

Drug Deterrence Policy – enhanced use of anti-social behaviour powers to deter drug markets in Lambeth

A paper on proposals to seek post-conviction ASBO's against those going before the courts charged with dealing and/or possession of drugs in Lambeth, and publication of details of the ASBO's, went to Lambeth Borough Council's cabinet on Monday 1 October. It will go to the Safer Lambeth Partnership Board on 16 October.

Working with Brixton Town Centre Forum and Brixton Town Centre Safer Neighbourhood Panel Panel, CPCG has called a public meeting at **the Karibu Centre, Gresham Road for Tuesday 9 October at 7 pm**, where this proposal will be presented and discussed.

The Use of Tasers

Further to the Group's enquiries about the proposed extension to police use of Tasers (see September Briefing), MPA link member John Roberts has indicated that, at its meeting on 27 September, the MPA's Policing and Coordination Committee decided not to sanction this extension in London, pending further reports from the MPS.

MPA deputy chair Cindy Butts was quoted in news media as saying "The authority previously agreed to the deployment of Tasers in London as an alternative to firearms, and undoubtedly their deployment to critical incidents have saved lives. However, the proposal brought to us today was for Tasers to be used in addition to firearms, which is a significant development and one we were not happy to agree to without greater explanation of the implications and justification for this move."

Meetings Attended

21 September, Canon Ivelaw Bowman attended the Peace on the Streets – Guns, Gangs and Drugs discussion at the Assembly Hall, Lambeth Town Hall, which was reported to have been very well attended.

21 September, Anna Tapsell and Wesley Stephenson attended the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) headquarters in Holborn in relation to its investigation into the shooting dead of two men during an attempted armed robbery in Hampshire on 13 September. Both men had addresses in Lambeth. A third man has subsequently been arrested.

20 September, Canon Ivelaw Bowman and Wesley Stephenson attended Lambeth Council's Executive Committee for Youths, Gangs, and Violent Crime, which was referred to in the CPCG September Briefing

14 September, Anna Tapsell attended a Gold Group meeting at New Scotland Yard regarding the previous days police operation in Hampshire during which two suspected armed robbers were shot dead by police.

11 September, Anna Tapsell attended the Safer Lambeth Partnership meeting.

6 September, Paul Reynolds attended the Metropolitan Police Authority Full Committee meeting. At the meeting the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) gave its

response to the Independent Police Complaints Commission's report Stockwell Two, an investigation into complaints about the handling of public statements following the shooting of Jean Charles de Menezes on 22 July 2007 at Stockwell Tube Station. The response is at: <http://www.mpa.gov.uk/committees/mpa/2007/070906/07a.htm>

1 September, Gill Kenealy attended the opening of Peace Month in Windrush Square at which community and faith group representatives, senior police officers, local authority members and councillors were also present.

Operational

1 October, CPCG provided a further two observers for an Operation Blunt exercise. The operation uses intelligence based stops of people believed to be possession of a blade.

28 September, two CPCG members observed a British Transport Police operation in Brixton tube station which involved a knife arch i.e. a portal that can detect metal on people who pass through it. The operation ran smoothly with many travellers joining the arch queue voluntarily!

Membership

Since the last Group meeting, the CPCG has approved six applications for individual membership; Habiba Compaore, David Corderoy, Rosemarie Falaiye, John Howard, Brian Parker, David Prichard-Jones. An application to join CPCG from Lambeth Independent Appropriate Adult Support Group has also been accepted.

Please note, Lambeth CPCG is open to anyone who lives, studies or works in the Borough of Lambeth and it is free to join. If you would like an application form to become either an Individual Member or to affiliate your organisation, please contact the CPCG administrator, Ben McKendrick, at Unit 58, Eurolink Business Centre, 49 Effra Road, Brixton SW2 1BZ. Telephone 020 7733 0878. E-mail admin@lambethcpcg.org.uk or approach Ben at CPCG meeting.

Funding

CPCG has now received its full funding allocation for the financial year 2007-8 from the Metropolitan Police Authority.

Future Meetings

23 October 2007 - CPCG Annual General Meeting

6.00 p.m., Stockwell Community Resource Group. Board members who have served on the Board for more than a year have agreed to voluntarily stand again for election. Please note that this is a social as well as a formal event and food and drink will be available following the conclusion of CPCG business

6 November 2007 – 6.00 p.m., Assembly Hall, Lambeth Town Hall SW2 1RW

4 December 2007 – TBC

8 January 2008 – 6.00 p.m., Room 8, Lambeth Town Hall SW2 1RW