



SNB (Safer Neighbourhood Board) Meeting June 10, 2025

Committee Room 3 – Civic Centre

MINUTES

Present:

(HL) Hoda Lacey	SNB Chair
(JH) Jean Hillman,	SNB Vice 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
(PS) Superintendent Priya Shome	Metropolitan Police
(BW) Chief Inspector Ben Wright	Metropolitan Police
(MC) Mike Crane	BID Manager
(JS) Jeremy Stern	Lay Member
(SG) Suresh Gupta	Lay Member
(CT) Chris Tarr	Lay Member
(CS) Colleen Sullivan	Councillor, LBH
(GS) George Summerville	Hillingdon Youth Council

Apologies:

(PS) Peter Smallwood	Councillor, LBH
(CB) Chris Beatty	Age UK
(LH) Lana Hormiz	Hillingdon Youth Council Worker
(AS) Anisha Sharma	Lay Member
(AKS) Akbar Sheik	Lay Member
(CJ) Christelle Jones	Lay Member

	Minutes from the last meeting 4 March 2025: The minutes were agreed and noted, with no amendments.
	Chair's Quarterly Report Congratulations to Cllr Smallwood on his OBE – special mention. London Assembly Police & Crime Committee (LA P&CC) HL attended two of these meetings online. If any of you are interested in joining, please log onto https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/londonassembly/meetings. You can then navigate to the Police and Crime Committee page. There you will find previous minutes and details of forthcoming meetings. London Communities Policing Partnership (LCP2) JH attended the meeting of the LCP2 at Scotland Yard. Commander Pavelin was the speaker. It was well attended and a very useful meeting. The topic of crime stats and data provision were raised and the Chair, David Millar, said the following: <i>From listening to Glen Pavelin it is clear the Met are going to be under pressure to deliver across all their services, let alone neighbourhood policing. I believe that it will become increasingly important for communities to work with the police to agree their local crime priorities. At the same time the Met need to understand how they can help us. The provision of crime/ASB data and analysis is a fundamental step in helping to inform us. As agreed at the meeting I have written to GP on this subject. He has acknowledged and said he will discuss with his team.</i> <i>The existence of a WhatsApp group for SNB Chairs/representatives was mentioned in the meeting. Tim Lord (Westminster) is the originator/lead and has provided a link which I will forward separately.</i> Met CC (Community Forum) No progress on this front. Met Community Engagement An update on OWL/Met Engage will be presented by Dave Ludlow, of Hillingdon Neighbourhood Alert at the meeting

	. Safer Hillingdon Partnership Board (SHP) The meeting scheduled for 11 June has now been postponed to July due to the prioritisation of the Joint Targeted Area Inspections (JTAI) on domestic abuse SNB Website and Constitution HL discussed the need to refresh the terms of reference, which she sometimes refers to as the constitution. She suggested that the terms of reference should be reviewed and updated and asked the Board to read through the website and terms of reference and provide suggestions for updates or improvements.
	MPS (Metropolitan Police Service) Quarterly Performance Report/Stop & Search Update Update provided by CI Ben Wright: Budget Cuts: BW mentioned that there is a significant budget deficit of around £200 million, which impacts neighbourhood policing. However, there was a commitment to not cut funding for neighbourhood policing. Also noted that Rachel Reeves was discussing increasing the police budget, but there was no concrete information from the spending review at the moment. The Met is preparing to cut a significant number of posts to address the £214 million deficit. This will predominantly affect back-office administrative roles, which could indirectly impact frontline efficiency. Neighbourhood policing would remain a main concern, and there was no intention to cut its funding despite the financial constraints. Prisoner Releases There was concern about the release of prisoners and the additional demand it places on police resources. The conversation highlighted the challenges of managing increasing demand with fewer resources and the need for innovative solutions to address these issues. Court Backlogs: Court backlogs, delay the prosecution of gang-related crimes and increases the demand on police resources. The government's discussion on investing in probation services to reduce recidivism and support rehabilitation, could positively impact police workload. The hope is that future spending reviews might increase the budget, but nothing concrete has been announced yet Israel/Hamas conflict: Still creating issues, protest activity anticipated to increase over the summer. Outstanding incidents are impacted due to abstractions for the above Immigration: Removal centre activity increasing demand. Increased community tensions around hotels also increasing demand on resources.

Heathrow Figures: still included in police figures which is frustrating and still not ideal. This will be addressed at some point however there is no proposed date for when this may be.

Robbery – low for this crime type across London however other types have increased.

Theft person – E-bike enabled theft is a priority with lots of people working with council to apply pressure in other ways. Court backlogs impacting on this.

Theft of motor vehicle – Remains an issue especially high value Japanese cars. Communicating with owners to educate them and get them to make their cars ore secure. Proactive operations in place.

Theft from motor vehicle – Reduced significantly

Shoplifting – Hillingdon have the highest detection rate in the Met and are issuing a lot of CBOs to address the issue. This is working well. Looking at how Hillingdon Council can assist with referral processes.

Business Robbery – Used to be known as shoplifting but now involves people stealing with force. Concentrating on those who are using violence to steal (aggravated shoplifting) Also looking at shops who are handling stolen goods.

Hate Crime – Hillingdon aren't seeing this in relation to Israel /Hammas or immigration centre. Mostly road rage with people name calling.

Homicide – None so far this year. Specialist murder investigation teams are involved if needed or further investigation is required.

VAWG (violence against women and girls) – This remains a priority and there is a lot of work being done in the area.

Violence with injury – This includes a significant range of offences. There was a spike in West Drayton and Yiewsley. Territorial Support Group are deployed there now and doing more patrols. There is also more joint work with Council to address this. Both sergeants for these wards are working hard to address the issues.

Modern Slavery - the figures for this mostly come from National Referral Mechanism at Colnbrook rather than a problem on the borough.

IIOC – Public protection has an ongoing focus with good outcomes

LBD – one incident so far this year but this is low.

Possession of weapons – Good detections regarding weapons

Public protection. – Reported rapes are mainly historical or involve Domestic Abuse. A historic case shows up in the period it is reported. There are very few

stranger rapes, and these are dealt with as a priority. All suspects have been remanded, so no outstanding. All detectives are in public protection, and this shows in the detection rates.

Response Codes:

I GRADE calls – 55.9% UP spike in demand in last two years

DA I GRADE calls – 34.3% UP

S GRADE calls – 66.7% UP however performance remains the same.

**I= Immediate (within 15 minutes)

**S= Standard (within 1 hour)

The geographical range of Hillingdon impacts on the calls, rather than the actual response time. Lots of work done with workloads of response officers to free them up to improve victim contact, victim satisfaction.

Stop and Search – Positive story for Hillingdon despite public scrutiny. Positive outcomes are improving meaning the correct people are being stopped. SNT are doing more in West Drayton and Yiewsley. Stop & Search is needed to try and keep on top of violence and drug offences. Stops are recorded on BWV so anyone who wishes to complain can. Further safeguards being implemented to gain more impartiality.

SG asked about shoplifting up to £200 not dealt with, BW said this is not true and is case dependant, but it is dealt with. Maybe by community resolution or lesser. Shops and businesses may choose not to call police; therefore, police cannot respond. Some shops also not supporting police prosecution meaning it sends out the wrong message.

SG also asked about fraud. BW replied - fraud cases are reported to Action Fraud who analyse patterns nationally and regionally, police then respond locally if there is action to be taken.

HL asked about Heathrow data. BW replied to say this has been requested but there is a lead time of 6 months, so not sure if this will be done as the company responsible been tasked but they had been taken over.

HL asked about car crashes and poor driving, drink driving. BW said he is not given the data for this but local police do respond and get involved with this. How it gets recorded would make this difficult to produce statistics.

	JH – wanted to ask about people not liking police and commenting on social media. It was discussed if people are reporting to police or just doing on next door. HL commented if there is a slur on police she feels it's unfair. BW said he cannot respond to social media comments. Police work shifts and cannot always be seen but this does not mean they are not there. The individuals causing problems are often awaiting a court response. The perceived lack of actions is not always a police problem in the first place and sometimes police present matters to other agencies who often cannot respond either. Public attitude surveys say Hillingdon is good. Police will focus on Met Engage and other groups will pass through their social media.								
	MOPAC (Mayor s Office for Policing and Crime) Funding and Finance: Update provided by DC: Message from MOPAC 6 June 2025: Dear Hillingdon Safer Neighbourhood Board, We're pleased to let you know that your application has been successful and selected for grant funding. We're really excited about the potential impact of your projects and look forward to supporting you in delivering it. Over the next 20 working days, we'll be preparing a grant agreement that sets out the terms and conditions of the funding. Once it's ready, it will be sent via DocuSign to the designated contact for review and signature. Please confirm the full name and email address of the DocuSign contact as soon as possible. Please also confirm whether the London Borough of Hillingdon is still the correct payee for this grant. If you have any questions or need anything in the meantime, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Congratulations again on being awarded the grant — we look forward to seeing your projects in action and the difference it will make in the community. <table border="1" data-bbox="240 1715 1402 1984"> <tr> <th colspan="2">Summary Sheet</th></tr> <tr> <th>Project</th><th>Cost</th></tr> <tr> <td>1. Confidence</td><td>£2500</td></tr> <tr> <td>2. YMCA – Free Football</td><td>£3000</td></tr> </table>	Summary Sheet		Project	Cost	1. Confidence	£2500	2. YMCA – Free Football	£3000
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1. Confidence	£2500								
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3. Youth Council Crime and Safety	£5046
4. Growing Against Violence	£2400
5. Teen Room	£2000
SNB Administration Funding	£5,200
Total	£20146

Membership:

3 new members were supposed to attend but haven't and sent no apologies. HL to reach out to them to see why,

Ward Panels

All discussed the importance of Safer Neighbourhood Boards (SNB) and ward panels, emphasising their role in community policing. There was a conversation about the naming and effectiveness of ward panels, with suggestions to rename them to Safer Neighbourhood Panels for better public understanding.

There was a discussion about public perception of police presence and the importance of reporting incidents to the police. JH highlighted the need for the public to report crimes to ensure police can respond appropriately.

Survey Fatigue and Response Rates

Northwood ward decided to stop the quarterly survey due to a significant drop in responses, from over 200 to just 8. This was attributed to survey fatigue and repetitive questions. The decision to halt the survey was made after discussions with Inspector Fox and PS Blackburn. The survey questions were repetitive and did not provide new insights, leading to a lack of engagement from residents.

Ward Panel Priorities

CH raised concerns about the police setting priorities without sufficient input from the ward panels. BW clarified that while the police provide guidance based on intelligence, the priorities should be a joint decision. BW emphasised that violence and neighbourhood crime are always top priorities, but local issues should also be considered.

Meeting Scheduling and Attendance:

CH mentioned issues with meeting dates being changed, causing inconvenience. BW acknowledged that operational needs sometimes necessitate changes but should be rare. CH also noted the challenge of increasing membership in ward

	panels, with some panels having very few members despite efforts to recruit. BW suggested that smaller groups (around six or seven members) are more effective for productive discussions. Larger groups can become unmanageable. The importance of effective communication and messaging to attract more members to ward panels was discussed
	Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch Report Presented by Dave Ludlow National Neighbourhood Watch Network (NWN) Membership Met Engage MetEngage is the new MPS messaging system which uses the same underlying VISAV Ltd database as Neighbourhood Watch. A resident can join NHW and sign up for “Police Messaging” to become a member of MetEngage; or they can sign up for MetEngage and indicate that they would also like to join Neighbourhood Watch. This effectively puts us back to the position we were in with OWL (but with the hiccup of having to start again with recruiting members). As a result of NHW Members ticking “Police Messaging”, Hillingdon Police will launch MetEngage with the highest messaging reach of any London Borough. We are working closely with Hillingdon Police to deliver MetEngage as a partnership and the objective is to increase our messaging reach in the coming year 2025-26. MetEngage to switch on 23 June 2025. Funding London Borough of Hillingdon has now delivered our funding for this financial year (through MOPAC) MOPAC has requested more detailed metrics and reporting for the financial year and this will be done via DC. NHW recently held its AGM at which the audited accounts for 2024-25 were presented Events The NHW Steering Group (5 members) has already covered 31 events/meetings to date in 2025. There has been increased interest in forming NHW Schemes (aka “Watches”) near crime hotspots. There has also been increased interest in CCTV Watch, and road-based Whatsapp groups Other Events We continue to identify other future events, and attendance by Hillingdon NHW is based on the availability of Team Members to cover these. Events with a high footfall are particularly useful to build membership.

	Website We have recently re-branded the HNW website at www.hillingdonnhw.co.uk and we will now add information back into this over the coming months to create a comprehensive resource for residents. Special thanks to trading standards for their great work (Comments to be conveyed to Martin King in LBH Trading Standards).
	Hillingdon Youth Council. Funding and Project Planning: GS shared that the Youth Council received funding from Mopac and another grant, which will support their upcoming projects. They are still deciding on the direction of their project due to new members bringing fresh ideas. The Youth Council had a session with a council member to discuss mutual support and collaboration. This engagement is seen as beneficial for both parties. Training Session: The Youth Council participated in a valuable training session on street safety, including how to handle situations involving spiking, CPR, and other emergency responses. This training was conducted by Saint John's Ambulance. GS mentioned their involvement in the half term programme, which aims to provide activities and meals for young people during holidays. They are planning to organize various activities, including filmmaking, to engage and build skills among the youth. Youth Parliament: GS has been promoted to vice chair of the Cultural Local Government Housing and Public Student Committee and will be involved in lobbying and decision-making at the government level.
	Councillor Report: There was a discussion about the public's perception of police visibility. Colleen shared feedback from residents in Hillingdon East, noting that while residents appreciate seeing PCSOs out and about, they feel there is a lack of communication about new officers and their activities. BW acknowledged the challenges in maintaining high visibility and engagement due to resource constraints and high abstraction rates. He emphasised that while PCSOs are visible, the engagement work often falls to the regular officers who are tasked with higher-risk items.
	Age UK: Due to lack of funding, Age UK has had to cut down on many services offered to older people. They are now seeking separate funding for individual projects, such as through smaller grants from organisations like the Co-op. Despite funding issues, they continue to offer services like befriending and good neighbour services. Some

	of these services are now chargeable, which were previously free. They are always actively looking for more volunteers to support their services. If anyone knows older individuals or others who need support, such as a phone call for half an hour, Age UK can provide this service.
	AOB Custody Suite Issues: JS raised concerns about delays in booking detainees into custody, which can result in police officers being unavailable for other duties. PS explained that these delays are often due to the handover process between shifts and the need to ensure detainee welfare. She also mentioned that while there are staffing challenges, regular meetings are held with Met Detention to address these issues. JH inquired about the possibility of having a more centralised custody suite in Hillingdon. PS responded that while it would be beneficial, the lack of funding and resources due to austerity measures makes it unlikely. Communication About New Officers: CS shared feedback from Hillingdon East residents about the lack of communication regarding new officers, including the new Superintendent, PS confirmed that an introduction had been put out, but it might not have reached everyone. It was suggested using ward panels and Residents Associations to spread the word. PS acknowledged the feedback and explained that high-priority tasks often take precedence over engagement activities. Begging Issues: CS also mentioned the reappearance of beggars in Long Lane, particularly one who stands in front of a cash machine, making people nervous. PS suggested that this issue should be reported to the ward team for appropriate action. 2025 Meetings: 16 September 16 December All held at the Civic Centre, Committee Room 3 from 7pm to 9pm.

