

KATE GREEN
**DEPUTY MAYOR
OF GREATER
MANCHESTER**

Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP
Secretary of State for the Home Department
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Date: 15th January 2025

Dear Home Secretary,

SUBJECT: Multi-agency responses to serious youth violence: working together to support and protect children

I write in response to the recent publication of the '*Multi-agency responses to serious youth violence: working together to support and protect children*' following the six joint targeted area inspections (JTAs) carried out between September 2023 and May 2024, of which Manchester was one.

I was pleased to see that the findings of the Manchester JTA in October 2023 were positive and praised in particular the robust multi-agency arrangements that are in place, the prominence and support for professionals to seek innovation and challenge and how key understanding the views and aspirations of children is in designing and delivering effective prevention and intervention. I know a robust action plan was put in place by Manchester City Council and partners following the inspection and I have full faith in those actions being delivered and continuing to improve the collective efforts to tackle youth violence.

Further, the repeated 'good practice' spotlight on the work of the GM Violence Reduction Unit is welcomed. Since the inception of the VRU in 2019, tens of thousands of young people and families have been supported through early intervention work, mentoring, and engagement in positive activity. The Greater than Violence Strategy, published in December 2023, commits to working together with individuals and communities to understand their strengths, challenges, and ideas to tackle violence. The strength of that approach is rightfully highlighted throughout the report and will continue to be the basis of our approach to Serious Youth Violence across Greater Manchester.

We are passionately committed to a community-led approach to violence reduction and including the voices of people with lived experience. We will continue to support Manchester City Council, as well as the other nine Greater Manchester Local Authorities to address the challenge serious youth violence presents and strive to make Greater Manchester a place free from violence.

Yours sincerely,



Kate Green
Deputy Mayor of Greater Manchester

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