-1%	-2%
	White Other	4%	6%
	Mixed	-15%	-20%
	Asian	7%	9%
	Black	-6%	-8%
	Other	5%	3%
LGBT+	Non-LGBT+	1%	2%
	LGBT+	-14%	-18%

Few gaps were seen here by Gender or Age. However, Londoners from **Mixed or Black Ethnic Backgrounds** – and those identifying as **LGBT+** - were *far less likely* to feel confident either that the MPS is a learning organisation or works to ensure high standards of professionalism.

Accountability is key for trust and confidence

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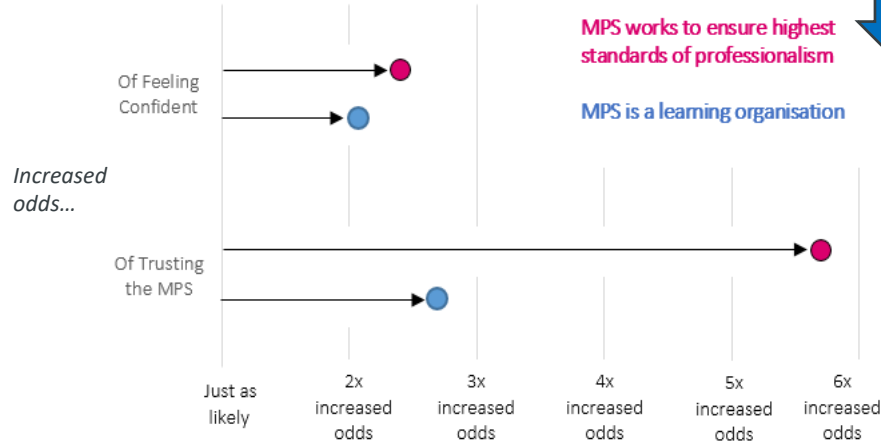
Londoners agreeing with these two statements were more likely to hold wider positive views of the police – including greater Trust and Confidence.

Controlling for individual demographics, feeling the MPS works to ensure high standards of professionalism appear particularly influential in shaping increased odds of trusting the MPS.

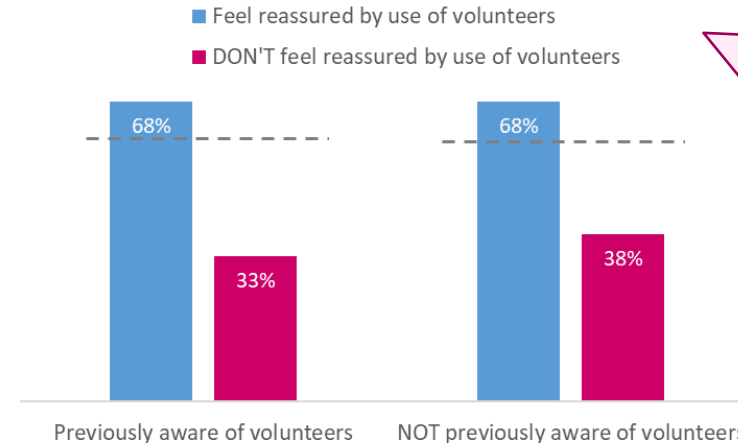
In practice: using community volunteers in police oversight

One initiative to help improve MPS accountability is to use community volunteers to provide independent scrutiny of police policies and procedures. The PAS asks Londoners whether they are aware of this programme of work, and whether the use of volunteers in this way helps to reassure them that police are held to account.

Importantly, no differences are seen for these measures between Londoners who are simply AWARE or NOT AWARE of this programme of work. Instead, judgements about HOW WELL such volunteers reassure them are far more influential here (see below**).



% believing MPS is a learning organisation



This reinforces the idea that public perceptions of MPS work to build accountability are closely linked with wider elements of police legitimacy.

This suggests awareness of such programmes of work in itself may not be enough to reassure the public that the MPS is working towards these goals – and that Londoners' understanding of the value of such programmes seems key.

*Results from two regression models predicting trust and confidence from two accountability measures, whilst controlling for demographics such as age, gender, ethnicity and LGBT+. **DON'T feel reassured refers to those disagreeing and neutral.