

Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea

SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD BOARD

Minutes of the meeting held Monday 12th July 2021

Held online via MS Teams at 6.00 pm

Chaired by: Kim Howell

Minutes taken by: Tamsin Jago

1	Welcome, apologies and introductions Declaration of interest	Action
	<p>The Chair introduced himself welcomed all including any new attendees and thanked those present for attending. The Safer Neighbourhood Board has been set up by the London Mayor, and they challenge and support the borough and link residents and stakeholders in the borough to the Police.</p> <p>The Chair stated there will be presentations today, after the welcome. First by Chief Inspector Clare McCarthy, then Inspector Tim Sincock and finally Stuart Priestly from RBKC to discuss the Community Safety plan.</p> <p>The meeting was being held virtually again, but hopefully one day will be face to face, but not possible at the current time. Any questions should be put in the Teams Chat box and the answers to any not answered with would be included in the minutes.</p>	
2	Borough Crime Report & Police Issues	
	<p>Chief Inspector Clare McCarthy (CM)) introduced herself, and works with Inspector Tom Sincock.</p> <p>CM gave a crime overview of the borough with a performance pack presentation. The performance packs are produced centrally and some things attendees may have seen before.</p> <p>Currently comparing data as we went into lockdown. Attendees of the neighbourhood asked for a truer representation as the figures were monthly. CM will ask the analysts to produce a two year comparator, which will give a truer representation of the impact of crime in the borough.</p> <p>CM outlined the statistics for notifiable offences including watch robbery and knife crime (intimated and actual). Whenever restrictions are loosened crime statistics generally increase and there was a concern that this will continue to be the case once the all restrictions are removed.</p> <p>Noticeable offences discussed include:</p> <p>Robbery which is a big concern to residents. There was a distressing robbery recently. The graphs appear to be coming down (this time last year due to lockdown), this coming year there is an incline as we are easing out of restrictions. Queensgate most affected, then Royal Hospital.</p>	

Evening time there seems to be more robberies. Watch robberies in particular are taking place in Chelsea and operations being put together to combat these.

Knife crime (including robbery/harassment/serious wounding) – last month the hot spots were in Nottinghill area. Over time last year, there was a dip in knife crime and then a gradual increase at this time of year. It's happen outdoors including serious woundings. Some crime types may start to rise due to coming out the pandemic.

Serious Youth Violence is seen across the Borough – the changeability in patterns, have seen a steep incline since April. There is gang tensions across Kensington & Chelsea, in our Borough and Westminster. There was a shooting/stabbing in Westminster in July. There have been reprisals since then and expect this to continue.

We are employing other MET police assets, these are to be tasked in the hotspot areas. We are working closely with K&C council and youth outreach workers. We are putting together packs to help us tackle the violent young offenders in different ways.

A number of proactive jobs have been undertaken.

Worlds End is a hotspot area. There has been a lot of strategic problem solving, using established models to tackle this violence. These meetings have helped us and enabled us to look at who the main offenders are. Too many young people are getting stabbed. There is a priority for stop and search and bring to justice. There were 8 serious woundings in the last month.

Questions raised and responded to as indicated:

- Question from Cynthia Dize was raised on whether our Borough is taking part in a pilot KCPO (Knife Crime Prevention Order) recently announced.

Claire confirmed the MET are trialing for the next year KCPO which was only launched Monday, but has been made law. We can serve this order on people we catch in possession of knives and includes 2 years in prison and/or fine. It is a criminal offence under the Offence Weapons Act 2019. It is a new power for us, across MPS. All the MET are piloting this. We will give updates when activated.

Under 18s are included within the offence. We can impose curfews, helping to prevent knife crime.

ACTION - Will report on the progress of the pilot at the next SNB, nothing to report as yet, but going forwards will update.

It is a preventative measure, attributed to a person, once a person is found in possession with knives it prevents further offending.

- Question from Roger Baresel - where specifically are the hotspots of knife crime in Brompton & Hans Town?

Tom confirmed it's linked to the watch robbery (used, intimidated/seen), within the Harrods area. There is an operation running targeting perpetrators of robberies.

The offence can be tagged on once a conviction on something.

- Antony Sykes asked a question about stolen property being recovered – Tom answered separately in the chat box, he can find out with a crime reference number.

Violence against the person – excluding Domestic violence crimes/general violence outdoors. It includes harassment, common assault, offensive weapons. The hotspots – are in the north and a couple of areas in the south. During the course of year the current trend of violence is rising (higher than this time last year). The increase started earlier this year, but is levelling off slightly. Brompton & Hans Town are affected the most – need to concentrate in this area.

- Counsellor Wade commented regarding Earls Court – is this because of high value goods or shops which will attract theft element, covering most of the ward, it is a concern to residents and becoming a real problem. He was surprised at the coverage on the map.

Comments in chat included lots of street drinking and drug dealing in Earls Court also. Tom said a CBO (criminal behaviour order) panel has been created. There are 20 subjects with continuous anti social behaviour. Post conviction we can put certain stipulations in place and positive actions. The issues can be discussed with the panel. There are some holistic long term problem solving involved. The best tactics we are using is 80/20. Try to put energy into the 20 subjects which cause 80% of the issues. We are as a neighbourhood team trying to use all tactics, particularly the use of the anti social behaviour.

- Counsellor Spalding commented that Earls Court has a high concentration of crime and ASB perhaps due to Council Temporary housing allocations coming into the ward. Need to looking at the root cause. We had a firefighting approach and the Police were picking up the casualties, as people were not getting the right support. This new panel will help this and Counsellor Spalding said he it would be great to work with Tom.
- Joe Batty mentioned he had worked with drug users, interesting to find out what the housing providers are doing. He thinks they should be challenged when they leave their housing.

Violence against the Person includes Domestic Violence. Classified as members of the same family or partners and includes assault with injury, harassment, other violence. Brompton & Hans Town is the biggest hotspot. Trend from last year started to rise. This year it has dropped a little in June.

Domestic Crime related to people within the same family, similar pattern to last year. This time of year it seems to be coming down which is different to last year. This maybe something to do with unlocking/locking down. May/June sees issues easing off. General violence is going up because people are out. Domestic crime is going down as lockdown easing.

The hotspots are Nottinghill, Brompton & Hans Town.

Residential Burglary – In June there were 76 offences, 6.17% less than last year.

This year is a lot more steady, generally people are indoors as lockdown. During the Summer people leave their windows open, we need to get the message out to remind people about this.

Non residential burglary which is similar as residential. June had 17 offences, a decrease of 37.04% from last year. Overall decline in burglary. Need to keep an eye on for the Summer.

The hotspot is Goldbourne.

Drugs Possession which is a priority for the panels/partnership. Drug possession, where Police discovered the offence through stop/searches. It peaked last year in July/August possible carnival time, we expect a similar pattern this year. There maybe some slight increase as pop up parties take place.

This is a problem across the borough. Last year it declined towards June. Currently going through a steady period. Earls Court is a hotspot.

- Counsellor Spalding queried the bar chart at the bottom of the slide.

Claire confirmed it showed each borough, the smaller figures are the monthly figures for June.

Drug Dealing is the biggest concern in the North. June had 15 offences, an increase of 150% from last year. There has been proactivity from the neighbourhood teams. Last year there was a peak in May but the opposite affect this year, but is now on the increase. It could be we are just finding it more. There is lots of work being done with the neighbourhood teams, it's very proactive.

Tom stated it had come down solely through proactivity and intelligence/warrants. Great work by the team.

Anti Social Behavior reports are classified as environment/nuisance/personal. For June there was a decrease of 32.91%. Generally related to the pandemic as a lot of people were home more often. Brompton & Hans Town were the hotspot.

- Counsellor Spalding queried the June 2020 and July 2020 as a huge drop (1349 to 989).

Claire stated it's potentially due to coming into lockdown, as fairly steady over the last 12 months.

I Grade Calls there are 4 ways of displaying the fastest type of call via 999.

Red shows the previous year, yellow is the current year.

Repose to DA is the emergency response to Domestic Violence – last year's figures in black, current year in light blue.

This year remained stable, but a higher level than last year. The pattern changed in March, keeping that level at a better rate than this time last year.

Response to DA, there is work needed here as there shouldn't be a difference.

Stop & Search the previous year peaked in July/Aug/Sept. There was an increase in Stop and search in late Spring. This year it has maintained stability. Stopping less

	<p>people, but outcomes are better. Tom has the best rates across the borough. Stop and search is mainly for drugs. Then weapons/stolen property/tools used to steal or cause damage.</p> <p>Stop and search isn't a finite result every time as it's an intelligence lead power. No further action is the most common. Positive outcome means judicial result – penalty notices, court summons, arrested.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harry Singer had a general question on feedback of general complaints – we used to have a report on how many complaints had been made/follow up. Can we add this in future? <p>Action – Claire to add to future reporting – what's happened/actions taken.</p> <p>Tom confirmed Stop and search complaints across the boroughs – there were only 3 complaints out of the 6,000 searches over the last 3 months. Great tool, not many complaints.</p>	
3	Borough Ward Panel Report	
	<p>Tom Sincock gave update. He became a new Inspector from January and has been reviewing panels and scrutiny of police, which is ongoing.</p> <p>We as police are being held to account/accessible to the communities. How are they operating/diverse/present in communities?</p> <p>It's been a difficult year with Covid and having to hold virtual panels.</p> <p>Across RBKC 18 wards, there are 17 ward panels (Campton & Holland have combined). Without 3 permanent Chairs (Courtfield, St Helens, Goldbourne). We are looking to fill with a Ward Panel Chair – let Tom know if you know anyone.</p> <p>There have been a few changes with the Panel – ASB/Serious Violence – there is a drive to make the priorities specific and SMART, need to drill into the data. Where is it happening/who committing/how tackle/with time frames. We are making the objectives SMART. We want/need to show a reduction in that crime.</p> <p>One priority is related to violence which is set by Police. One Ward Panel set by us, maybe serious drug use linked to violence. Violence across London is very high. Needs one priority to be tackled head on.</p> <p>We are heavily recruiting to get new members, we need to increase the numbers, need a representative of the community so we get scrutiny and accountability.</p> <p>Officers should be sending out a handbook to the panel members soon.</p> <p>With the ease of lockdown we maybe getting back to face to face meetings. Need to consider how to do this safely. Still have the option of virtual.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question from Counsellor Hammond regarding the Courtfield ward. We do have a functioning panel, we need to make sure all wards have a plan/formula for how a Ward Panel works. <p>Tom confirmed he needed a permanent chair for Courtfield.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counsellor Spalding queried whether are we allowed to know who is on the ward panel? Could the counsellors know? With regards to the data/minutes – are they allowed to share the data with residents etc. and share their minutes? <p>Tom confirmed the residents association/counsellors should be there and the minutes should be shared. Those people should be around that table.</p> <p>Action – Tom to look into Counsellor Wade not being allowed on the ward.</p> <p>Any issues e-mail Tom/Claire about Ward Panels – Thomas.sincock@met.police.uk</p>	
4	<p>RBKC Community Safety Plan</p>	
	<p>A paper was distributed prior to the meeting about how we are developing the next community safety plan. It is a statutory responsibility and statutory partnership. It was introduced as a statutory responsible for statutory partners to form a partnership to come together to engage with residents and analyse data.</p> <p>The paper shared provides an update. Describes the direction of travel and the priorities of the plan.</p> <p>After we last spoke there have been a number of conversations and consultations with residents, including workshops and questionnaires with as many meetings as possible. The meeting were structured around these questions. What are most important crimes and disorder, what can we do to tackle, how can community assist?</p> <p>A link to the report findings is in the report.</p> <p>Resident/stakeholders told us to focus on anti social behaviour. Begging/noisy neighbours/drugs. Wants to focus on drugs as a standalone priority.</p> <p>Violence has been a priority for some time it was endorsed again specifically violence around women/girls.</p> <p>Gives us an idea on current ideas for the next community safety plan and are reflected in the plan. 5.3 – sets out the introduction/how chose the priorities.</p> <p>Description of the issue/outline of the approach. Where we are/what to do/how to get where we need to get to.</p> <p>There is a set of objectives/KPIs. Cost cutting themes which are important, making sure prevention/early intervention is right. Providing universal services/targeting support services. Victims of Domestic assault which require specialist services to respond.</p> <p>Community engagement is at the centre, co–design and co-delivery, will work with us as a partnership. Residents want to be part of the solution. How we can physically make changes to the environment to design out crime, make it harder for criminals to operate?</p> <p>We are putting the plan together. We have good feedback on plan/processes today. The timetable is too tight.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question from John Walker – Wardens have not been mentioned. Stuart confirmed wardens spend more time in Earls Court ward and was concerned they hadn't been seen. The wardens are part of the details of how we will deliver the solutions. Send Stuart an e-mail if you want to go out for a walk with the Wardens. <p>Stuart also confirmed Wardens aren't assigned Wards. NSL – was a pilot around litter and waste. We do need to get better at letting you all know when the Wardens are about.</p> <p>Claire will look at what we report on Nextdoor and take advantage of social media. She can arrange some updates regarding patrols done each day/where they might have been at certain points.</p> <p>Resolutions – sanction detections. Action – Tom to look at the sharing of information on sanctions going forwards. Look at putting the information on Nextdoor once the arrest being made. Maybe in future meetings we can discuss sanction/detection. Need to look at the whole data and what is needed for future meetings.</p> <p>Confirmed the charts will go in the minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spencer Parsons queried where in Earls Court the wardens were spending their time, are they concentrating on the main road? <p>Stuart can provide more details or bring the warden manager to a future meeting to discuss in more details their work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vasiliki queried the cameras in the street project. <p>Stuart confirmed the CCTV goes to a centre, the council extended the network by 27 cameras and signed off a CCTV strategy. There is an extended network of cameras. Stuart – will share this.</p>	
5	Report from the Chair	
	<p>Reports are online – email with link was shared before the meeting.</p> <p>A high level overview was given. Kim and others are on the board exec, MOPAC meetings – we are putting out a new police and crime plan, a major plan in response to BLM. It is a community engagement piece, but isn't finalised yet.</p> <p>With regards to funding we are yet to hear from MOPAC about the funding for this year. We are unlikely to get funding for new projects. At the end of the budget year funds can be carried forward for the projects not completed during the pandemic.</p>	
6	General Q&A	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roger Baresel asked how long Claire is likely to stay in the borough as he's seen a large turnover in Police staff and seen a few Chief Inspectors through the borough. <p>Claire believes trust and confidence is super important which is built through relationships and keeping promises. This tends to be transient within a large</p>	

	<p>organization. Claire confirmed she had no intention of moving on. She applied for the role with 10 candidates. Claire wants to work here, she has no eyes on anything else. She is a young CI going through the promotion process. It has just been confirmed that Claire is being retained, no intentions of management moving Claire.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harry Singer queried how we can give informal feedback on police complaint handing/about concerns with the complaints process? • Action - Claire/Tom will take this off line. Harry forwarding Harry's details to Tom. <p>Demographics of the meetings is on Claire's agenda, and needs to be more representative of the community. Claire asked if attendees could ask around and invite as many people as possible to the meetings.</p>	
7	Close	
	Meeting closed 7.34 pm. Thanked Stuart/Clare/Tom for their presentations.	