

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SAFER
NEIGHBOURHOODS BOARD HELD ON
THURSDAY, 5TH FEBRUARY, 2015**

Attendance

Safer Neighbourhood Board Members

*Adrian Bishop-Laggett (SNB Chair)

Cape Chairs - *Alok Agrawal (Southgate Green, Bowes, Palmers Green

*Harry Landsman (Cockfosters, Southgate, Highlands CAPE)

*Janet Marshall (Edmonton Green, Upper Edmonton)

*Eddie Fraser (Haselbury, Lower Edmonton)

*Brian Waters (Town, Grange, Chase)

*Ruth Ward (Enfield Highway, Enfield Lock)

Councillors *Andy Milne

*Bernie Lappage

LGBT: *Tim Fellows

Enfield Racial Equality Council: *Vicky Dungate

Business Representative (EBRA):*Mark Rudling

PEP Member (Parent Champion):*Askin Erozkal

EYP representative: - vacant position

Stop & Search Community Monitoring Group – vacant position

Independent Custody Visitors Panel (ICV): Peter Waterhouse and Lorna Logan

Victim Support Representative: Andrew Francalanza

Also Attending:

Chief Inspector Ian Kibblewhite

Superintendent Carl Robinson

Andrea Clemons (Head of Community Safety)

Derek Jay (Highlands Cape)

Jon Appleby (Winchmore Hill CAPE)

(* - Parties with voting rights. Please note support officers and advisors do not hold voting rights

1. INTRODUCTION

The Chairman, Adrian Bishop-Laggett welcomed everyone to this public meeting of the Safer Neighbourhood Board.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Pat Jackson (Jubilee, Ponders End), Glenn Breslin (Bush Hill Park, Winchmore Hill CAPE), Carol Shuttle (Southbury, Turkey Street), Jane Richards (MPS Disability Steering Group), Rasheed Sadegh-Zadeh (Independent Advisory Group (IAG), Sheila Stacey (Enfield Lock CAPE), Bradley Few (MOPAC), David Cockle (Highlands CAPE), Gillian Yeung (Bowes CAPE), Irene Wilson (Willow Road residents).

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3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 11 NOVEMBER 2014

AGREED that the minutes of the 11 November 2014 be confirmed as a correct record.

Matters Arising – At the last meeting concerns were raised about the possible closure of the Edmonton custody suite, Chief Inspector Kibblewhite said that there are no plans at present to close this suite now or in the future.

SNB/IAG Relationship – MOPAC agreed that the use of the word ‘oversee’ in the SNB Guidance (‘Oversee the borough Independent Advisory Groups’) was misleading and they confirmed that the intention was that the two bodies co-operate to avoid duplication. Accordingly the IAG representative is now accorded voting rights.

4. EXAMINATION OF CRIME STATISTICS

Before looking at Crime Statistics, Andrew Francalanza gave a presentation on the work of Victim Support Services. He highlighted the following

- Victim Support has been delivering services to victims of crime for more than 40 years and providing support for witnesses when attending court for more than 25 years. Until last year this had been supported by the Ministry of Justice but was now funded by MOPAC
- Grants had been given to the Victim Support service for the 12 month period from October 2014. This is for a revised service. There is now a new process for enhanced priority referrals, and for standard referrals with a focus on vulnerable and repeat victims. New services have been introduced for children and young people and also for international visitors. All victims of crime are referred to the victim support service, which now also includes victims of business crime and motor vehicle theft. There is a strong focus on partnership working with the use of specialist services.
- There are two strands of referral - either ‘enhanced priority’ or ‘standard’ referrals. For standard referrals an option is given to victims that they can contact the team. A needs assessment is undertaken for victims who are then supported by volunteers who have specialised training.
- A new enhanced service is now provided to young people. Also support and advocacy is provided to international visitors who become victims of crime in London. The support provided for young people is shaped by the risk level, where a victim is under 18 years, work is also undertaken with their parents/ carers.
- The main office for the service is based in Old Street but a number of outreach sites are also used across Enfield and they work in partnership with other services. They provide emotional and practical support such as help with the completion of forms, accompanying the person to Court and cover safeguarding issues. They do not, however, provide a counselling service.

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The team raise awareness and promotes their work at events particularly at schools.

The following issues were raised

- Each borough has a victim support team. In Enfield there is a service delivery manager and assistant together with approximately 12 volunteers covering the borough. They have a support line which is open 24 hours a day all year excepting Christmas and New Year's day. The office is open Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm and volunteers are available all week until 8pm.
- Victims of domestic violence are supported by 'Solace' however work is undertaken in partnership with them and with Enfield's Women's Centre.
- Under the Ministry of Justice reforms there is the potential to have more than one service provider in future. Andrea Clemons reminded the meeting that there was also a victim support worker currently working in LBE's Community Safety team.
- It was confirmed that money donated for the Enfield area could be ringfenced solely for victims in Enfield.
- The support provision for small local business victims of crime was welcomed.

Andrew Francalanza was thanked for his presentation.

Contact details for Victim support are:

Victim Support, 50 Banner Street, Octavia House, London EC1Y 8ST 020

7268 0200 - website www.victimsupport.org.uk

Facebook – www.facebook.com/victimsupport

CRIME STATISTICS

Chief Inspector Ian Kibblewhite and Sergeant Carl Robinson presented the MOPAC and Police data on the following:

- Recorded Crime.
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Public Confidence & Victim Satisfaction
- Complaints against Borough Officers /Staff
- Stop and Search

They highlighted key issues and the group raised a number of points as follows –

Recorded Crime. Using the Borough police data (scorecard). The total offences, for Enfield is generally showing decreases against the rolling 12 month figures and also a reduction against the MOPAC challenge of sustained 20% reduction by March 2016. This applies to Burglary-

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(-3.6%), Robbery (-14.8%), Theft from Motor vehicle (-37%) Theft of Motor Vehicle (-10.5%), and theft from person (-20.4%). The two crime types that show an increase are Criminal damage (+3.5%) and Violence with Injury (+25.8%). Domestic Abuse cases are up 24% which indicates an increase in the number and confidence of people coming forward to report incidents. There was an increase in the number of homophobic crimes reported and it was thought this also was mainly as a result of greater confidence in reporting incidents.

The following issues were raised –

- It was confirmed that the MOPAC figure given for 'violence against the person' includes domestic abuse cases. It was thought that the way the data was shown in MOPAC tables was somewhat misleading. The figures provided by Ian Kibblewhite gave 'percentages' data. For the next meeting data from the Borough 'scorecard' would be given which would show actual numbers as well as percentages. It was hoped that this would allow a clearer understanding of the information provided.
- It was asked if the increased reporting of racist and religious hate crimes was also thought to result from more people being confident in the reporting systems and Ian Kibblewhite thought that this was so. However it was commented that it helped for people to be able to have face to face interaction with the police and there were concerns that this was not always possible in light of police station closures.
- Andrea Clemons stated that the MOPAC data shows Enfield has shown greater improvements than many other boroughs in the number of recorded incidents for many crime types. Although there remained issues of concern, the borough had benefitted from additional officers being positioned here and it was thought we were moving in the right direction. She pointed out however, that violent crime had shown an increase in all London boroughs and Enfield does have a high rate for this crime.
- Ian Kibblewhite referred to a change in the recording of 'Violence against the person' crime. Formerly, where police had been called to a fight and a victim did not wish to report a crime then it would not be recorded. This no longer applies, and the crime will be recorded. It has resulted in almost twice as many incidents of this nature being recorded compared with previous years. By April the same method of recording incidents will be shown for the 12 month period and therefore comparisons can be made on a like for like basis.
- It was expected that Bradley Few (MOPAC) would attend the next meeting of the Safer Neighbourhoods Board. Councillor Lappage would raise the issue of attendance by the MOPAC representative at SNB meetings with Joanne McCartney (GLA Member).

Anti-Social Behaviour

ASB is continuing to show a big reduction against the previous 12 months, down by 28%, repeat callers down by 10.2%. The ASBAG (Anti-Social Behaviour Action Group) meets every month and Ian Kibblewhite described the objectives/ purpose of the group which includes the identification of individuals at risk of harm, reviewing and monitoring the multi-agency

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response to cases and ensuring an action plan is in place to provide support to the victim and to tackle the reported ASB. The purpose of the group is to ensure that the seriousness of a case is not lost and that the issue can be dealt with collectively.

The following points were raised

- The aim was to ensure that ASB issues were dealt with effectively without having to resort to the Court system.
- Noise nuisance issues would be recorded, and ASB calls are logged. Members of staff now contact informers to check that they are happy with any action taken.
- Representatives from the Mental Health Trust take part in the ASBAG group, and it is hoped that this would be a formalised arrangement for the future. Reference was made to the problem of inappropriate discharge of 'at risk' individuals which is time consuming for police officers to deal with. In a case of this nature a formal letter would be sent to appropriate hospital doctor/ specialist stating their concerns.

Public Confidence & Victim Satisfaction

Superintendent Carl Robinson updated the meeting on public confidence and victim satisfaction in Enfield, which overall is given as 77.4% compared with 78.8% for previous year 13/14. He referred to areas where they were hoping to improve public confidence by updating public on 'twitter' and having regular meetings with CAPES. Also by providing information to victims of crime, explaining what is happening and managing expectations.

The following points were raised

- That it would be difficult to provide updates on a Ward basis because of the small numbers involved.
- It was thought the accessibility for public to speak to officers at police stations is a factor in improving public confidence, although it was accepted that police officers needed to be 'on the street'
- In answer to concerns raised about people reporting crimes at a police station where perpetrators are also present, Carl Robinson spoke of the use of appointment cards. He said members of the public are encouraged to make an appointment when a police officer would come and visit you in your home.
- The MOPAC data up to September 14/15 shows there is a 1% point gap in satisfaction levels of white and Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) victims in Enfield (white 78%, BME 77%) which is lower than the MPS average of 6% points.

Complaints against Police

Enfield has 24 open cases and the average time to deal with a case is 60 days. This compares with Haringey (154 days), Hackney (108 days) and Waltham Forest (147 days). There have been 123 cases in the last 12 months, with 12 appeals of which 5 were upheld (4%). If a complaint has been upheld and if an officer has been found to have done something wrong there can be a criminal investigation, internal investigation, or it can result in some officers leaving or training undertaken. Reference was made to the use of

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body cameras mainly for frontline officers which has proved very effective as information can be downloaded for evidence in Court cases. It also reduces the possibility of complaints being made against officers.

e) Stop & Search

It was requested that a representative be included on SNB to take the place of Caroline Berry (Stop and Search Community Monitoring Group). The success rate for December shows that 24% of searches in Enfield resulted in an arrest, with 36% of searches for stolen property successful, and 12% of 155 drug searches, 80% of 5 firearm searches, 33% of 9 weapon searches were successful. The aim is to concentrate searches on the right people, and the importance of building up trust in the community was stressed.

f) Independent Custody Visitor Scheme

Peter Waterhouse, from the Independent Custody Visitors Panel spoke of the work of the Panel at the last meeting.

5. TARGET ESTABLISHMENT

The current target strength for police officers is 566, the actual number is 557. The numbers have been reduced since the last meeting and this is largely as a result of officers working on centralised issues such as Counter Terrorism. However it was pointed out that the emphasis on this work was still for the borough. New probationary officers are working in the borough and we are up to target on police officers although, currently under strength on higher graded posts. Three inspector and eleven sergeant posts have transferred from the boroughs' target strength. It was confirmed that every borough has to provide additional resources and that there is a proportional formula for supplying central aid. It was requested that additional information be supplied regarding where additional police officers were coming from to Enfield.

It was confirmed that the Council-funded parks police team will continue to be funded from April. A concern was raised that there was not a sufficient police presence in the town and it was hoped that the amalgamation of wards would provide more officers in this area, which should help to deter crime. It was mentioned that it also provides a useful means for the community to raise local issues with police officers especially in light of police station closures.

6. UPDATE ON CURRENT POLICE OPERATIONS

An update was given on Police Operations as follows:

- Operation Equinox targeting 'violence with injury' in open spaces with Edmonton Green as one of the top 30 wards in London. There have been 341 arrests under this operation since October, with 76 arrests for assaults in Edmonton Green ward, 48 weapons sweeps and 11 weapons recovered. This applies to fights in streets and other locations such as hospitals and near licensed premises, although there appear to be fewer incidents in clubs/pubs. This often happens where groups of friends meet and then lead on to fighting. Officers concentrate on hotspots in the area.
- Operation Spyder targeting those involved in theft from motor vehicles.

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- Safe as houses. This targets areas affected by burglary and motor vehicle crime offering crime prevention advice.
- Operation Bumble Bee, targeting burglars and target hardening properties.
- Operation Endeavour - targets keyless car crime such as the cloning of keys
- Operation Neptune – looking for stolen property involves visits to places such as 'Cash Converters'

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MPS Disability Steering Group At the last meeting Jane Richards raised the fact that this group had not been operational. It had been dormant for 18 months, as a result of police officers moving on to other areas. Inspector Carl Silcock will now be overseeing this group and Councillor Lappage would contact Jane Richards to discuss this issue further.

CAPES – Partnership working An issue had been raised about Ward targets/promises by one of the CAPE chairs and Chief Inspector Ian Kibblewhite would speak to Councillor Lappage about this further.

Projects accepted for SNB funding from MOPAC The Chairman referred to the three bids that had been accepted for SNB funding which total £10,100 as follows:

- St Giles Trust SOS Knife Project and Leaflet. This is for sessions in secondary schools aimed at Year 7 children to look at young peoples' attitudes to gangs and knife crime and to link this with the fear of crime, territoriality and gangs.
- Parenting Workshops – to commission two workshops for the purpose of promoting better parental understanding of gangs and serious youth violence.
- Visits to Ben Kinsella Exhibition. – this is an opportunity for 500 people to attend the Ben Kinsella exhibition in Islington to understand about the consequences of knife crime and how they can stay safe.

Community Payback scheme Tim Fellows had received information from the Chairman on the scheme and he would look into this issue further and may have discussions about it before the next meeting.

CCTV Monitoring -It was asked which body is now charged with inspections. It was thought this should be done by the IAG (Independent Advisory Group) however, members were concerned that this was not taking place.

Post Meeting note Andrea Clemons has received a reply from Community Safety & Environment to say that "the IAG are used to do ad-hoc inspections although they do not do many of these. However an annual DPA audit by an external contractor is carried out who gives assurances of compliance to DPA processes and advice on changes required to improve procedures etc."

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8. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The date of the next Safer Neighbourhood Board meeting is:

Thursday 21 May 2015 at 7:00pm

(Please note the change of date; the original date was 7 May but this clashes with the date of the general election.)