

# **Hillingdon Safer Neighbourhood Board | MINUTES**

Tuesday 26th February 2019 19.35pm - 21:35 | Committee Room 3, Hillingdon Civic Centre

#### **Attendees**

- Philip Green (PG / Chair) Chair
- Cllr Devi Radia (Cllr DR) LBH Councillor
- Chief Inspector Andrew Dean (AD) -Neighbourhood & Partnership West Area
- Jean Hillman (JH) Lay Member
- Jacqueline Robertson (JR) Service Manager, Community Safety, Domestic Abuse & Engagement, LBH
- Pin Bains (PB) Lay Member (attended from 19:57)
- Inspector Rob Bryan (RB) Hillingdon, Metropolitan Police Service
- Roy Parsons (RP) Chair of Hillingdon HNW
- Teena Lashmore Senior Community Safety & domestic abuse Officer (minute taker)

#### **Guests**

 Dan Kennedy (DK) - Director, Housing, Environment, Education, Performance, Health & Wellbeing - Residents Services, London Borough of Hillingdon (attended from 19:42)

#### **Apologies**

- Chris Beaty (CB) Age UK
- Chris Head (CH) Lay Member
- Kirsty Longland (KL) Victim Support
- Mario Muir (MM) Senior Community Safety & Domestic Abuse Officer, LBH
- Mike Crane (MC) Uxbridge Bid Forward
- Cllr Richard Mills (Cllr RM) LBH Councillor
- Thomas Shanahan (TS) Youth Council

# 1. Welcome, apologies, previous minutes & matters arising

Meeting commenced 19:35.

Chair welcomed attendees, noted apologies and acknowledged their guest, Dan Kennedy, was arriving later, following his attendance at another meeting.

Previous Minutes of Tuesday 27 November 2018 - proposed by JH as accurate and accepted by Chair/Board.

# Matters arising - updates on actions:

Signage: Neighbourhood Watch and Smart Water Signs are to be re-posted. It was noted that these signs are placed at a significant height and ladders are needed to do this job.

999 Calls and Response Times: A general discussion was had on how helpful such a report would be/was and it was agreed that such a report would now accompany future SNB meetings. AD referred to his report on 999 calls. In summary this is a performance indicator where a call is made and a response is discharged within 15 minutes. AD explained the call volume as Hillingdon receiving 31% of all calls, Ealing receiving 39% and Hounslow receiving the remaining 30% of calls. Achieving the actual performance target which should be 90% was as follows: Hillingdon 84.4% and Ealing achieving 86.2%. AD explained that there is a trend of improving on this performance and when compared across the boroughs, Hillingdon's response times are good (refer to Appendix A attached).

Future dates for Partnership Engagement Projects: JR explained these could be sent out with these minutes. Agreed JR will circulate these for the year of 2019 but would speak to her report on the agenda.

One Life Funding Proposal: Item carried over to the next SNB due to insufficient information.

Policing capacity discussion: SNB members noted the lack of police attending meetings / community functions etc citing they (police) do not have capacity/ time to do so. Both RB and AD responded that there are no 'police capacity issues' as local Sergeants are expected to utilise flexible working hours to ensure officers do have time to attend such events.

Stop and Search (S&S): AD referred to his report which was shared in the meeting (see below). There is an upward trend of S&S and this is welcomed. Its application now means all officers must use their body camera to 'monitor' the engagement to ensure the S&S process and integrity. The tool is not 'random' but intelligence led; for example, where the police are lawfully operating section 60, which is a 'Gang Risk Intelligence Tool' over a geographical area. It is noted that the tool's increase in use is at a time when knife related crimes are at an all time high and murder is also at a peak. The comparison on Hillingdon's use with different boroughs was noted and gave rise to a discussion on 'Disproportionality', (mainly that data shows more Black males than White males are stopped using this tool). The board asked whether this was due to a fact that the more inner city boroughs have a greater BME population and are of a younger age group and therefore, its use in those areas would skew the figures for the outer boroughs. The Chair sought clarification on whether the victims were also BME. AD responded that despite inner and outer borough population profiles, there is still disproportionality in the application of S&S and that the reasons for this are unclear. He also noted that most victims of the recent rise in knife crime are also more often from the BME communities. Cllr DR welcomed the finding and along with the Chair felt the police should respond to the negative media coverage on the tool by saying it is now intelligence led and not random and that it is used to keep all people safe. A general discussion on the positive outcomes of the tool was had, especially around the community's fear that it will be in use. DK added it must have a significant impact on knife and or carrying large amounts of drugs as people are less likely to do that with S&S in operation. Cllr DR noted the report shows a 1 in 4 successful use of S&S for drugs and a 1 in 4 for weapons, meaning its use appears to be 25% successful - which RD stressed was good. AD added that previously the tool's success result was lower at 20%; therefore, 25% is an improvement.

Neighbourhood Watch and OWL: Previously the SNB members did not have sight of the 'posters' that

promote Neighbourhood Watch and OWL and how to join this community group. RP explained that there is sufficient material on the website; however, agreed it would be helpful to supply materials directly to Age UK outside of the meeting. JH welcomed the decision and agreed to disseminate.

Survey Results: Chair explained that he had met Thomas Shanahan of the Youth Council 'off-line' to provide guidance and that Tom then failed to re-engage. SNB agree that Tom is a good asset to have and that SNB (Chair) would drop him a line to re-engage him with the board and survey.

Action Items	Responsible	Due
Neighbourhood Watch Signs erected in the borough. Update on		28 may 2019
progress by RP		
Future dates for MOPAC Partnership Engagements	JR	
One Life Funding Proposal. Circulate full details prior to SNB 28	PG	28 May 2019
May 2019		
Ensure discussion with Police Sergeants to utilise flex so officers	AD/RB	28 May 2019
can attend community meetings etc		
Neighbourhood Watch /OWL promotional material to be shared	RP	28 May 2019
with Age Support and others etc.		
Police positive messaging on Stop and Search	AD/RB	
Re-engage Youth Council, Tomas Shanahan and the survey	PG	28 may 2019

#### 2. Chairman's Report (sent in advance)

Hillingdon Safer Neighbourhood Board Chairman Report: February 2019

#### Vice Chair

As circulated on 13<sup>th</sup> February Jean Hillman has agreed to stand as the Vice Chair and hopefully we can formalise this at the meeting. (JK was unanimously voted in). Having other officers would also be very useful especially someone to oversee the project funding.

#### **Crime Conference**

To be discussed at the meeting.

#### **PROJECTS**

We need to make some decisions regarding the 2019/20 project funding from MOPAC. My understanding is that MOPAC will not allow us to swap or delay projects in future. Plus their deadlines are going to be much tighter. Projects can be proposed from 01 April until end of May so we need to get a small committee together to judge proposed projects for funding.

The meeting set by MOPAC for Monday which I intended to attend was cancelled and moved to Tuesday to coincide with an LCP2 meeting but as we have our SNB I cannot report on matters.

It is my intention to get projects established and sent to you by mid March, with your input of course.

Then we will decide which to support via email and be ready with our application by the start of April.

# **Meetings and Correspondence**

Less busy time for meetings since our last SNB.

I met recently with chairs of SNBs for Ealing and Hounslow together with Senior Police officers to discuss our shared concerns. The meeting was cordial and informative and should help us to structure the data available at all SNB meetings.

Inspector Rob Bryan and I will be meeting just prior to the SNB and any important information will be relayed to you at the meeting.

#### **Abstractions**

Borough level data on **abstractions** is regularly published on the MOPAC website here: <a href="https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/mayors-office-policing-and-crime-mopac/data-and-statistics/dwo-abstraction-dashboard">www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/mayors-office-policing-and-crime-mopac/data-and-statistics/dwo-abstraction-dashboard</a>

We do not have Hillingdon only stats but for the West BCU the abstraction of DWOs was 4.1% in October, 9.6% in November and 7.4% in December 2018. The general trend is upwards when we were promised that NO abstractions other than for special circumstances would be allowed. It would appear that MPS have changed their stance.

Action Items	Responsible	Due
MOPAC Projects/ suggestions/ recommendations etc to be	PG	Mid March 2019
circulated to/ between SNB members for approval for April 2019 -		
31 March 2020 funding and to be formally brought to SNB for May		
to be noted		

#### 3. Police Report/ Policing Data

Police Report: presented by Chief Inspector AD (PowerPoint is attached to minutes as Appendix A and Stop and Search report is below)

It was noted there was a rise in burglary to 698 cases and that this is an increase of 45% on the previous month. Of most concern to police is the change in burglary to Aggravated Burglary. (This is where the offender breaks into the property using a tool but then goes on to use that tool as a weapon if/ should the occupants be inside the property). These offences have a higher significant harm because the victims are petrified from the experience. The frequency of these offences is also increasing. There is now specialist CID dedicated to this work. Since January 2019, there have been 28 such offences in Ealing, 14 in Hillingdon and 4 in Hounslow. It is also noted that many victims are BME while only 4% of the victims present as White. The properties targeted are large houses with affluent victims and several properties are attacked in sequence. The hypothesis is the offenders are looking for Asian gold. The offenders present as mostly White with a detectable Irish accent. AD briefly explained their thinking as, it is unclear as to whether the accents used during these offences is to mask the offenders true identity or whether the accents confirm that many of the offenders may be from the Irish Travelling Community. Furthermore, because there has been police activity on bigger more established Irish Travelling Communities in England - resulting in the confiscation of illegal weapons, funds and cars etc, it may be

that these smaller communities are attempting to 'restock/ re-finance' their criminal network of activities by undertaking these crimes. Asian gold appears to be a driver in these offences and currently gold exchange prices are trending at a high value. Finally, it is noted that there is some cross boarder activity and therefore the Met/ Hillingdon are working with Thames Valley Police in joint operations to meet this challenge. In response to ANPR, the vehicles being used in the offences are 'high end' and appear to travel between residential properties and are using cloned number plates which makes it difficult to 'track' the vehicles via ANPR.

JH inquired in to who supports the victims in these events as her feedback from the community is that unless there is forensics or CCTV material, the matters are not being investigated. RB clarified that the police are trying to accurately manage victim's expectations by letting them know, at the offence reporting stage, what to expect as they no longer provide the 'offence/ victim follow-up' as they use to. JH felt that there may be a role for victim support here.

AD continued on his report citing the need for residents to lock-up at night as this will cause a delay to offenders trying to enter their home - creating valuable time for the victim to call the police and for the police to arrive. Smart Water Kit (where resident's personal property is marked by a unique dye - so when the property is recovered from offenders, these can be returned to the identifiable owner), should be encouraged throughout the community.

The prevention discussion expanded to Ring Door Bell - another tool to help in deterring offenders and or alerting the police sooner. PB declared she is from the Brunel Ward and is unclear how to assist her community in obtaining the Neighbourhood Watch signs, and the Smart Water Kit. Agreed RP would liaise with PB outside of the meeting in relation to this and OWL.

PG disclosed that he is also the Street Coordinator and does not hear about burglaries close to his area so is unable to respond to victims to reassure them. He felt there should be greater communication on this phenomenon (aggravated burglary), so that he could better support his community and reassure them.

RB offered to speak with the local Sergeants in the wards to ensure the messaging gets out to the Wards and Street Coordinators.

AD moved to Knife Crime and noted an overall reduction of about 25% and in actual figures for the last 12 months there has been 50 offences (refer to report Appendix A). The new Borough Command Unit (BCU) is a policing model that covers all three boroughs: Hillingdon, Hounslow and Ealing and allows resources to flow throughout the tri-borough network. There is also a Violent Task Force focused on Knife crime. PG asked about abstractions (where an officer is removed from local duties to support a national policing need such as Notting Hill Carnival or Brexit demonstrations in Parliament etc) and referred to his report (Chair's Report) where he cites the Mayor of London's on-line link which details which police staff and grades have been abstracted and for what reasons. PG asked whether such abstractions will have an impact on the BCU model. AD noted that abstraction of staff is to a minimum and is managed locally.

Members inquired into why there were peaks in the policing report on offences and AD explained that these peaks are referred to as 'seasonal peaks'; for example ASB rises during the warmer months. AD then referred the board's attention back to Robbery, which has increased and where the victims are younger people. He asserted that 'messaging' is needed for schools, colleges and open spaces and that

there needs to be a communication strategy/ plan for this.

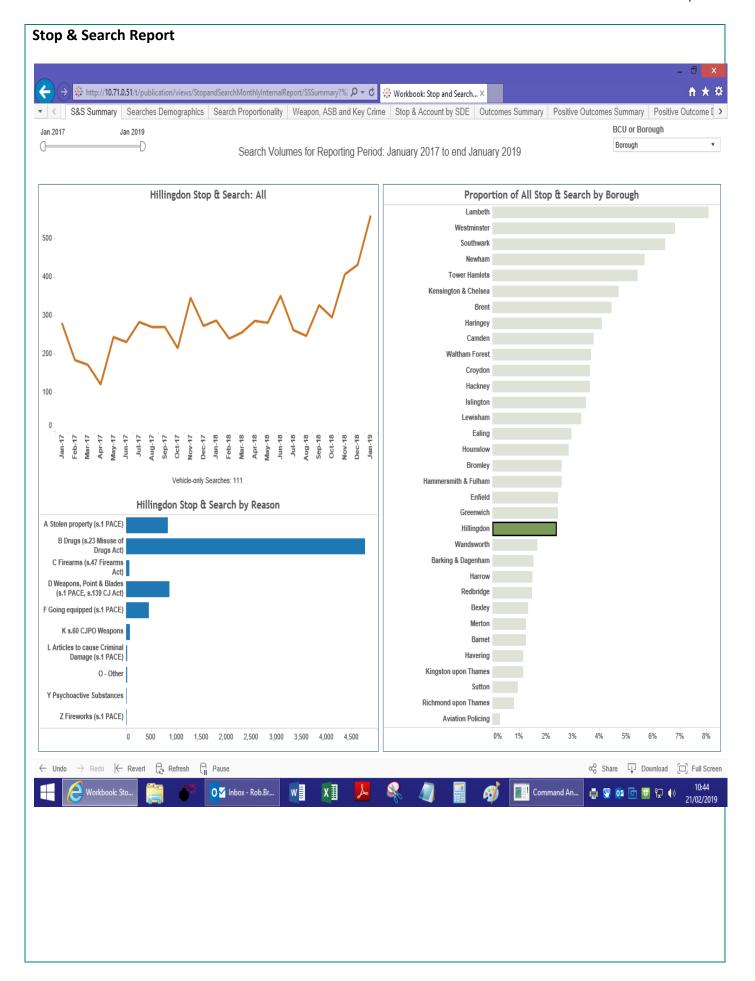
#### Crime Data Presentation:

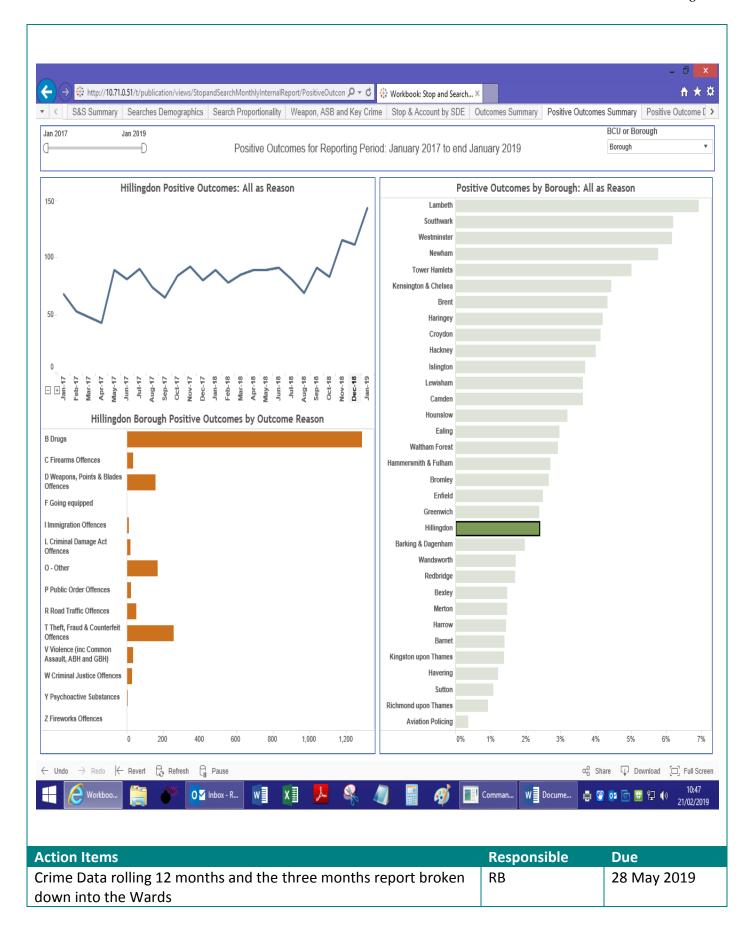
RB discussed the presentation of data and how he is able to extrapolate this information from the system for a 12 month period - this would be rolling data and not from say March to March. The board agreed that they would like data presented as a rolling 12 months period, a three month period and for this three months period to broken down into the Wards.

The board members returned to the main report where Cllr DR noted the offences and figures appeared to be comparable across the three boroughs - when there was an expectation that Hillingdon would have less crime. She also noted Ealing had 5 reports of gun related crime in one ward, in a three month period. She also acknowledged ASB calls had dropped over the three months and AD explained that this is the 'seasonal peak' effect. She noted abstraction as 0.9% rising to 7.4% and AD explained that was for the whole MET and due to large events. AD reassured Cllr DR that policing resources is being delivered equitably across the three boroughs.

PG added that abstraction data is available on the Mayor of London website and suggested all may wish to visit his link to review that data.

The discussion revisited victims' needs and members fed back their disappointment that cases are being 'screened out' for further investigation when there is no forensics or CCTV footage. JH drew attention back to burglary as she felt that there was a role for Victim Support to engage with victims if the police are no longer available to do a follow-up on a crime. AD explained that cases of burglary go through a robust primary investigation which does require forensics and or CCTV to progress that investigation (burglary), and that the police (at the point meeting the victim) will also explain the investigation process and what is likely to happen without the information required to progress the investigation. JH felt the police should pro-actively inform victims at a second point because victims would be too traumatised from the crime to be hearing fully what the police are actually saying in their first contact.





#### 4. MOPAC Project Update by Community Safety

YMCA. Original bid £8,000. £5,000 for Football at Fusion and £3,000 for Open Access and Music Sessions. Awarded £3,000

George Bergin - The initial music project they were hoping to run has not as yet been started. The reason for this is that they were to receive additional funding from a second provider and this fell through. The YMCA is currently in talks with Hillingdon Community Trust and is hopeful they will provide the extra resources needed to start the music project. In the meantime, the YMCA at Hayes has started a weekly Youth Club for young people aged 12 - 16 years. The sessions run from 4.30 - 6.00 pm with a regular attendance of 10 children aged 12/13 years. Although no invoices have been submitted to date, George said that money has been spent on arts/craft materials, drinks and refreshments and volunteer expenses such as food and travel. He was not able to tell me exactly how much money had been spent.

West Area Active Kickz. Awarded £1500 for a project that offers multi-sport engagement activity for Yr.6 and 7 pupils, with a focus on crime awareness, personal safety, education and lifestyle choices. P.C. Simon Gaster said there was a delay in starting the project which was due to getting Risk Assessments and Public Liability Insurance authorised by the Met Police Insurers. 180 children aged between 11 and 13 years from Harefield Junior and The Harefield Academy were approached. Their initial target was to start with 20 children - based on police staff numbers and supervision availability. Their first session was held on Wednesday 13th February 2019 at The Harefield Academy. Numbers were low but the officers were back in the school yesterday (25th February 2019) to encourage more to attend. To date £700 has been spent on equipment.

Engaging Eyes, Ears and Excellence. Awarded £7,081.00 and spend to date is £1280.00. Two providers Aik Saath and Just Enough have each identified 13 schools for engagement. They work with the schools to understand local concerns which may include online behaviours which includes 'radicalisation workshops'. It also looks at online grooming, challenging violent behaviours and extreme views.

PG noted that it was disappointing that half of the MOPAC projects had not been started and that MOPAC will be strict with how they allocate funding in future; mainly, they will not shift funds to a project that is not listed on the MOPAC application form. A general discussion took place where the board expressed community groups to be ready to begin when they are applying for funding. He then asked whether any board member would like to be responsible for the MOPAC funding - but received no offers. JR summed up that the current under spend of the MOPAC funding is for Quba

Action Items	Responsible	Due
To circulate the MOPAC Project Proposal before the next SNB, and	PG	
that board members may put forward proposals off-line.		

#### 5. MOPAC Update by Chair

The item was taken with item 4

# 6. Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch (HNW) /Online Watch Link (OWL)

(Report circulated prior to meeting and is attached to these minutes as Appendix B)

General discussion on OWL which is essentially a crime tool where residents with CCTV cameras agree to share their camera image/data with the police should/if a crime be committed on their premises or be captured by their cameras. RP explained that the quality of data caught on these cameras has improved significantly and can now be used to identify people. A discussion was had as to whether HNW could produce a 'welcome pack' explaining what type of camera to get and what brand. RP clarified he could not recommend a brand but was happy to put on the website camera specifications and general info to assist potential residents with gaining equipment - should they wish to join. A discussion was had as to how OWL could be expanded. DK confirmed there is no central initiative, as the matter has not been put before the Cabinet; adding, the quality of Ring Door Bell is an excellent piece of equipment. RP confirmed that those residents who join OWL can expect to receive a 50% discount on CCTV hardware; adding, there is a yearly subscription fee of about £25 for those systems that utilise online services/ networks. Members asked whether the Director would consider funding residents with purchasing such equipment as this is likely to assist with policing budgets and support an overall reduction in policing costs. DK detailed that the Council already provide £538.300 which supports 5.5 police officers and 2 Sergeants and that MOPAC match this under the current program of 'getting one for free'; however, there will be a new funding arrangement from MOPAC called Partnership Plus. DK added that the Council also provide another £81K to the Police for policing and other crime management initiatives.

The discussion then moved to Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR). RP explained that Hounslow have now agreed for these to be wired and powered by local utilities and agreed to update the board further with a report on this for the next SNB

Action Items	Responsible	Due
OWL / HNW information to be provided to Age UK	RP	28 May 2019
Hounslow ANPR scheme and funding and scope of implementation	RP	28 May 2019

### 7. Crime Conference

Hillingdon Community Safety Conference- 23rd February 2019 was held at The Global Academy, in Hayes. 93 people registered an interest in attending. 56 people signed-in on the day. There were a number of presentations: Philip Green, Chair of the SNB, Waseem Saleem from Neighbourhood Watch/OWL and Supt. Ricky Kandohla from WA BCU. There was plenty of time made available for attendees to ask questions and there was an interactive session, led by Gerry Campbell, to explore issues affecting the community - with an opportunity for delegates to look at and discuss solutions to those problems. The event was finished-off with a networking lunch and time for delegates to look at several information stands.

Action Items	Responsible	Due
Conference full report to be circulated to SNB	JR	
Jacqui's feedback to Global Academy on the poor heating at their	JR	completed
centre. Spoken with Global Academy Nathan Scridener from		
Schools Lettings (Management Company)		

8. Age UK		
Nil report		
Action Items	Responsible	Due

#### 9. Victim Support

Report provided prior to meeting

Victim Support Update – February 2019

- Currently VS Hillingdon is holding a caseload of around 50 clients this dipped over the winter months but since the New Year this has been steadily increasing again. Most cases we are seeing currently are burglary, anti-social behaviour, and domestic violence.
- I have attended numerous Community Safety Events with the Council's Community Safety Team. These days have been a great success in raising awareness of the services available to residents, and VS has provided crime prevention items and information.
- We have been taking part in BCU Police Training days to raise awareness of the Victim Support service and to ensure police officers are offering the service to all clients.
- Victim Support successfully bid for the new MOPAC contract which is a new service, the Integrated Victim
  and Witness Service. This will cover Restorative Justice, pre-trial witness service, and the existing multi
  crime and domestic violence service. More information on how this will look will be available in April
  2019.
- The Empowerment Programme (programme for female victims of domestic violence in the borough) has been running successfully for a number of months now and we have received some really great feedback from attendees. This will be going forward into the new financial year.
- There are real concerns from residents that burglary in the Eastcote/East Ruislip area is increasing and
  figures do seem to reflect this. I have also had feedback that these cases are being closed by police very
  quickly and without forensics/CCTV being sought first.
- Observations from the board were made earlier under the Police Report

Action Items	Responsible	Due

# 10. Youth Council Nil Report Action Items Responsible Due

# 11. AOB

RP asked whether MOPAC funding could be accessed on 1 April 2019. DK explained that on the 1 April the MOPAC funding was not in Hillingdon's bank account and that is why it was not available to HNW in April; however, cabinet recognised this issue and have now allowed for funds to be released before MOPAC funds reach Hillingdon's account and therefore RP's request has been met.

The Chair explained fellow board member Chris Head's father remains unwell and that he will send warm regards on behalf of the board - agreed. The Chair updated that Mike Crane has become a new father and due to family logistics is unable to attend the meetings at the moment.

DK presented the priorities for Community Safety and that Safer Hillingdon Partnership Board had adopted this way of working. He invited SNB to identify priorities and due to timings, it was agreed that DK will draw a draft and circulate to SNB members for an 'off-line' discussion in the hope that an agreed consensus would be reached in time for the next SNB in May 2019.

PG noted that SNB membership needs strengthening.

Action Items	Responsible	Due
DK to draft SNB priorities for consideration and to circulate to		ASAP
members		

# 12. Date of Next Meeting

SNB Meeting 28 May 2019

**Meeting Ended: 21:35 hours** 

Next SNB Meeting: 28 May 2019

**Following SNB Meeting Dates:** 

24 September 201926 November 2019