

Future Meetings

There is no CPCG meeting in August. The remaining meetings for 2007 will be 4 September (Lambeth Town Hall), 2 October, 6 November, 4 December. Other venues to be confirmed.

Safer Neighbourhood Panels Meeting (6 June)

As indicated at the June CPCG meeting, this was called by CPCG in response to concerns from Safer Neighbourhood Panels over proposals presented to the Lambeth Borough Council Cabinet, as part of the Communities First initiative.

The meeting was attended by representatives of 17 out of the 21 Panels (18/22 including Brixton Town Centre), 4 Councillors and staff from MPS and LBL. A draft note of the meeting has been circulated to attendees for agreement and will be published on the CPCG website and available from the office.

Key outcomes were:

- Panels can proceed in their development at a pace and direction of their choosing;
- The proposal is that Panels would be encouraged to invite Councillors as non-voting members (many do already);
- There will be an engagement vehicle at a level above ward;
- Support for Panels with admin, publicity etc will be explored;
- A small group of Panel chairs will work with LBL and MPS in identifying needs and firming up the proposals.

Rastafarian Temple Raid Meeting (26 June)

This was held in response to requests from CPCG members. It provided an opportunity for members of the Rastafarian community and their supporters to raise their concerns in respect of the raid and events afterwards and also matters relating to their tenure in St Agnes place and alternative accommodation offered to them. Likewise MPS Lambeth were able to provide, as far as *sub judice* concerns allowed, a robust account of their actions.

The meeting was recorded and notes shall be produced and available from the office.

At the end of the meeting Richard Moore (Chair, Lambeth Crime Prevention Panel) initiated a petition seeking an independent inquiry into the raid. Details from Richard.

Operation Blunt: Knife Arch

On 19 June a CPCG observer was able to accompany an operation using a metal detecting arch, as part of the anti-knife Operation Blunt, in Brixton town centre. This is the second such operation CPCG has been able to observe and on this occasion were able to feed back comments on differences in policing style between the first (carried out by Lambeth police) and the second (carried out by the Territorial Support Group).

Operation Neon

On 21 June a CPCG observer accompanied police officers on the ongoing Operation Neon. The initiative involves Lambeth police and officers from the Territorial Support Group, CO19 (armed police) and Traffic Division. The latter assist by using an Automatic Number Plate Reader to identify suspect vehicles which are stopped and may be searched for firearms. On this occasion there were no arrests but the CPCG observers will continue to make themselves available for further operations.

Stop and Search

The Stop and Search Monitoring Group has agreed a work plan going forward which will include quarterly reports to CPCG (through an insert in the Police Report). The first will be in October. Discussions with the Stop and Search Group within Territorial Policing at NSY have identified a route for extending Stop and Search analysis beyond arrest and the Monitoring group will be pressing the case for the necessary IT development, working with other borough monitoring sub-groups and pan-London Stop and Search MPA/MPS/Community working groups. The Monitoring Group's work plan also includes supporting Lambeth MPS in developing internal performance monitoring frameworks.

Lambeth Country Show (21/22 July)

CPCG shall have a presence at Lambeth Country show this year with a programme of debates, film screenings, a soap box and much more. Community organisations which are members of CPCG are welcome to take advantage of this opportunity for meeting a large cross-section of Lambeth's communities. If you would like a presence in the tent, please contact the office.

Tasers

Following the account given at a public meeting following the Rastafarian Temple raid, of an alleged use of a Taser in 'drive/touch stun' mode on an individual who was restrained (ie use close-to, without the use of barbs), CPCG's Board has taken this use up with the borough police. As far as we can establish, this is a novel usage, authorised from April, but the guidance remains marked 'Restricted'. We have queried with the MPA when this change in usage was approved by the authority, what consultation was carried out, what factors taken into account and how these changes have been communicated to Londoners

Meetings/Events Attended

On 29 June Anna Tapsell and Jim Toohill attended a public meeting in Streatham Vale called by Supt. Jonathan Tottman. The meeting was triggered by the death of Mr Khuynhty Hong, who died as result of trying to stop someone stealing his car. Other issues in relation to crime and anti-social behaviour were also raised. Cllr Mark Bennett and John Roberts (MPA Link Member) were also present.

On 29 June, Ivelaw Bowman attended a Gang Culture, Gun And Knife Crime conference hosted by the Crown Prosecution Service. Ivelaw also attended a conference on Young Black People And The Criminal Justice System organised by Nacro on 19 June. Papers are available from the office.

On 29 June, Anna Tapsell attended the Safer Lambeth Partnership Board meeting.