

Future Meetings Schedule

3 April: 6:30 pm at the **St Luke's Church**, West Norwood, Knight's Hill SE27

'Restorative Justice'

Restorative Justice is a judicial response which has often been raised at our meetings, particularly at our elders meeting last summer. A new report on the efficacy of Restorative Justice has just been published whilst, in a related area, a pilot of community nomination of projects for those serving community service has been announced for Camberwell Court. What is the state of play in our borough and what is the further potential for these initiatives?

1 May: 6:00 pm at the **Assembly Hall, Lambeth Town Hall**, Brixton Hill SW2 1RW

'Stop and Search'

Update from Lambeth Stop and Search Monitoring Group on developments in Lambeth and across London.

5 June: 6:30 pm at **St Anne's Community Centre**, Harleyford Road, SE11 (Between Oval Cricket Ground and Vauxhall Train/Underground Station)

'Terrorism Update'

(Note: Meetings at venues away from the centre of the borough start half an hour later to allow for travel)

Terrorism: The London Debate

The Metropolitan Police Authority have now released a report of the extensive consultation (of which CPCG's October 06 meeting was a part) they have held around the response to the threat of terrorism. It contains a number of recommendations for both the MPS and other agencies, including a review of the effectiveness – in the broadest sense – of Section 44 Terrorism Stops and Searches.

The report can be downloaded from:

<http://www.mpa.gov.uk/downloads/committees/mpa/070222-06-appendix01.pdf>

or hard copies can be made available from the CPCG office.

Operation Neon

The period immediately following the tragic shooting of Billy Cox, considerable additional policing resources were made available to Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham boroughs. These included the use of armed officers in a mobile operation

called Operation Neon. This involves a team of police officers, including armed officers, stopping and searching (principally) vehicles which have an association with arms and/or drugs. Identification methods include the use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition. The Stops are conducted by armed officers under strict protocols.

CPCG members were able to attend briefings for these operations, and accompany the teams on four evenings. Their feedback was:

- Reactions from onlookers and passers by was generally supportive of the aims of the operation, though some queried the effectiveness and proportionality;
- Experiences differed across the four evenings in terms of the extent to which CPCG members felt that they were able to observe closely the Stops procedure (within the constraints of an armed operation). On three of the four evenings observers felt they had as unrestricted an access as was reasonably feasible, on the fourth less so.
- On one evening, CPCG were able to observe the Intelligence back-up at New Scotland Yard. On that occasion it appeared to be stretched, but we understand that resources were enhanced for subsequent evenings.
- Generally, the Stops and Searches appeared to be carried out professionally with due regard to safety of police, 'stopees' and the public generally and with minimal disruption to the immediate area.

MPS Lambeth have undertaken to provide an evaluation of the set of Neon Operations, in terms of the results gained relative to the resources expended.

Domestic Violence

CPCG has initiated a research project, in conjunction with MPS Lambeth and the Gaia Centre, to examine the effective (or otherwise) use of information gathered by police officers attending domestic violence incidents. The project is scheduled to report in the summer, and will address such questions as

- The impact that the implementation current recording methods may have had on the outcome of domestic violence crimes, including enabling victimless prosecutions to be pursued, better managing risk for domestic violence victims and reducing opportunities for re-offending;
- Any impact on key performance statistics for domestic violence crimes, such as the number of victimless crimes charged and/or prosecuted; and
- The experience and satisfaction of victims of domestic violence crime, including any changes in experience pre and post implementation, where possible.

Further details are available from Anna Tapsell.

Stop and Search

The Stop and Search Monitoring Sub-Group is progressing the development of a Schools Resource Pack, to be used in schools, principally in Citizenship classes. The pack, the production of which is being coordinated by NACRO, will include input

from NACRO, young people, teachers and the police. It will in a largely electronic format (to integrate with the White Board technology now common in schools) and will address young people's experience, rights and the law, the purpose of Stop and Search, statistics, accountability and how to get involved. It is anticipated that the pack will be completed by the summer.

The Sub-Group is also examining the impact of centralised logging of Stops and Searches (and Stops and Accounts) on Lambeth's performance monitoring. The Sub-Group is scheduled to give a presentation to the May CPCG meeting.

Funding

The March meeting of MPA's Coordination and Policing Committee (1 March) received funding recommendations from MPA officials for London borough Community-Police consultation groups. For the first year in a few, Lambeth CPCG has been awarded its allocation without any "major" conditions. The award is for £50k, as we anticipated, though less than the bid. No borough has been awarded more than that.

Meetings Attended

(If you would like more information about these meetings, please contact the respective CPCG member through the office)

CPCG Board members attended Gold Groups, and public meetings, in respect of the shootings of both James Andre Smartt-Ford and Billy Cox.

Chairperson Anna Tapsell attended a regular meeting of Chairs of CPCCGs at Thursday, 15th February Scotland Yard, this time chaired by Assistant Deputy Commissioner Rose Fitzpatrick. There was a presentation by Assistant Commissioner Tarique Gaffaur on security arrangements for the Olympic Games. Anna raised the issue of media reports circulating of that day's meeting with Commissioner Blair and his Senior Officers, which stated that south London was going to be treated to 'a show of force' following the recent shootings. ADC Fitzpatrick gave assurances that the media had misrepresented the nature of the increased resources that would be made available. Anna talked later with Supt. Alistair Sutherland, who gave similar reassurances that the borough would not be flooded by armed police patrols or other inflammatory operations.

Jim Toohill attended a Workshop called by the MPA Drugs Scrutiny on 20 February, a meeting of the London wide Stop and Search Community Monitoring Network on 8 February and (as a "CPCG visitor") a meeting of Larkhall Ward Safer Neighbourhood Panel on 28 March.

Canon Ivelaw Bowman, Cheryl Sealey and Wesley Walters-Stephens made a number of contributions to broadcast, web and print media in the period following the shooting of Billy Cox.

The CPCG Board met with Ch Supt Martin Bridger (Borough Commander) and Supt Jonathan Tottman on 17 February to discuss the additional policing proposed following the recent shootings in South London.