

Meetings Programme

There has been some minor alteration to the schedule to accommodate availabilities of key personnel and partners' programmes (e.g. the MPA Drugs Scrutiny).

- 31 October 06** **CPCG Annual General Meeting**
- Stockwell Resource Centre** Closing Date for Nominations for Board Elections and motions for the AGM is Friday 6 October.
- 7 November 06** **Arresting Matters.**
- West Indian Ex-Service Men and Women's Club, Clapham.** This meeting will be devoted to arrest and what follows. It will be an opportunity for the police to update us on recent changes (eg to what constitutes 'arrestable', the alternatives of fixed penalty notices, drug referral schemes, DNA sampling etc), for the MPA/MPS to describe their strategy for custody and for the Independent Custody Visitors to give an independent input on their routine experiences, especially in respect of people with Mental Health problems.
- 6:30 pm**
- Note later start time to allow for parking restrictions
- 5 December 06** **Safer Lambeth Partnership¹**
- St John's, Waterloo** An update on progress with the 2005-8 Community Safety Strategy, the borough's Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy, CCTV Strategy and related matters.
- 9 January 07** **Drugs**
- Lambeth Accord, Brixton** Nationally, over half of all acquisitive crime is estimated to be drugs related. What is the strategy in Lambeth and what are its priorities? How sustainable is it? How is the balance struck between enforcement and treatment? How well are local initiatives integrated with wider scale activity directed at drugs supply chains? These are some of the issues we hope to address.
- (note date)**
- The Metropolitan Police Authority is currently undertaking a Scrutiny into Drugs Policing (details at <http://www.mpa.gov.uk/committees/cop/2006/060901/10.htm>) and the Scrutiny Panel has indicated that some of its members will join us for the event.

¹ The Safer Lambeth Partnership (also known as the Crime and Disorder Partnership) brings together the police, Lambeth Borough Council, the Primary Care Trust, the Probation Service, the Prison Service and other statutory agencies to address community safety issues in the borough. CPCG is represented on the SLP Board by its Chair. The Safer Lambeth Partnership is a part of the Lambeth Strategic Partnership.

It is sometimes necessary to vary the programme, or venues, to respond to events. Members will be informed directly and details will be posted on the website (www.lambethcpcg.org.uk)

We shall roll forward the programme forward by one month, each month. If members have any topics they would wish to see addressed, please contact the office. The 'Fear of Crime' meeting will now be held post January. Additional suggestions are LGBT issues (to align with LGBT history month in February) and Restorative Justice.

Independent Police Complaints Commission

The IPCC has indicated that their investigation into a complaint made by the family of John Charles de Menezes (called 'Stockwell 2' and regarding the information given by the police immediately following the shooting), is nearing completion and they expect to publish their report later in the autumn.

At a CPCG meeting in January 2005, IPCC Commissioner for the South East, Mehmuda Miam Pritchard said that she was reviewing the report from Greater Manchester police into the arrest of Sylbert Farquharson in Lambeth in 1995. (<http://www.downloads.lambethcpcg.org.uk/Minutes0501.pdf>). The IPCC has now directed MPS to undertake disciplinary procedures against four currently serving officers who were involved in the arrest.

Carmelita Tulloch Stabbing

Following the tragic stabbing of Carmelita Tulloch on 5 September, two lively community meetings were held in the Vauxhall area – the first in Bonnington Square and the second organised by residents of Arrowsmith House, Vauxhall Gardens Estate. The latter meeting included a memorial for Carmelita Tulloch. Both meetings, which were attended by representatives of the police and local authority raised residents concerns over crime in the area generally, and at the Arrowsmith House meeting undertakings were given for report-backs in November.

Anna Tapsell and Paul Andell attended the Arrowsmith House meeting, and Ben McKendrick the Bonnington Square meeting, on behalf of CPCG. Further details can be had from them and minutes of the Bonnington Square meeting are available from the office.

McDonalds Shootings, Brixton (28 September)

Anna Tapsell, Paul Andell, Canon Ivelaw Bowman, Wesley Walters-Stephenson, Cheryl Sealey and Lee Jasper attended a Lambeth United meeting on Friday 29 September called in response to this shooting. A public meeting has been called by Lambeth Borough Council on **Wednesday 4 October at 8:00 pm in Lambeth Assembly Hall, Lambeth Town Hall.**

Deployment of Armed Police Officers to Brixton Tube Station

Following concerns expressed at the September CPCG meeting regarding the deployment of armed officers to Brixton Tube Station on Bank Holiday Monday, Anna Tapsell, Paul Andell, Gill Kenealy and Jim Toohill met with Supt Jonathan Tottman (Lambeth MPS), Det. Chief Supt. Steve Dann and Chief Insp. Patrick Beynon (Lambeth MPS, Community and Partnership) The briefing given covered:

- the intelligence operation in the months leading up to the Notting Hill Carnival (which is nationwide);
- the community engagement undertaken in the lead up to the Carnival (which is in the main restricted to the Notting Hill area);
- the deployment of security arches (which detect metal) to 8 tube stations around London (including Brixton), where there were indications that weapons might be carried *en route* to the Carnival;
- the intelligence that there may be an attempt to carry arms through Brixton tube arrived on Bank Holiday Monday morning, leading to the deployment in the afternoon;
- the Section 60 was issued by British Transport Police, with the Lambeth MPS duty officer being informed.
- Overall, the policing of the Carnival was considered a success with levels of reported crime down 20% on 2005.

Acknowledging the extent of the intelligence operation, and the success in policing the Carnival, CPCG nonetheless reiterated our concerns concerning the manner of the armed deployment, both in terms of community reaction and safety, and the extent of the community impact assessment which preceded the arches operation overall and the deployment of armed officers in particular. It was agreed that:

- Consideration should be given to extending community engagement prior to carnival, beyond the Notting Hill area, given that there is now a London wide policing implication;
- The opportunity be sought to speak directly with CO19 regarding procedures governing the tactics and assessments around armed deployments such as this.

Funding

The funding issues raised in the September briefing have now been largely resolved, following a meeting between Anna Tapsell and Jim Toohill with Tim Rees and Chris Calnan of the MPA. The MPA has said that they will now release the balance of funding for 2006/7. We are grateful to Tim and Chris, and link member John Roberts, for expediting this matter.

Operation Neon

On the evening of 21 September, two members of the Group accompanied police officers taking part in the initiative Operation Neon as Community Observers. Operation Neon involves the stopping of people in motor vehicles after having used a mobile Automatic Number Plate Reader (ANPR) to identify cars which the police believe they have good reason to stop, especially in respect of guns. Prior to the operation taking place the Community Observers attended a briefing session in the afternoon.