Statement on the conviction of Simon Levy

Statement by AWRC (Asian Women's Resource Centre), 10 August 2026

Simon Levy, 40, has been convicted at the Old Bailey of murdering two women, Carmenza Valencia-Trujillo, 53, and Sheryl Wilkins, 39, and of raping and seriously assaulting a third woman who survived. The verdict was delivered 7 August 2026, sentencing due 12 August. He was also convicted of sexually assaulting ten women on London's Tube and rail network between October 2023 and May 2025. All three women he violently attacked were street sex workers, who are documented to face greater vulnerability to gendered violence.

In November 2024, Levy was arrested over four of the Tube assaults. A delay by the British Transport Police (BTP) in organising an identification parade meant he was released and remained free. While free, in January 2025, he raped and violently assaulted the woman who survived, in the same Tottenham car park where Sheryl Wilkins was later found dead. She disclosed to police that she had been a victim of trafficking. Levy was not arrested, and despite her disclosure of a serious crime, she was not formally interviewed. He went on to murder Carmenza Valencia-Trujillo in March 2025 and Sheryl Wilkins in August 2025.

Levy was not unknown to the criminal legal system. This was not his first offence. His history of violence against women stretches back to 2018, and includes an assault on a female prison officer in 2022 that carried no repercussions at the time. What does it mean that a violent assault on a serving officer produced no consequence, and no flag for the risk he went on to pose to women outside a prison's walls?

He was arrested and released on bail multiple times while allegations against him were under investigation, and each release was followed by escalation, from sexual assault, to rape, to murder. The Metropolitan Police, British Transport Police and Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) have all admitted failings. The CPS has confirmed that relevant bail information was not put before the court. But the question that arises here is, what was that information, and why was it withheld from the court whose job it was to weigh the risk he posed?

The IOPC has opened an investigation into the management of his case and served misconduct notices on two officers, while clarifying that this does not necessarily mean disciplinary action will follow. When misconduct is established and accountability remains optional, what

message does that convey to women, their families and broader society about the purpose of police and the criminal legal system?

AWRC (Asian Women's Resource Centre) sends our condolences to the families of Carmenza Valencia-Trujillo and Sheryl Wilkins, and extends solidarity to the survivor of Levy's violence. This is a systemic failure of policing that does not take violence against women seriously, compounded by institutional stigma against sex workers and women who use drugs, groups who face disproportionate risk of gendered violence and are routinely deprioritised by the systems that claim to protect them. These systems too often fail the women least likely to be believed: women with insecure immigration status, women who use drugs, women in the sex trade, and women who have learned that coming forward carries a risk of its own.

As a specialist by and for organisation working with BME women, we recognise this pattern: institutional neglect, racism and misogyny lead to fear and distrust that act as barriers to women who wish to seek support and redress. This is why many survivors choose to approach specialist by and for organisations first - they may feel safer, more comfortable and trusted, instead of reporting to the police.

We do not want apologies for mistakes that have cost women their lives. We want accountability, and a system that protects women the first time they come forward, not the fourth. Specialist officers are now deployed across Haringey and Enfield to protect people involved in street-based sex work. This could be the right step, but only if matched by rigorous trauma-informed training from organisations working directly with sex workers and women who use drugs, without which it risks becoming another symbolic gesture. Street-based sex workers are estimated to be at least twelve times more likely to be murdered than the average woman, a disparity documented in UK research for decades. As a VAWG organisation, we stress that the criminal legal system must extend protection to all women facing violence, not only those it considers ‘deserving’ victims.