

**Meetings
/Events**

- 12 July Lambeth Community Safety Forum – see separate note of meeting (PA/JT)
- 2 August MPA consultation event on rollout of McPhereson Recommendation 61 (Stop and Account). Implementation starts October 1st. John Roberts lead MPA member. Evening consultation meeting write up awaited – concerns expressed over preparation/lack of for implementation; adequacy of training; time demands on officers. Will include in CPCG's October (JT)

MPA Stop and Search Scrutiny implementation Group .(PA)

- 17 August Lambeth CPCG Stop and Search Sub-Group; Progressing examination of Drugs Stops-Searches. For presentation at October meeting.
- 26 August Meeting with ICV Panel to progress issues of common concern (JT)
- 3 September Launch of Youth Council video launch attended by S&S sub-group members. (FS,BP, JT)

News

- ICV's Lambeth Panel of Independent Custody Visitors continue to undertake a statutory function whilst, following Counsel's decision, CPCG does not. This, together with practical considerations, has led ICV and CPCG officers to agree that administration of the two groups should go their separate ways. However, the two groups are committed maintaining a good working relationship and CPCG will continue to value input from ICV's unique insights.

- Funding Awaiting payment of first quarter's grant.

MPA have indicated they will reduce this years grant by the balance sheet surplus 31 March 2004. This is standard practice for MPA but CPCG are citing special circumstances relating to the office move.

Resolution of funding issues for the remainder of the year still in progress (separate item)

- Accommodation The Group's new office accommodation is very small, reflecting the massive hike in rents in Brixton Town centre (and the astonishingly good deal we were enjoying priorly). We are in discussions with the

ICV's to free up space by making use of Self Storage in West Norwood.

Consultations

Licensing (Lambeth BC) A consultation is underway regarding the implementation of the 2003 Licensing Act. Closing date is 1 October. Copies of the questionnaire may be found at

<http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/surveys/Env/licensingsurvey.htm>

Police Powers (Home Office) Release for consultation during the holidays, covers a number of changes to Police Powers. Changes in respect of CPSO's and arrestable offences most featured in the news. Closing date 8 October.

Details at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/docs3/PolicingConsultation.pdf>

Prostitution (Home Office) Consultation includes controversial options. Closure date 26 November 2004

http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/docs3/paying_the_price.pdf

MPA
Corporate
Strategy
(MPA)

Received 15 August for return 8 September.

Lambeth Community Safety Forum

This is a proposal for a new, borough wide community forum for crime and disorder issues. A number of CPCG members have enquired about this forum and its relationship with CPCG. This briefing is written as part of the accountability from CPCG Group Officers (JT and PA) to CPCG members. It is based primarily on two meetings, sets out our best understanding of the issues. Official minutes of meetings have not yet been produced so this account is based on notes and recall of meetings, email exchanges, discussions and so on. Some details (names, posts etc) may not be exactly accurate and representations of other people's views are made in good faith.

July Meeting

The new forum is a proposal from Rachel Heywood (Chair of Brixton Area Forum and Crime Working Group) with Harriet Smith (Director of Lambeth Crime Prevention Trust) and sponsored by Jonathan Toy (LBC Head of Community Safety). An initial meeting was called for 12 July, with representatives of 20 or so community groups invited.

In the event, 2 representatives of Brixton Area Forum attended (Rachel Heywood and Jim Toohill also a member of CPCG), together with the chair of Lambeth Leaseholders Forum (Marie Hennelly, also affiliate member of CPCG) and Paul Andell Vice-Chair of CPCG. Otherwise the attendance was:

Supt Andy Tarrant (Lambeth MPS)	Jonathan Toy (Lambeth BC Comm Safety)
Rebecca Walker (Drug and Alcohol Action Team)	Deborah Waterman (LBC Comm Safety)
	A N Analyst (LBC Comm Safety)
Harriet Smith (Lambeth Crime Prevention Trust)	A N Other (LBC Corporate Serv)
	Cllr Darren Sanders (Deputy Exec, Community Safety)
	Cllr Charles Anglin (Former Deputy Exec, Community Safety)

The meeting was chaired by Rachel. Jonathan gave a presentation about the structure and operation of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and AN Analyst gave one describing the analytic capacity, especially in mapping, of the Partnership. (It would be useful to invite Jonathan and colleagues to present some of this material at a CPCG event – there are some powerful tools now available)

Key discussion of the purpose and operation of the proposed forum was:

- There was a need to provide a means for a community input to the CDRP. Rachel (as Chair of Brixton Forum) sits on both the Board and Executive of the CDRP (Lee Jasper sits on the Board). It is difficult for community members to attend these meetings because they are held in the daytime. So the new forum could be a bridge into the CDRP. The forum would meet quarterly in the evening of every other CDRP Executive meeting (the latter meets 6 weekly). (Rachel)
- Front line services were looking for a means to reach 'hard to hear' groups (Andy and Rebecca)
- The policy function was looking for a forum for sounding out borough wide policy (Jonathan and Darren) There was some debate how far 'one size fits all' across the borough (Jim).
- Does the proposed forum duplicate CPCG? There was some ribaldry around the vocal nature of CPCG's public meetings which, sadly, is what people who don't know CPCG's work get to hear about. Rachel felt that the proposed forum and CPCG were about different jobs – Jim felt they couldn't be separated. Rachel and Harriet did not see the forum as a substitute for CPCG; Jonathan and Darren were non-committal.

- Jim and Paul argued that ultimately consultation has to be open and accessible. Rachel felt that the public meeting model could be far from accessible. Cllr Anglin felt that the proposed forum would have to have public events in some part.
- Discussion of Objectives and Terms of Reference was inconclusive and it was decided that Cllr Sanders, Rachel Heywood and Jim Toohill would meet separately to draft.
- It was not possible to elect a chair, given that the 'community' representation at the meeting was in the minority (it's anticipated that each of the statutory agencies' officers present will have voting rights).

Terms of Reference Meeting

This was between Cllr Darren Sanders, Rachel Heywood and Jim Toohill, on 5 August (after CPCG AGM and elections). Key points were:

- Is duplication with CPCG an issue? DS felt it was. JT felt we shouldn't get hung up on territorial issues rather on making sure that what needed to be done, got done. If there was convergence then we should deal with it in the longer term. Cllr Sanders said he would be meeting MPA officials in the subsequent week, to discuss the future of the CPCG.
- RH still felt that there was a distinction between CPCG (which she felt was about police accountability) and the Forum which would be about problem solving. JT felt this to be a false, and ultimately unsustainable distinction. The community must engage in both the means and the ends.
- JT reiterated that true consultation had to be open and accessible. He suggested that though the Forum might consider itself a Working Group whilst it settled down, ultimately it would have to open itself up to all comers.
- It was agreed that the forum didn't need a chair, a couple convenors would be more appropriate, to progress chase etc. Meetings would be chaired by whosoever had greatest competence in the issue in hand. The forum wouldn't claim to 'speak for the voluntary and community sector', rather it would be a hub for debate where alliances could be made, consensus developed.
- It was agreed that the forum should not seek a role in delivery, which would be picked up on by constituent members – singly or in alliances. DS felt that it should be a place to 'look a little way down the road' and address issues strategically. RH felt that the Forum should get involved in delivery.
- It was agreed that there shouldn't be prescription on how the Forum might access the CDRP structure; basically it was felt that the Forum should have access to the Board and/or Executive using whatever reasonable means it felt appropriate.
- There was lengthy discussion of possible members and whether, for example, there was a specific need for a BME representative or whether this might not be covered in some other group eg Faith Group.
- JT suggested that perhaps coordinating a borough response to the Home Office Prostitution consultation would be a useful initial project for the Forum. DS wondered if 'Red Card' schemes (s4 2003 ASB Act) might be suitable – he had concerns that these might cause frictions in much the way of Stop and Search and made reference to the MPA Stop and Search Scutiny. JT agreed to send DS copies of CPCG's input into the Scrutiny

Draft Aims for the Group, and Terms of Reference, emerging from this meeting, together with a list of suggested invitees, have been circulated to some of those who attended the 12 July meeting and subjected to email debate. The draft will be put to the next meeting of the proposed Forum, to be held in on October 4th.

Jim Toohill 6 September 2004

John Roberts
New MPA Link
Member for
Lambeth



Independent Member

John has over 12 years experience of working with “hard to reach communities” in London, gaining considerable knowledge and expertise working with the Metropolitan Police Service, drug and alcohol agencies, local health services and homeless people's agencies. John's career profile has ranged from being a hostel worker, a youth and community leader to a health promotions specialist and co-ordinator. John has a wide-ranging number of qualifications including an advanced diploma in counselling and psychotherapy, a diploma in drama, music and dance, a certificate in mediation and conflict resolution, training and Restorative Justice. He is also a qualified auricular acupuncturist. John is currently studying part-time for an MSc. in Systemic Management and Consultation at Birkbeck. John contributes many hours doing voluntary work including being a director and trustee at Vauxhall City Farm, he is Chair of riding for the Disabled Vauxhall Group, a referral order panel leader for Tower Hamlets Youth Offending Team and an active member in his local community board in Lambeth.

John says, “ I have a pragmatic “can do” personality and as a Londoner feel responsible for ensuring minority groups are heard and listened to. I want to be involved from the inside transferring my skills into something I passionately believe in. I look forward to being part of an Authority that can make real changes in the way the police become more transparent and accountable for the way they police London and our many diverse communities”.

Specific interests

- Training and diversity particularly LGBT issues
- Public order and community policing
- Hate and domestic violence crimes

MPA Press Release 60/04
06 August 2004

The Metropolitan Police Authority is pleased to welcome John Roberts as a new independent member of the Authority. John was appointed at the start of the MPA's second term and will serve as the link member for Lambeth.

Commenting on his appointment John said:

"I am delighted to take up my appointment as an independent member of the Metropolitan Police Authority.

"One of my primary motivations for applying was to be part of making London safer for everyone.

"I am particularly concerned with how the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) deal with issues of diversity in policing. As deputy chair of the Equal Opportunities and Diversity Board I will ensure that Londoners get a fair and consistently high level of policing. I will bring to the MPA my experience of working with many communities and hope that my skills will enable me to guide the MPS to ensure their policies address greater fairness for all.

"October sees the rollout across London of Recommendation 61 of the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry Report, and I chair the implementation group. Recommendation 61 states that when an officer stops a person, he must give them a record of that stop. Previously only people who were stopped and searched received a written record. This could have a significant impact on improving community trust and confidence and is a major step towards making the police more accountable to the public.

"Community safety and taking full account of all London's diverse communities and groups is a key challenge the MPA must address in the advice and guidance it offers the Met."

Len Duvall, Chair of the MPA, said:

"John's dedication to working with his local communities and personal skills make him a valued member of the MPA.

"I am pleased to welcome him to the MPA on behalf of all the members and staff."