

# SNB (Safer Neighbourhood Board) Meeting March 4, 2025

# **Committee Room 3 - Civic Centre**

## **MINUTES**

#### **Present:**

(JH)) Jean Hillman, SNB Chair

(DC) Donna Cooper LBH Community Safety

(DL) Dave Ludlow Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch

(KM) Kevin Mepham Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch

(CH) Chris Head Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch

(PT) Superintendent Pete Thackray Metropolitan Police

(BW) Chief Inspector Ben Wright Metropolitan Police

(DMcC) Insp David McCarthy Metropolitan Police

(HL) Hoda Lacey Lay Member

(JS) Jeremy Stern\* Lay Member

(LH) Lana Hormiz Hillingdon Youth Council Worker

(GS) George Summerville Hillingdon Youth Council

(PS) Peter Smallwood Councillor, LBH

(CB) Chris Beatty Age UK

# **Apologies:**

(CS) Colleen Sullivan Councillor, LBH

(MC) Mike Crane BID Manager

Item

# Minutes from the last meeting 3 December 2024:

The minutes were agreed and noted, with no amendments.

Actions from last meeting:

**ACTION:** DL to share report and figures for Action Fraud with SG - COMPLETED

**ACTION:** Chief Inspector BW to feedback to the Ward Sergeants – the request from Cllr Sullivan for more information about surgeries, including more evening and weekend surgeries to make them available to those who work during the day - **COMPLETED** 

## Chair's Quarterly Report - Jean Hillman

# London Assembly Police & Crime Committee (LA P&CC)

JH attended several meetings via the webcam: the last meeting was attended by Sir Mark Rowley, Commissioner of the Met. The Committee was very pleased to welcome Sir Mark and most of the questioning was directed to him rather than the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime. Sir Mark said that the Met was not happy about the Judge's ruling regarding the ability to discharge officers immediately upon conviction. He is of the opinion that this severely curtails the ability of the service to maintain proper discipline within the workforce. However, he confirmed that policing public order does take up many officers most weekends with various protest marches in the centre of London. Unfortunately, these deployments do mean that the number of police on the boroughs at these times are depleted. Until the recruitment numbers are up this will always be the case. Th overall budget for the Met has still not been confirmed, and he is waiting for confirmation from the Mayor and the Home Office.

## London Communities Policing Partnership (LCP2)

Unfortunately, a meeting of the LCP2 has still not taken place although the Steering Committee has met with the police at Scotland Yard regarding making the necessary arrangements; i.e. venue, date, etc.

## Met CC (Community Forum)

JH attended (online) meeting of the forum. The Met explained that there had been problems with the new system, Connect, and a lot of stats were not available. However, it was confirmed that recruitment was good, and training was ongoing. Stats did show response times were improving although individual figures for each BCU and Boroughs were still not ready for presentation.

## Met Community Engagement

JH attended meetings online set up by the Met Community Engagement Unit regarding replacement for the now defunct OWL system with a new Met wide messaging platform. The reason for the meetings was to try and find a name for the platform. We discussed various suggestions but eventually agreement has settled on two alternatives, Met Local and Met Engage. A further meeting will be held shortly to make a final decision. This platform will be available to all boroughs but unlike OWL residents will not be able to input information – it is only for Met officers to put out good news and other useful information. The Met are planning for summer roll out.

# Safer Hillingdon Partnership Board (SHP)

JH attended (online) a meeting of the SHP Board. Discussion regarding the new Hillingdon Plan continued and it was generally agreed. The Plan will now go to the various senior directors before being put to the Council.

#### MOPAC/SNB

JH attended an online meeting arranged by MOPAC which was to update SNBs on funding and projects in general. There was good participation and discussion on what various SNBs are doing with the funding and how we should progress in the future. Funding will remain the same as last year. Some Chairs gave short presentations of good news projects, and I gave details of Project Confidence (self-defence sessions organised by PC Rice) to the group.

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

## Update provided by CI Ben Wright:

**Budget Cuts:** 400-million-pound deficit, recruitment has stopped, therefore severely understaffed. Now moving to prioritisation and some services will drop off. Tough choices programme – looking to utilise resources as best as possible.

**Prisoner Releases:** Re-arresting people who have been let out early. Reoffenders have caused additional stress on service and continue to do so.

**Heathrow Figures:** This is now due to be fixed, and the Heathrow Crime figures will be split from next year. This year however it will show an increase, this is due to the new connect system.

Figures for last 4 weeks: 30/12/24 - 26/01/25

Robbery – 30.2% increase

Theft person – 142.9% increase

Residential Burglary – 9.2% increase

Theft of motor vehicle – 22.0% increase

Theft from motor vehicle – 6.8% decrease

Vehicle Interference – 5.1% decrease

Shoplifting – 68.1% increase

Business Robbery – 126.0ease

Hate Crime – 12.7% decrease

Homicide – 75.0% decrease

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

Violence with injury – 9.6% decrease

Modern Slavery -

IIOC - 7.0% decrease

LBD - 100% increase

Possession of weapons – 4.9% increase

## Response Codes:

I GRADE calls – 2.5% decrease

DA I GRADE calls – 12.2% decrease

S GRADE calls – 7.1% increase

I= Immediate (within 15 minutes)

S= Standard (within 1 hour)

Stop and Search – positive outcome rate 35.2%, mostly caught on BWV so complaints can be reviewed transparently. We are stopping the correct people which is shown by the figure above.

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

DC presented and confirmed that the MOPAC funds for 2025/26 have been agreed and will remain the same as last year. The deadline for all new project submissions is **28 April 2025**, MOPAC have stipulated that no applications will be considered after this time.

#### 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

YMCA is a rolling project and has a high reach of youth engagement (although they are struggling to encourage female players to participate).

Project Confidence is on track to complete all their sessions and feedback remains positive and the classes are in demand. There has been a change with the instructor who has closed his business account and so if the sessions are to continue, he will need to be set up on LBH systems as a new supplier.

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Not discussed.

#### Ward Panels

Not Discussed.

# Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch Report

OWL Metrics presentation sent separately to minutes.

# Update provided by Dave Ludlow Chair and Kevin Mepham, Hillingdon NHW

Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch Report to SNB – 4 Mar 2025 A 5-minute presentation will be given at the SNB meeting and the material made available afterwards, hence this report is a summary.

OWL switched off in October 2024, however HNW managed to get 28% of people to come across, we now have 32.8%. Hillingdon have 5190 members and are ahead of other London Boroughs with Bromley being second at 2179. Ealing have 799 and Hounslow 741. West Area has the highest number of members in London with 6730, second is the South Area with 3663 members.

1. National Neighbourhood Watch Network (NWN) Hillingdon

NHW is now using the National NWN System. We have had several online meetings with the National team. A short presentation will be given at the meeting to show full membership metrics

## 2. Funding

We are currently in the funding cycle to determine our grant for 2025-26 London Borough of Hillingdon is managing the funding application through MOPAC. All information requested by LBH to date has been submitted

3. New Met for London Event

Dave, Kev and Brian attended this event at the Leonardo hotel, Heathrow. Dave spoke at the event at the request of the police, which was appreciated. Kev and Brian offered advice and membership to attendees throughout the evening. We are keen to attend the final event (believed ~July; the March event is youthtargeted)

# 4. Other Events

We continue to promote NHW at as many events as we can manage to attend – we have attended several in the past few months, and the following are in our calendar:

07 Jun Mayor's "Picnic in the Park"

07 Jun Eastcote House Fete

We continue to invite information on other future events, and attendance by Hillingdon NHW continues to be based on the availability of a Team Member to cover.

## Hillingdon Youth Council.

George sat in House of Commons, filmed by Mr Speaker and manifesto produced created:

On Friday, 28th Feb, G had the incredible opportunity to attend the Annual UK Youth Parliament House of Commons sitting - a momentous event where young voices take center stage in one of the most iconic debating chambers in the world. Hillingdon was represented by MYP G, who joined fellow Members of Youth Parliament (MYPs) from across the UK to debate and vote on the top youth issues for 2025.

Inside the Commons, MYPs debated 5 key topics from the new UK Youth Parliament manifesto, which were:

- Lowering the voting age to 16, alongside improved political education in schools
- Raising the National Minimum Wage for under 22s to match the National Living Wage
- Making public transport free for all young people
- Ensuring all young people receive high-quality political literacy education across schools
- Tackling period poverty by providing free, high-quality period products in public spaces

After much debate, MYPs voted for their two priority campaigns for 2025, which were:

- Lowering the voting age to 16
- Tackling period poverty

both crucial steps towards a fairer, and more inclusive future for young people.

Lana gave an update:

## Project Development & Funding Application

We have now submitted a funding application for £10,000 to support this project. The funding would allow us to:

- Run holiday camps and after-school skill workshops in areas such as beauty, digital art, sports coaching, and music. These are designed to provide young people—particularly those at risk or not in education, employment, or training (NEET)—with constructive opportunities that keep them engaged and away from crime.
- Create and deliver digital youth-led training for professionals, featuring real-life experiences, testimonials, and interactive content on issues such as child criminal exploitation, gang involvement, and school exclusions. This training will be designed and led by young people, ensuring that professionals—whether teachers, youth workers, or police—better understand the realities young people face and improve how they engage with them.
- Provide financial incentives for young people with lived experience to share their stories and contribute to the training, ensuring authentic and impactful content.

Our goal is to **reduce youth involvement in crime and antisocial behavior** by providing structured, positive alternatives while also improving how professionals engage with young people.

## Collaboration with the Making Hayes Safer Group

A new and exciting development is our collaboration with the **Making Hayes Safer** group, a project led by the Children's Participation Team. This initiative emerged from focus groups we ran with students from various schools in Hayes, where we gathered first-hand insights into their safety concerns and experiences.

Through this research, young people identified both **safe** and **unsafe** places in their communities, provided feedback on services like the police and social workers, and shared ideas for crime prevention. The findings showed that:

 Hayes Town and alleyways were repeatedly mentioned as unsafe areas, with young people expressing concerns about crime and a lack of police presence.

- Youth-police relationships are poor, with many young people feeling that the police do not care about their safety or concerns.
- There is a need for better-lit streets, more youth engagement opportunities, and positive role models to guide young people toward safer choices.

As a result, we now have funding to set up the **Making Hayes Safer** group, where young people will continue to develop and act on these findings. Hillingdon Youth Council will work closely with this group to ensure that the voices of young people directly influence our Crime & Safety project.

## Next Steps & Long-Term Vision

With the right support and funding, we can ensure that this project has a lasting impact. We aim to:

- Expand the **youth-led training program** so that professionals working with young people have a better understanding of their experiences and needs.
- Develop structured holiday and after-school engagement programs that provide safe, skill-building spaces for young people.
- Strengthen **community partnerships**, ensuring that young people's voices are at the heart of crime prevention efforts in Hillingdon.

Ultimately, this project is not just about preventing crime—it's about empowering young people, creating opportunities, and ensuring that they feel safe, supported, and heard in their own communities.

Councillor Report: Not Discussed

# Age UK:

Now service provision

# AOB

Next meeting: June 10, 2025, at the Civic Centre, Committee Room 3 from 7pm to 9pm.

2025 Meetings:

16 September

16 December

All held at the Civic Centre, Committee Room 3 from 7pm to 9pm.

Staff Officer Max Pilcher attended beginning of the meeting to celebrate JH contribution to service for the West Area Borough, and Superintendent Thackray presented her with the BCU Commander's Commendation.

JH formally resigned and has put forward HL to take over as Chair, a vote was taken and it was uncontested and HL will now be the new Chair.