

Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea RBKC Safer Neighbourhood Board Meeting

Reports from Executive Members

Neighbourhood Watch – Caryl Harris

“Neighbourhood Watch volunteers are often characterised as a group of Keyhole Kate’s spying on their neighbours and interfering in their nearby neighbour’s lives”. John Hayward Cripps said this at a recent NHW conference. However, from the regular meetings I attend around the Borough, and to date, I have chalked up 114 meetings with the Safer Neighbourhood Ward residents and Dedicated ward Officers around this Borough, we (John and I) agree that the majority of police officers’ benefit and encourage the insight and partnership these volunteers bring with them to these meetings we attend every three months around our Borough.

But we both also know it is the absence of “engagement” between these meetings across all of the wards and indeed, the London Borough’s that is missing, because we do not Tweet nor Twitch. And have no vehicle to provide this.

As I have found Safer Neighbourhood Teams, made up of dedicated ward police and their local ward engaged residents are a very powerful tool whose efforts create a safer and stronger community.

And the only real item holding our wards back is a dedicated ward network platform or site that they can view online, whenever they wish - which hopefully will be launched at the end of this September.

I am working in unison with all the Wards residents and police to create a platform that presents throughout the day, all the wards police team’s tweets within the RBKC Ward Network to demonstrate exactly what each ward team is currently doing. If they post a tweet, this will automatically appear on their ward platform.

Every week the Ward statistics on crime and maps of their “priorities” will be there on the platform to be clearly seen. No need to search the Met Police Site.

Any news or views within the ward, or wider in the Borough relating to crime or events can be posted by the Chair of the Ward or the DWO Police teams. Information relating to the Ward Meetings will be shown well in advance so that the ward members can attend if they wish or at the very least, know what is happening on their ward.

The Ward DWO teams will be shown individually (as they move on their replacements will be added) and above all under their photographs will be their Ward’s preferred method of contact. Some teams prefer a telephone number, whereas others prefer an email direct to them.

And I hope what will be music to the ears of all those who miss the messages from OWL. These will be displayed as regularly and when the police teams wish them to be, so OWL still has a place.

Above all else, this is a simple method of engagement that will link all the RBKC wards together and recreate that ‘80’s feeling of NHW - providing an opportunity for any responsible resident to take a part/interest in their community’s safer neighbourhood – and provide, at a glance valuable information and an improved relationship between their ward officers and themselves to enable them all to ‘share’ the valuable local intelligence and common ground between our ward communities.

Stop & Search Community Monitoring – Lucy Smith-Ryland

There has been a great increase in Stop & Search and it is believed it has driven the murder rate down by a third. 15!% reduction in the number of under 25's. In the last few months we have had a number of Section 60's issued. This means that the Police can Stop & Search without reason. This is usually issued after a knife incident and/or because there is intelligence. We had a Section 60 issued the whole way through Carnival last year and it had a marked difference to the trouble that was experienced. I, as CMG Lead for Stop and Search alert as much of the Community as I can that the section has been imposed to try and discourage people to go on the streets armed.

It is interesting to know too that part of the Scottish Model we are so heavily relying on to help us combat knife crime started the programme with a vastly increased campaign of Stop & Search.

Most of the section 60's have been north of Notting Hill Gate and the dates are as follows:

- 1/5/19 16.30 - 0200
- 30/4/19 16.55 - 01.00
- 4/4/19 16.00 - 02.00
- 23/3/19 23.30 - 11.03
- 24/3/19 18.00 - 03.00
- 09/03/19 16.45 - 03.00
- 07/03/19 16.40 - 04.00
- 06/03/19 20.05 - 05.00
- 27/04/19 21.00 - 07.00

From the start of March 2019 from the Section 60's there were 86 Stops and searches.

154 searches for weapons, points, blades under section 1

- 16 arrests for weapons
- 160 arrests in total
- 17 PNDS - disorder cannabis tickets
- 25 Postal charge requisition a
- 136 Community resolutions

This is just over 20% outcome rate.

Most of my colleagues on other boroughs for Stop & Search CMG's along with myself feel that although we must closely monitor the increased stop and search, we support the Police with this increase given the soaring knife crime with young people.

Independent Custody Visiting Panel – Vassiliki Stavrou

This report covers the period 18 th January 2019 – 13 th May 2019	
Custody Suites Visited	West End Central Police Station (post Jan 4 th , 2019, due to renovations at Charing Cross) Belgravia (from 2 nd May until present, due to an urgent issue with smoke detectors at West End Central)
Summary of ICV Visits	
Visits scheduled: 17	Visits conducted: 12 (please note some recent reports may not have been uploaded yet)
Number held in detention at time of visits: 127	Number of detainees spoken to: 55
<p>There are a number of reasons why a detainee may not be interviewed; they may be asleep or out of the cell being interviewed, booked in or released, or with a solicitor or healthcare professional; custody staff may advise ICVs not to interview a detainee on health and safety grounds and a detainee may decline an interview. Visual checks can be made on those detainees in their cell but not interviewed.</p>	
General Observations	<p>The escorting DDOs were generally found to be very helpful.</p> <p>West End Central is temporarily closed due to issues with the smoke detectors. Belgravia is being used instead.</p>
Issues Raised	<p>There are sporadic issues with ICVs gaining access to custody due to phones not working, however the custody sergeant has provided a full list of phone numbers which ICVs can use to gain entry. This issue may be compounded by the frequent change of custody suite visited (i.e. Charing Cross, Belgravia, West End Central)</p> <p>Appropriate Adults are very hard to find, particularly for adults with mental health issues. The ICV Panel felt that MOPAC should be pushing the issue of appropriate adult provision in London. There was acknowledgment that this is a national issue and should also be raised through the ICV chairs' meeting.</p> <p>There are ongoing heating issues in Charing Cross, with one half of the building identified as too hot while the other is too cold.</p>
MOPAC ICV Panel Coordinator	<p>Max Lawson Max.Lawson@mopac.london.gov.uk</p> <p>020 7084 2648</p>

Community Safety Programme Board update - Stuart Priestley

1.1. Building Safer Communities Plan/Communities Plan

- The Building Community Safety Plan has been completed and signed off by the Leadership Team in March. All agreed that more data and analysis was needed in the final plan. Stuart Priestley will bring the final draft of the community safety plan to the meeting on the 18th July
- The Leadership Team have asked for the final report to be brought to full council, to prepare for this, the plan will be brought to the following meetings:
 1. Executive and Corporate Scrutiny – 8 July
 2. Safer Neighbourhood Board Public meeting
 3. Community Safety Programme Board 18th July
 4. Full Council sign off on 16th October

1.2. Tri-Borough Re-Offending Board

- A Tri-Borough Re-Offending Board has been set up to support better coordination of adult offender services
- Stuart Priestley will be developing a stand-alone serious youth violence strategy. The board agreed that this is something that should be doing

1.3. Crime Performance in the borough

- A brief overview was provided by Helen Harper covering the BCU changes. At the meeting, she was joined by two Intelligence recruits who will be assigned to analyse data on crime across the BCU. Below is a summary of what was discussed.
- Last year, burglary was the 6 highest crime in the borough with £5.5 million stolen across the borough.
- Hot spots for Burglary related crime - Brompton and Hans town, Courtfield and Colville
- A separate agenda item at the next meeting will focus on data analysis.

1.4. Consultation of new legal duty to support multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling Serious Youth Violence

- The Government are consulting on a new legal duty to support multi-agency approach to tackling serious youth violence.
- All agreed to contribute to the Serious Youth Violence Consultation, deadline for the comments is the 21st May.

2. What was agreed

- All agreed to the plans set out in the Building Safer Communities Plan
- All agreed that more data and analysis should be included in the Building Safer Communities Plan
- All agreed to the Community Safety Team delivering fortnightly community engagement activities.
- All agreed to having Intelligence Analysts present at the next Programme Board meeting on the 18th July
- All agreed that a stand-alone Youth Violence Strategy was a good idea
- All agreed that more data and analysis should be included in the Building Safer Communities Plan
- All agreed that a young person/people should be represented on the Community Safety Programme Board
- Stuart will deliver a CCTV Stakeholder Engagement Event to take place in July including residents, councillors and staff to identify our CCTV outcomes
- Stuart will be setting up a CCTV Advisory Group made up of Councillors, residents and officers
- The Communities Safety Team will be delivering Fortnightly community engagement activities across the borough to raise the profile of the Team.