



Fairfield Independent Review: Survey privacy notice

We protect and respect your privacy. This privacy notice tells you why and how we will collect and use (process) any data you provide us as part of the survey.

Background

The Fairfield Independent Review is an independent review of the Metropolitan Police Service, looking at what progress the service has made since Baroness Casey's Review into the standards of behaviour and internal culture of the Metropolitan Police Service in 2023. Dr Gillian Fairfield has been appointed independent Chair of the Review which was announced on 17 December 2025 and opened opportunities for engagement in March 2026.

Part of this review involves engaging the general public (aged 18+) through a survey to understand the valuable views and experiences of as many Londoners as possible who have directly or indirectly experienced crime and policing in London.

You can read more about the Review on our [website](#). If you have any further questions about the Review, please contact: talktous@fairfield-independent-review.org.uk

If you have any questions about this privacy notice, including any requests to use your legal rights for your personal data, please contact: talktous@fairfield-independent-review.org.uk

Survey participation: your privacy

Your participation in this survey is anonymous, meaning it will not be linked to your personal identity. We do not collect your name, email address or any other information that could directly identify you.

By completing the survey, you are agreeing to the Review Team analysing your answers and using the anonymous findings in our report. **Because they are anonymous, we will not be able to delete your responses after you have submitted them.**



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When will your information be collected and what kind of information are we collecting?

If you take part in the survey, we may process the following personal and special category data about you, but only if you have chosen to answer the relevant questions. **You can select 'prefer not to say' for any question, and you can close the survey at any time.**

The demographic information (also referred to as 'special category data') we may collect includes age, disability, gender identity, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race (including colour, nationality, ethnicity or national origin, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, if you were born in the United Kingdom, and the London borough/BCU area where you live.

In terms of your views and experiences, we may ask about:

- Your thoughts/experiences/opinions about crime and policing in London
- Your experiences of contact with the Metropolitan Police Service (if applicable)
- Your perceptions of Met culture, standards and progress

Why are we collecting this data?

Demographic data (also referred to as 'special category data') is collected to make sure that those we hear from in the survey are representative of London, and that we are speaking to those from a wide range of backgrounds. This data also helps us understand if there are any similarities or differences between the views and experiences of those from similar or different backgrounds.

What will we do with your data?

The data collected will be used for this Review only. The survey results will be analysed to inform the findings of the review, alongside other types of engagement. As the survey is anonymous, it will not be possible to link the results to you as an individual.

We may include anonymised quotes from open-text responses in our report or other publications. Before you submit the survey, you will be asked whether you consent to anonymised quotes from your responses being used in this way. You can choose:

- **Yes** — you consent to anonymised quotes being used
- **No** — you do not consent to quotes being used (we will still analyse your responses but will not quote them directly)



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We will take extra care when presenting our findings to make sure that no one will be able to identify you. This includes:

- Reporting findings in aggregate (grouped) form
- Combining small categories where necessary to prevent identification
- Checking all quotes from open-text responses to ensure they contain no identifying information

We will keep your data only for as long as is needed to complete the relevant Review tasks, and your personal information will be securely deleted within six months of the Review ending.

Reports containing anonymised excerpts from submissions, which are not considered to be personal data, will be retained past this point.

What is the lawful basis for processing your data?

The lawful basis for the processing of your data as set out in UK GDPR is:

- **Consent (article 6(a)):** By completing and submitting the survey, you are giving consent for us to process your data for the purposes of this review.
- **Reasons of substantial public interest (article 9(2)(g)):** Collecting special category data (such as ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation and disability status) is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest, through understanding and improving how a public service operates

Who has access to your data?

Only the relevant and vetted members of the Review Team will have access to your data.

Neither the Metropolitan Police Service (Met or MPS) nor the London Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) will have access to this data.

What are your legal rights?

Because the survey is anonymous, we cannot link responses back to individuals. This means:

- We cannot provide you with a copy of your specific survey responses
- We cannot correct or delete your individual responses once submitted
- We cannot restrict processing of your specific data

However, you do have rights under data protection laws to:



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- **Not participate:** You can close the survey at any time before submitting it
- **Skip questions:** You can select 'prefer not to say' for any question other than an initial eligibility question which asks you to confirm if you live/have lived in London
- **You have a right to make a complaint** at any time to the Information Commissioner's Office (<https://ico.org.uk/>), the UK supervisory authority for data protection issues. We would, however, appreciate the chance to deal with your concerns before you approach the ICO so please consider contacting us first

If you want to request any of the above, please contact our Data Protection Officer (DPO): talktous@fairfield-independent-review.org.uk

Please also note that we can only respond to the above during the period for which we hold personal information that directly identifies you. If personal or special category data has been anonymised and has become part of the research data set, it will not be possible for us to action your request.

If you have any questions or concerns about the collection, use or disclosure of your personal information, please contact the Data Protection Officer on the contact details provided above.

Limits to confidentiality

While we will take all reasonable steps to protect your confidentiality, there are some circumstances where we may need to share information:

- **Safeguarding concerns:** If any of your free-text responses in the survey indicate that you or someone else is at risk of serious harm, we may need to share information with relevant authorities (e.g. Local Authority Safeguarding Team, police). However, because the survey is anonymous, we will not be able to contact you to discuss this or seek your consent before doing so. Where possible, we will only share the minimum information necessary to address the immediate risk.
- **Criminal activity:** If your open-text answers indicate ongoing criminal activity (including where you have named individuals such as police officers), we may be legally obliged to report this to appropriate authorities (e.g. Independent Office for Police Conduct, police professional standards). Because submissions are anonymous, we cannot seek your consent before sharing this information.
- **Court orders:** We may be required to disclose information if ordered to do so by a court.



Important: Because the survey is anonymous, if you include personal identifying information in free-text responses (such as names of individuals, specific dates, locations or unique circumstances), we cannot contact you to gain your consent before sharing information with relevant authorities where we have legal or ethical obligations to do so. This is why we strongly encourage you not to include identifying information in your survey response.

If we need to share information for any of these reasons, we will do so in accordance with our safeguarding and disclosure management protocols, sharing only the minimum information necessary and applying a stringent test that balances seriousness of concern, risk of harm, legal obligations and the need to maintain the review's independence.

Support services

If any questions in this survey affect you and you would like support, details of organisations who can help are provided at the end of the survey and on our [website](#).