



HILLINGDON

LONDON

Safer Neighbourhood Board Meeting September 3, 2024 Committee Room 3 – Civic Centre MINUTES

Present:

(JH) Jean Hillman,	Chair
(DC) Donna Cooper	LBH Community Safety
(DL) Dave Ludlow	Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch
(KM) Kevin Mepham	Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch
(PT) Det Superintendent Pete Thackray	Metropolitan Police
(BW) Chief Inspector Ben Wright	Metropolitan Police
(SG) Suresh Gupta	Lay Member
(HL) Hoda Lacey	Lay Member
(ML) Malcolm Lucas	IAG (Independent Advisory Group)
(CB) Chris Beatty	Age UK
(GS) George Sommerville	Hillingdon Youth Council

Apologies:

(DL) Inspector.Dan Lipinski	Metropolitan Police
(CH) Chris Head	Lay Member
(MC) Mike Crane	BID Manager. LBH
(CT) Chris Tarr	Lay Member
(MW) Mark Wolski	LBH Head Community Safety
(SF) Inspector Sarah Fox	Metropolitan Police
(CS) Colleen Sullivan	Councillor, LBH
(PS) Peter Smallwood	Councillor, LBH
(JS) Jeremy Stern	Lay Member

Item
Minutes from the last meeting 4 June 2024: The minutes were agreed and noted, with no amendments.
Chair's Quarterly Report London Assembly Police & Crime Committee (LA P&CC)

JH attended via webcam a meeting of the above Committee on 17th July 2024 following confirmation of Sophie Linden as Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime in June. The Committee expressed its disappointment that no representative from the Met was available as many of the questions raised by the Board members could only really be answered by the Met and not Sophie Linden. However, matters concerning public order policing, hate crime, violent crime including violence against women and girls were raised. The Deputy Mayor emphasised the work being done by the Violence Reduction Unit originally set up by the Mayor and this is being continued as well as funds being used to start more localised Units in difficult areas. She was unable to answer queries about the new neighbourhood policing strategy which is now part of the Met Police Commissioner's promise for London wards. She also confirmed that senior police officers attended the new London Policing Board to update the members on progress.

Met CC Forum

Following changes in senior Officers at Met CC there has been a considerable delay in Forum meetings. However, a meeting has now been finalised for 18th September 2024 and JH is hoping to be able to attend via MS Teams as the meeting will be held in south London which makes the journey there and back virtually impossible from Hillingdon and JH does not feel safe particularly when travelling at night on the Tube. It appears the Met want to change the make-up of the Forum, thus more or less ignoring the original membership of Chairs of all the London borough SNBs and IAGs (Independent Advisory Group).

London Communities Policing Partnership (LCP2)

Due to change of Officers for the Partnership and various difficulties in arranging a suitable venue plus online arrangements, no meeting of the LCP2 Board has been held so far in 2024. It is hopeful that a meeting will be held during the next three months.

Safer Hillingdon Partnership Board

JH attended a meeting of the above Board on 12th June 2024. Det. Supt. Thackray updated the Board on progress. Hillingdon now has three Inspectors covering the North, South and Central areas of the Borough which has enabled much improved supervision of the Wards together with Sergeants now covering two Wards instead of at least three or four in the past. In general, performance figures are good, and crime levels have decreased over the Borough. The Probation update following changes in procedure show that numbers leaving prison without probation follow up have increased but prisoners can still be recalled to prison if they are arrested and have breached their licence conditions. The policy changes are permanent and will be reviewed nationally. Probation is working with Police and MOPAC (Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime) (Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime) (Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime) to monitor the situation. The Hillingdon draft Crime & Disorder Public Survey was reviewed by the Board. It is proposed to send this to residents via email and other ways to make contact were discussed as there are still many

residents who do not use or have email together with queries regarding the inclusion of children in the survey.

MPS (Metropolitan Police Service) Quarterly Performance Report/Stop & Search Update

Update provided by Chief Inspector Ben Wright:

Key issues:

Disorder – not significant in Hillingdon but wider response did have a significant impact across police resources in the borough. Police would like to increase level 2 capacity (local officers with enhanced riot training).

Prisoner Release – Overcrowding in prisons is not a new issue, however anyone deemed not a high risk used to have to serve 50% time served, it is now being brought down to 40% this will mean an increase in people being released early and this could pose a risk. Probation have already raised concern they will not be able to monitor and cope with additional demand on service. This will cause an increase in police workload as they will have to keep putting the same people before the courts.

Court Backlogs – Exist currently at 2-year backlog, therefore police are chasing same people to put them through the court process however they will keep reoffending whilst on bail and this causes a huge pressure and demand on police.

Israel/Hamas Conflict – Continuing demand on police resource. Policing plan is in place and a great amount of work is being done with local religious sites and leaders. Reassurance patrols are regularly conducted, and anything related to this is being robustly investigated and managed. There has been some valuable feedback from the local communities, who remain happy with police response. Regular patrols are made and will continue 24/7 ongoing until a more peaceful time resumes.

Immigration – Pre the Rwanda scheme there was a lot of work done by police to plan for this. There continues to be good working relationships with hotels and Colne Brook Immigration Centre. This causes a large demand on police resource due to the elevated levels of crime being reported and other incidents that need a police response.

Resourcing and Capacity – Police are still struggling to recruit and retain staff; however, the deficit is getting smaller. This is still posing a lot of challenges. Locally we are running on minimum staffing levels, which are heavily affected by central abstractions for aid. All of this contributes to the larger policing picture.

Fleet – The new contract was commissioned however the company assigned went bankrupt and the Met has had to bring this back in house. The good

thing is that this has gone quite well, fleet availability is high, and response times remain good.

JH – would like to see a national campaign of crime awareness, making people aware of what they can do to try to prevent crime from happening by taking more responsibility for themselves and their possessions.

HL – Expressed that it would be useful to have police in schools providing this education piece.

BW – Confirmed that police do as much work as they can in schools, they do a lot with Y6/Y7 to start the conversation early. Schemes such as 'Your Life you Choose' and 'Junior Citizens' are police training events which are taken into primary schools to raise awareness with children at times of key development and transition stages. Secondary schools have police liaison links who are used provide education and support

Figures for last 4 weeks: 29/7/24 to 25/8/24 (Figures below are year on year comparison)

Robbery – 29.5% Increase (one person arrested for multiple offences)

Theft person – 120% Increase

Residential Burglary – 0.96% Decrease

Theft of motor vehicle – 21.0% Increase

Theft from motor vehicle – 10.9% Increase

Vehicle Interference – 25.2% Increase

Aggravated taking of motor vehicle – 20% Decrease

Homicide – 75% Decrease

VAWG (violence against women and girls) - No data captured due to new system

Violence with injury - 9.5% Decrease

Hate Crime (ex DA) - No data captured due to new system

LBD - No Change

Knife Crime - 17.4% Increase

Knife Robbery enabled (ex DA) - 51.1.0% Increase

Range Rovers and Mercedes Sprinters have been identified as targeted vehicles for Theft of MV

Stop and Search is lower than in previous years this is due to officers only using if there are extremely strong grounds. It is no longer used as a deterrent.

BW produced a crime by ward slide, Uxbridge is the highest crime generator statistically.

The Board would like to have the figures prior to the meeting, however there is no authorisation to share, however BW is happy to discuss them in detail at the meeting.

MOPAC (Mayor s Office for Policing and Crime) Funding and Finance:

DC presented and confirmed that the MOPAC funds had now been received by the Council and the projects had been updated. The projects will now be able to start planning and delivery of the projects and will be required to report back each quarter so that progress can be shared with the Board.

2024/25

Amount of grant awarded to the SNB: £20,146.00
LBH/Admin: £5,200.00
Remaining Allocation: **£14946.00**

Funding Allocation:

Project

- Growing Against Violence Yrs5/6 £2660
- 2020 Dreams Workshops Knife £3580
- 2020 Dreams Workshops VAWG £2685
- YMCA Free Football £4000
- ProjectConfidence,SelfDefence £2021

Membership:

There are two potential new members, unfortunately neither of them was able to attend. JH would like to see representation from the South of the Borough. The SNB is not open to all ward panel chairs, they have to be invited to the meeting.

Ward Panels

JH's ward panel (Yiewsley and West Drayton) has restarted, and a venue has been found that is not connected to a Church and is therefore more appropriate. There is no chair currently, therefore JH is filling this position for the interim period. Ward panels need to be better publicised to increase membership, the ones that are running are generally attended by a regular cohort and it would be good to encourage new members.

Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch Report

Update provided by Dave Ludlow Chair, Hillingdon NHW

Membership

Membership of Hillingdon NHW on OWL (Online Watch Link) is 17,957 (was 17,889) to the end of Aug (+68 members since May). The number of postcode areas with at least one NHW member is 3,192 (was 3,184) (+8 new Watches). Membership of CCTV Watch is 1,986 (was 1,968) (+18 new locations). Business Watch membership remains static at 91 (was 91) (+0 new members).

OWL Funding and Contract.

OWL funding from MOPAC expires end of October 2024. No other information has been conveyed to Hillingdon NHW. If OWL continues then straightforward; but a change of system would now be incredibly tight.

JH is in contact with MOPAC to try and find an answer to what will happen to OWL once the contract ends.

KM and DL are both signed up and have done the training for the national model. BW is trying to raise awareness at senior level for more NHW Coordinators to better facilitate the process.

New Met for London Event - Tuesday 25 June 2024 at The Compass Theatre

DL attended this event on behalf of Hillingdon NHW. There was a fair turnout, the presentations were informative, and we had some good questions from the audience. Key points that come out of these meetings are the status of recruitment, the areas of crime that give rise to the biggest challenges, and the priorities at BCU (Basic Command Unit) level. One point of feedback was for all presenters to use the microphone, which was poorly sited to one side of the stage and hence not deployed.

Neighbourhood Watch Network

As previously reported, we registered Hillingdon NHW as an "Association" with the National Neighbourhood Watch Network ("NWN"). KM and DL have since met with their representatives in London to discuss publicity materials which we will have access to.

Events

We continue to promote NHW at as many events as we can manage to attend:

- 10 Aug Pinkwell event (Waseem – Pinkwell Member)
- 08 Aug Discussions with Northwood NHW local members (KM)
- 14 Aug Street Meeting for RAF – ASB (Antisocial Behaviour) being the main issue (KM)
- 21 Aug Trenchard Ave Ruislip - Street meeting (KM)
- 17 Sep Link event with RAF estate – NHW hopefully presenting (KM)

Again, we would appeal for information on future events. For 2025 we currently have:

- 7 Jun Mayor's "Picnic in the Park"

A resident wrote in to commend PC Derek Frempong for the good work he does in the community.

Hillingdon Youth Council.

GS mentioned that awareness coming from someone who had lived experience was much better at delivering the message to younger people, than police or people in authority delivering the information.

Youth forum is held for 11- to 24-year-olds and they do a lot of youth work. There is now a new team, who collaborate with other groups and are officially part of the National Youth Agency. Make your Mark, was a national referendum from which the priorities were decided as:

- Crime and Safety.
- Health and Wellbeing
- Nationally Health and Wellbeing (8th time)

GS said they want to concentrate on crime and safety, including workshops in local schools and also events to promote police activity and want to do an exercise in trust between police and young people. As part of his duties GS will be attending two appointments:

- Oct attending Warwick Community – To discuss what he has been doing in Hillingdon and sharing this with other members of Youth Councils.
- Nov - presenting the findings from the conference in the House of Commons

GS said that the Youth Council do most of their communications via social media, however, has experienced problems with LBH Comms Team – saying that they are not acting quickly enough, which is not something other councils experience. They would like to recruit more members and do engagement events, but they feel the LBH Comms response causes delays which are not helpful. They are currently hoping to have something published in the Hillingdon People.

The LEAP is an email sent to all secondary heads in the borough and but there are frustrations with recruiting and school secretaries often do not pass this email to heads in time.

“Your voice our community” was the last project the Youth Council did, which was funded by The Mayor of London and an external company, this project focused on MH. Some money for the event was provided by the council, but not a lot and just covered refreshments (approx. £30) They did have an LBH staff member who provided support.

JH – Has said that the Board would welcome a proposal from the Youth Council to see if the SNB can support via funding any projects or initiatives in the future.

BW – Also extended an offer to GS.

GS was elected and takes his responsibility seriously. He would like to do something in relation to ASB and knife crime, stating that the youth get the blame for a lot of these issues, but they are also afraid in the community.

86% of student that are excluded from school turn to crime and the alternative schools they are sent to are not good because then they are mixing with

	<p>others who do the same thing. A lot of kids carry weapons out of fear or to protect themselves. It's better to hear talks from people who have been involved in things like this as they know the truth and it's better to hear the message this way, it's not as beneficial to hear it from the police or teachers.</p>
	<p>Councillor Report No representation present for this meeting.</p>
	<p>Age UK: The person who collates the data has just resigned so there is nothing to feedback, the service is still running, however lack of funding has had a huge impact. They used to be grant funded, but this has now stopped. JH – still has two clients, that she supports.</p>
	<p>AOB Next meeting: December 3, 2024, at the Civic Centre, Committee Room 3 from 7pm to 9pm.</p>