

SNB (Safer Neighbourhood Board) Meeting 6 June 2023 Committee Room 3 – Civic Centre MINUTES

1) Present:

- (JH)) Jean Hillman, Chair
- (DC) Donna Cooper LBH Community Safety
- (CS) Colleen Sullivan, Councillor, LBH
- (DL) Dave Ludlow Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch
- (KM) Kevin Mepham Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch
- (MC) Mike Crane BID Manager
- (HL) Hoda Lacey Lay Member
- (JMG) James McGahan A/Inspector, Metropolitan Police
- (PS) Peter Smallwood Councillor, LBH
- (CB) Chris Beatty Age UK
- (AB) Superintendent Anthony Bennett, Metropolitan Police
- (BW) Chief Inspector Ben Wright, Metropolitan Police

Apologies:

- (CH) Chris Head Lay Member
- (DB) Dylan Brown Hillingdon Youth Council
- (DL) Inspector Dan Lipinski Metropolitan Police

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-	3	Minutes from the last meeting 28 February 2023:	
		The minutes were agreed and noted, with no amendments.	
•	4	Chairs Report	
		Met CC (MPS Control Command) Forum	
		I attended a meeting of Met CC on 15 th May 2023 at which response times for the various BCUs and individual boroughs were presented.	

Unfortunately, the usual statistics had not been provided by the Met and it was agreed that Bob Hodgson (Chair of the Forum) would write to the new BCU Commander requesting attendance of a senior officer together with the up-to-date stats at the next meeting. The stats to May 2023 were supplied following the meeting and distributed to the Forum members.

Response times are still disappointing for Hillingdon but those in respect of DA calls have improved.

I attended an online meeting when the Commissioner's Turnaround Plan was presented with key emphasis on neighbourhood policing and gaining trust and confidence in the Met after a very difficult period.

More Trust Less Crime High Standards

There will be one Superintendent appointed in each borough with responsibility for local neighbourhood policing. There are more PCSOs being trained and eventually more PCs to add to neighbourhood policing numbers.

I also attended a meeting of the Safer Hillingdon Partnership Board at which the situation with MOPAC funding for various projects was discussed together with extra training and support regarding hate (racist) crime. Online problems were discussed as the Online Reform Bill will be going through the Parliamentary process. It was confirmed that Supt Bennett will be responsible for Hillingdon's neighbourhood policing. Richard Webb has been appointed as Director for the Community Safety Team and will be in place in May 2023.

London Communities Policing Partnership (LPC2)

I attended an LPC2 meeting online at which the Turnaround Plan was discussed together with the aim to implement a much-improved neighbourhood policing plan. There will be 32 new Superintendents, one for each of the Boroughs within the BCUs. There was no news about MOPAC funding. Chris Benson (our contact at MOPAC) has retired and his replacement has not yet been appointed. The Black Thrive/PSI survey put in place by MOPAC in relation to policing in London was discussed and it was felt that it did not seem to appreciate the various actual problems within each different borough and was mainly concentrating on Inner London with very little reference to the Outer London boroughs.

I linked into the London Assembly Policing and Crime Committee meeting at which Baroness Casey discussed her report on policing within the Met.

I attended online a Baroness Casey Review meeting at which several members of the various communities within London were present. Open and closed discussions were held in the meeting and online we had an opportunity to put our views forward. There was general disappointment that it appears

that not much has changed in the years since the death of Stephen Lawrence although Baroness Casey is a supporter of the Met and is very hopeful that things will improve following the publication of the new Commissioner's Turnaround Plan which does address many of the inherent problems within the organisation.

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

JH requested specific figures per ward rather than collective as a borough and definitive stats of specific crimes. JMG stated the specific crime breakdown in ward panel would be difficult at present.. However, if officers recognise a trend of crimes being recorded these could be highlighted to the necessary wards.

JMG stated the stats may differ slightly due to the ward boundary changes. However, there is a clear 2 % increase across the borough in the past 12 months and the percentage figures provide a clearer representation of each ward.

Heathrow Villages has had a significant increase in their figures but upon further inspection it would appear this has been caused by the immigration removal centre and the detainees reporting them being victims of crime. Additionally, the hotels in this area are used more frequently during the holiday period with people both visiting and leaving the UK.

The Met Police website was mentioned as a useful tool for residents to use and view crime stats for their ward.

Violence against women and girls' walks will continue, at least twice a month.

'S Grade' performance response time (should be responded within 1 hour) was on an increase at the beginning of 2023 but this has now decreased again, and figures are below satisfactory.

Stop and Search Figures

-38.1% reduction in stops however a 29% increase in positive outcomes – possible change in stats could be due to officers completing better quality reports rather than a higher quantity of poor searches.

There is an improvement of supervision by managers due to body worn footage being watched (dip sample) and feedback being given to officers when necessary.

Ethnicity stats have also been included in the figures provided which shows a demographic profile of the areas where stop and searches have been completed.

Violence against others remains a priority for the BCU.

Ongoing enquires regarding the two murder investigations; further information will be shared when available.

6 MOPAC Funding

Safer Hillingdon Partnership Board meeting to discuss funding for various projects within SNB and LBH Council. SNB Project money is confirmed, approx. £16,000.

Previous projects being collated along with new project submissions. There is the possibility of additional money being available therefore if any new projects are welcomed.

Funding for Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch / OWL has been granted again for another year.

Projects from 2022 – 2023 have all now been completed.

MOPAC allocated £20,146 and £10,700 was spent by the projects.

Admin fees of £5,200

Unfortunately, one project was unable to go ahead due to operational difficulties; therefore, there is an outstanding balance of £4245,61 that MOPAC can request to be returned.

Historically MOPAC have not asked for outstanding funds to be returned and we have held onto it for spending elsewhere.

Four Projects for period of 2022-2023:

1. Project Confidence (self-defence)

Allocated £3500 but managed to secure additional funding due to the project being such a success. This project also receives direct funding from MOPAC outside the SNB forum. Officer who co-ordinates this project has been encouraged to apply for the full £5000 funding as this could support extra classes being run in different locations.

2. Engineering for Kids (robotics course)

Working with pupils in the pupil referral units to give them ideas of diversionary tactics and build skills. A few problems with fulfilling the funding but was allocated £1,750 and had an underspend of £175.00.

3. YMCA Football Botwell, Hayes

This is an ongoing project that has been running for a number of years. Funding request remains the same at £5000. This project has supported numerous children in the Hayes area and is one of the most successful projects in Hillingdon funded by MOPAC.

4. Cut to the Chase and Street Doctors

This project was unable to go ahead, sessions had been pre-arranged, but they were outside the set cutoff date. Donna Cooper will be submitting a form to MOPAC explaining the reasons why and this will determine if MOPAC requests the funding to be returned or if it can be kept and be used for this project in the future.

Donna Cooper has already received 5 project applications which are to be shared with the SNB for review.

Funding has been approved again for this year (2023-2024) - £20,146 minus the £5200 admin fees.

7 Membership

People can apply to be a member of the board via the Hillingdon Council website.

There have been a number of new applications; however, these could not be reviewed prior to the meeting but will be completed in time for the September 2023 meeting.

8 Ward Panels

JH will contact the chairs of the ward panels for updates following the change in boundaries.

Request for a joint meeting to be arranged by the Police Neighbourhood Inspector for all Ward Panel Chairs. The aim of the meeting would be to discuss how to effectively run a panel meeting and discuss suggestions for improvements.

There are some wards without a Chair, nominations were requested but there have been no volunteers.

Police stated that they would like to review the agendas for the meetings to ensure they reflect the changes in Neighbourhood Policing.

Feedback from residents would be helpful.

Ward Panel Handbook and MPS Ward Panel Framework are available to view.

9 Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch/OWL

The next Neighbourhood Watch meeting will take place in July. There is still a vacant position for a secretary. There is currently an active recruitment drive to fill this position along with additional members.

May 2023 marked 5 years since the beginning of OWL. There are 17,580 members of which 14.9% residents are contactable.

There are currently 1826 members of the CCTV watch which are residents who have declared they have CCTV outside their property.

There is an unofficial target set for membership to reach 20,000 residents (no end date).

Residents in Eastcote and Northwood are currently being encouraged to sign up and increase numbers in those areas.

Business watch has increased and continues to be promoted to other businesses in all wards.

MOPAC funding for OWL has been secured for another year.

Thanks were given to Councillors Peter and Councillor Lavery

OWL messaging from police – can officers ensure they are selecting the 'Neighbourhood Watch' group when posting a message to ensure it is seen by all messages as currently only a few hundred members are being notified.

Feedback from residents asking that when police post messages regarding crime, can they send the message to the entire ward rather than a select area.

OWL volunteers are happy to attend community events and provide presentations etc and continue to promote their work.

10 Hillingdon Youth Council

No representative to provide update.

11 Finance

Finance and budgets etc have already been discussed, as above.

The SNB only receives funding from MOPAC and receives no other assistance with the projects it supports to help young persons in Hillingdon Borough.

12 Councillor Report

Information regarding OWL metrics and a Neighbourhood Watch report were requested. This data is still recorded but has not been shared recently due to their not being a secretary in position.

An article will be printed in the People Magazine to promote ward panels and provide more information to residents.

Councillors are currently holding discussions about how best to share information with residents about ward panels, what they are, how they help and how get more residents involved. Positive feedback/outcome from last meeting.

Another suggestion was made to change the name of 'Ward Panel meetings.

13 Age UK

Very busy. Recruiting neighbourhood friends to encourage clients to leave the house, walking to the post box, riding the bus etc. There have been a number of cases surrounding neglect and people being discharged from hospital without the necessary care.

However, despite the above the service continues to improve.

14 AOB

None

Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 5 September 2023 Committee Room 3, Civic Centre