



HILLINGDON

LONDON

SNB (Safer Neighbourhood Board) Meeting 27 February 2024 Committee Room 3 – Civic Centre MINUTES

Present:

((JH)) Jean Hillman,	SNB Chair
(DC) Donna Cooper	LBH Community Safety
(MW) Mark Wolski	LBH Head Community Safety
(DL) Dave Ludlow	Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch
(KM) Kevin Mephram	Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch
(HL) Hoda Lacey	Lay Member
(PT) Superintendent Pete Thackray	Metropolitan Police
(BW) Chief Inspector Ben Wright	Metropolitan Police
(SF) Inspector Sarah Fox	Metropolitan Police
(CS) Colleen Sullivan	Councillor, LBH
(CT) Chris Tarr	Chair Ickenham Ward Panel
(SG) Steve Gregor	New SNB Member
(ER) Eva Rackham	Hillingdon Youth Council
(AA) Alex Antronou	Hillingdon Youth Council
(JS) Jeremy Stern	New SNB Member

Apologies:

(CB) Chris Beatty	Age UK
(DL) Dan Lipinski (Insp)	Metropolitan Police
(CH) Chris Head	Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch
(MC) Mike Crane	BID Manager
(DB) Dylan Brown	Hillingdon Youth Council
(PS) Peter Smallwood	Councillor, LBH

	Item
	<p>Minutes from the last meeting 28 November 2023:</p> <p>The minutes were agreed and noted, with no amendments.</p>
	<p>Chair's Quarterly Report</p> <p>London Assembly Police & Crime Committee (LA (local authorities) P&CC)</p>

JH sat in via the webcam on the LA P&CC on:

14 December 2023: at which the Deputy Mayor for policing and crime was questioned about the proposed setting up of the new London Policing Board which would be an additional layer of scrutiny of the Met at a provisional cost of £0.4m. Also attending was Kenny Bruce who is Director of Strategy & Oversight of the Met. Cultural reform, violence against women and girls and the Casey Report were discussed.

7 February 2024: Senior police officers presented early results from the new Right Care Right Person strategy relating to calls affecting people showing signs of mental health problems. It was emphasised that police would always attend any calls relating to crimes being committed but all calls were now being triaged by a specially trained team at Met CC prior to being sent out to response teams. So far, this has saved over 10,000 hours of police time.

21 February 2024: Sir Mark Rowley and the Deputy Mayor attended. Sir Mark agreed that spending cuts had caused problems within the Met due to lack of support staff. Police officers were having to take on staff roles which obviously takes police away from neighbourhoods. Police numbers are also going down and recruiting has been difficult even when this has been opened to areas outside the London area. One of the main problems appears to be pay which is not controlled by the Met and is dealt with centrally. Sir Mark hoped that their estates strategy would be completed by the end of the year. The Deputy Mayor reported on the London Policing Board which has met on two occasions. The meetings have been helpful, and committees have been appointed to take on specific roles.

Met CC Forum

JH attended the meeting on 16 January 2024 online when Right Care Right Person was discussed. This has entailed training for specific triage teams to send messages to the London Ambulance Service regarding mental health patients instead of sending a Police response vehicle. This has freed up a considerable number of policing hours whilst still having the ability to serve the public in a correct and safe manner. The overall rate of call answering has improved due to staffing at almost 100% and improved training.

London Communities Policing Partnership (LCP2)

JH attended a meeting online on 5 December 2023. Deputy Commissioner Dame Lynne Owens and Commander Helen Harper attended to update the LCP2 on performance since the introduction of the New Met for London strategy. Several neighbourhood posts have been filled and more officers are being deployed. However, there are still numerous abstractions due to large protests in particular relating to the Palestinian/Israel conflict which take

	<p>officers from all parts of the Met. Superintendents are now place in all boroughs and are working well.</p>
	<p>MPS (Metropolitan Police Service) Quarterly Performance Report/Stop & Search Update</p> <p>Update provided by CI Ben Wright generating a discussion particularly regarding the figures relating to burglary and theft of and from motor vehicles which have risen. Police assured the Board that they were taking steps to lower the figures but that, as usual, abstraction of local police officers is still taking place due to the many events that take place in London both during the working week and at weekends. There are plans for more Inspectors to join the SNT (Safer Neighbourhood Police Teams) which will assist at operational level.</p>
	<p>MOPAC (Mayor s Office for Policing and Crime) Funding and Finance</p> <p>Update given by DC. All projects have successfully gone ahead with a full spend predicted. The end of year process will be commenced for the end of the financial year, and I will share the end of year report for MOPAC with JH for wider dissemination to the group once it has been signed off. There has not been confirmation of the funding for 2024/25 yet however it is anticipated that it will be similar to last year's funding and the Board now need to start thinking of what projects to propose for the new financial year.</p>
	<p>Membership:</p> <p>JH welcomed Steve Gregor as a new Lay Member of the Board.</p> <p>There have also been two more applications, one from Jeremy Stern who joined the meeting.</p> <p>Suresh Gupta who is President of the Indian Welfare Society and was a member of the Kensington SNB before moving to Hillingdon will be joining in June.</p>
	<p>Ward Panels</p> <p>Discussed by all:</p> <p>Ward panels still not being attended regularly however police have created a ward panel improvement group who hold quarterly meetings to discuss how this can be addressed.</p> <p>LBH Localities Team Leader Adam Stitson and Localities Officers have been attending ward panel meetings to support police and also provide a communication point for residents to raise concerns where both agencies could have input to resolving issues. Adam will attend the next ward panel</p>

improvement group to oversee how LBH are able to assist in partnership working.

Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch/OWL - update given by Dave Ludlow

Membership of Hillingdon NHW on OWL (Online Watch Link) was **17,806** to the end of January (+81 new members since October), with **1,935** of those members also on CCTV Watch (+51 new camera locations). Business Watch has risen from 77 members to **89** (+12 members since the last report).

OWL Funding and Contract – THE BIG TOPIC OF THE MOMENT Herts Police unfortunately decided to stop using OWL from the end of March and move to the VISA V “Alerts” system. The loss of Herts created a **£46k funding gap** for the OWL renewal for London. The potential outcome is switching off OWL and the loss of ~125,000 members across London, ~18,000 of which would be from Hillingdon.

DL wrote to Hillingdon Police SLT, three MPs, LBH, Commissioner Sir Mark Rowley and notified our SNB Chair. Resulting in positive support for NHW via email from Hillingdon Police SLT – thank you. There was also a positive response from all three MPs, who all wrote to MOPAC supporting NHW. A further positive response was received from LBH who have played a MAJOR part in the rescue attempt – thank you. No response from the Commissioner’s office. JH contacted MOPAC on behalf of SNB – thank you.

Summary of the consequences for Herts: The NHW membership data stored on OWL cannot be ported across to Alerts. Someone will have to recreate 14,000 Watches by hand by drawing a shape for each one on a map. The Alerts system used to have an App but now withdrawn; they used to charge the police per-message. There is no idea of what Herts Police has paid to lose their entire NHW membership of 200,000.

This topic has absorbed an inordinate amount of my own time in January/February. Since MOPAC took ownership of the WA (West Area) BCU Pilot of OWL in 2018 with great enthusiasm they have not contacted me. There seems to be no central vision between MOPAC and the Met at a central level, and yet NHW cannot exist without a membership system that leverages economies of scale. **I have heard unofficially that MOPAC will be signing off “yes or no” this week at some point.** MOPAC will not answer any of my email questions, so I have no idea when. The renewal, if it happens, will be for 7 months and not 12 – so only **to the end of October.** **This total farce cannot be allowed to continue.** We are all fed up with the prevarication and lack of direction. Someone must be able to join the dots and consider the following set of points and then accept or dismiss them: A city such as London benefits from Neighbourhood Watch supporting the Police. Neighbourhood Watch cannot exist without a membership system that is secure / GDPR-compliant. Such a system can only exist if funded centrally. MOPAC/The Met should be keen to use unpaid volunteers from NHW to recruit a messaging audience. Decision makers need to grasp the fact that direct messaging is not social media

	<p>NHW is never involved in any of the decision-making despite representing the community across London. A proper evaluation should be carried out of all candidate systems for messaging. The fact that OWL is a one-person operation and hence introduces risk must be addressed. NHW has yet to identify who is even in charge of making any of these decisions</p> <p>Events KM has highlighted the following events which NHW has attended since the last meeting:</p> <p>2 Dec Crime Prevention Stall - Burlington Close - Residents Request Northwood 6 Dec Stall ASDA Ruislip 8 Dec Ickenham Festival Night 20 Dec Stall LIDL Ruislip 19 Jan Ward Panel Meeting 24 Jan South Ruislip Ward Panel Meeting - OWL Promotion 25 Jan Ickenham NHW Meeting 30 Jan Ickenham Library - With SNT 9 Feb Costa Coffee to meet Jamie (Prospective JP) private brief to explain NHW 22 Feb Police Event - ASDA - South Ruislip SNT</p>
	<p>Hillingdon Youth Council</p> <p>Dylan Brown will no longer attend as representative of the Youth Council. However, there are two new members who were welcomed by the Board.</p>
	<p>Councillor Report</p> <p>Cllr Sullivan: announced that she would be resigning from the Board following the election as she will taking the role of Mayor of Hillingdon for the coming year.</p>
	<p>Age UK</p> <p>In CB's absence, JH reported that Age UK had lost of considerable amount of funding from the Borough and as a result is in the process of making some staff redundant and changing the services offered for the next year</p>
	<p>AOB</p> <p>Next meeting: 4th June 2024 at the Civic Centre, Committee Room 3 from 7pm to 9pm.</p>