

Independent Scrutiny & Oversight Board (ISOB) – Community Update

Meeting date: 20 November 2025

Chair: Jason Sinclair

Purpose of ISOB

The Independent Scrutiny & Oversight Board (ISOB) provides community-led challenge and oversight on policing areas that affect **trust, confidence, equality, legitimacy and public reassurance**.

What We Discussed

- Expected **Home Office White Paper** and the importance of maintaining stability and focus on community outcomes.
- **Local Government Review**, for governance consultation and planned “state of the nation” session.
- **Ethnicity data gaps** across serious youth violence, crime recording and use-of-powers, and development of a disproportionality dashboard.
- **Section 60 Stop & Search authorisations**, communication practices and areas for strengthening the feedback loop.
- **Hate crime trends**, including increases in race and religion-related incidents and mis-categorisation issues.
- Progress on **the Trust & Confidence Data (T&C) Framework**, including prioritisation and stakeholder engagement.
- **Recruitment & retention insights**, including risks relating to student officer leavers.

What ISOB Challenged or Questioned

- The consistency and transparency of **Section 60 communication** between LCU Commanders and community representatives.
- The high level of “not stated” ethnicity data, especially in youth violence datasets.
- How external community stakeholders will be identified and included in new data frameworks.
- The need for more detailed workforce data, including Regulation 13 leavers and real-number breakdowns.

Updates and Commitments from TVP / OPCC

- A **stability message** to be issued to Chairs and Community & Diversity Officers (CADOs) once the White Paper is released.
- ISOB to be directly involved in the development of the **disproportionality dashboard** and to meet with leads working on youth violence data.
- TVP to **improve guidance and consistency** around Section 60 communications.
- **Additional workforce data**, including retention details, to be shared as dashboards become available.
- Trust & Confidence Data Framework presentation and draft governance diagram shared with ISOB.

Key Messages for Our Communities

1. **Oversight:** ISOB is focused on ensuring stability, transparency and community reassurance during this period of national governance change.
2. **Impact:** Work remains underway to improve the quality of ethnicity data and strengthen scrutiny of Section 60 powers and youth violence outcomes.
3. **Involvement:** Community voices remain essential, and ISOB will play a key role in shaping tools that monitor fairness across policing.

How to Stay Involved

- Connect with your local **Community & Diversity Officer (CADO)**
- Attend or join your local **Independent Advisory Group (IAG)**
- **Follow OPCC updates** and take part in engagement opportunities

Next ISOB Meeting

29 January 2026