

Your Shout!



Annual Report

2007/8

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Chair's Report

As I started to draft this report I was at the sixth day of the Inquest into the death of Jean Charles de Menezes. I recalled that at our last AGM his tragic killing was very much at the forefront of our minds. Now, three and a half years later, it remains so. The awfulness of his death is counterpointed by the fact that our young men continue to die here, in our midst, with ghastly regularity and as I complete my report tonight another young man has been killed by a gun and another family will be wreaked with grief and the particular desolation that comes from sudden and meaningless violence.

Despite the thoughtful paper produced by John Pitts from the work of the Guns and Gangs Commission, we seem no nearer to a convincing multi-agency strategy for counteracting the violent culture that is sapping the energy and life from our children in South London. Whilst there are pockets of excellent diversionary work being done by many agencies in the borough, including the police, the violence continues, much of it unreported. Given the economic recession and the effect that will have on the lives of already impoverished families in Lambeth, the outlook is bleak. So much has been written and so much has been promised; yet we have still not resourced real multi-agency working with the urgency that the situation demands. We fear for the death of a police officer, or the shooting of a youth by a police officer, and the alarming consequences that would follow.

We know that the gangs are no longer chaotic, although those much younger followers or members may be. We know that it takes courage on the part of a child and really committed and focussed parenting to stay clear of the gang's minor league. We know how children who do not have that commitment and support are hugely vulnerable, most especially if their family relationships are unstable and their environment poor. The various statutory bodies know who these families are. Yet, children are still excluded from schools without a full educational and welfare programme involving the parents; the home situation is still not adequately addressed and the various elements of partnership in the statutory and voluntary sectors are not equally committed, or resourced, into that family contract.

I am not saying anything new, but I am trying to express the frustration of the Board and our members that is so evident at all our public meetings, not just recently, but going back years. Our archives are testament to the acute awareness of Lambeth's black and minority ethnic (BME) communities to the growing alienation of their children from a society that continues to fail them; and we cannot discuss serious violent crime in Lambeth unless we recognise who it's victims are.

The strength of Lambeth Community-Police Consultative Group (CPCG) is the fact that it has been a reliable community resource for over twenty-five years. Lord Scarman was nobody's fool when he recognised, in his report following the Brixton riots, that the police service could only be successful if it operated with the consent of the people it served. If he were here today I think he would expect the same of the Safer Lambeth Partnership (SLP), which brings together all those agencies that can make Lambeth a safer and more peaceful place to live and work. He would also expect that the CPCG, a product of his efforts, would insist that the SLP answered to the community as the police now do. Amazingly, the Government has determined that very thing in its new guidance on community consultation and our December public meeting will be the first 'face the people' event for the SLP and, most appropriately it will address the issue of community safety as it affects the young.

Another strength of Lambeth's CPCG has been its absolute independence from political or financial interference. We have never sought funding directly from the police or the Council and I hope we never will. The grant we receive from the Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA) is subject to six monthly reviews to ensure that we maintain a certain level of activity as well as being financially prudent. On both counts Lambeth's CPCG exceeds those expectations and we are awarded the maximum level of MPA grant, which is £50,000 a year. After the fixed cost of our one staff member and office accommodation, we are now left with a wafer thin margin on which to undertake activities

Those activities this year have been well over target: another successful appearance at Lambeth's Country Show; presentations at all three People's Expo events early in the year; special meetings on the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) investigations into the shooting of Jean Charles de Menezes and participation in

reassurance gatherings following tragic incidents of murder during the year. Our monthly public meetings have grown in attendance and the work of our sub-groups, particularly those on Stop and Search and the Policing of Domestic Violence have attracted London-wide attention. Three of our Board members contributed to the Commission on Guns and Gangs and every member of the Board has monitored police operations during the year: including, the ongoing Operation Neon (where a convoy of police vehicles from various units seeks out cars that may be carrying guns); Operation Blunt (knife arches); police presence at evictions, raids on clubs allegedly operating illegally, dispersal zones, estate meetings on police activities and much more besides on an almost daily basis. Our Board members have assisted the IPCC on community reference groups and have attended London-wide CPCG meetings with the Commissioner, the MPA Domestic Violence Committee and many advisory forums, such as Operation Trident.

I am grateful to the Borough Commander, Ch. Supt. Sharon Rowe and to all her officers for being always accessible to us and for their work in helping to develop what I believe is now a frank, open and productive relationship. I also want to acknowledge the fact that Lambeth has benefitted in the last year from a significant reduction (for the sixth year running) in volume crime, placing us in the middle of reported crime across London's thirty-two boroughs. This is no small feat and the police and the SLP are to be congratulated.

I have been lucky to be supported by a strong Board. Each one of them has brought a wealth of experience and expertise to our endeavours and I am grateful to them all, particularly Paul Reynolds who is standing down this year.

Above all, I am truly grateful to the diverse Lambeth communities who have supported us by their insistence on being heard and their continued determination to focus minds on how harsh life can be here, particularly for our young people.

This current year has seen something of a sea-change in our relationship to the Partnership and the new Board will have to work hard to ensure that the momentum is not lost and that our accountability to the community that supports us is absolutely fundamental to everything we do.

Anna Tapsell

17 October 2008

Vice-Chairs' Report

It has been yet another busy year for the CPCG and its Board. As the longest serving CPCG officers, we are able to say with confidence that relations between the CPCG and the local police are progressing in terms of community orientated policing. However, the nature of crime and the responses to it is constantly changing. Issues of serious violence between gangs and groups of youths from different areas appear high on the agenda, whilst the victimisation of the vulnerable, older residents and those with mental health issues are of concern for the CPCG.

The way in which these issues are addressed is changing and the CPCG, in its scrutiny and accountability role, is changing in accordance with this. The SLP, a partnership between the police, council, and other partners has a strong role to play in addressing issues of crime and disorder in Lambeth, which is why the CPCG has ensured that we have a presence on the Partnership Board and that this partnership work will be discussed at no fewer than two dedicated meetings per year.

We are at the early stages of establishing public accountability meetings with the Territorial Support Group (TSG). The TSG attended and gave a presentation to one of our recent public meetings. The CPCG response was as expected, particularly given recent complaints and live testimonies that were heard. However, this is the beginnings of a relationship which must storm before it can form and respect is due to the TSG for taking the time to listen to the concerns of the public in order to build confidence.

The Stop and Search Monitoring Group (SSMG) is covered elsewhere in this report but we would like to say that we continue to be viewed as best practice for this work and the ripple effect of our work is felt beyond Lambeth. The SSMG continues to innovate and has drafted an initial proposal for low level resolution of complaints where by individuals or groups can sit down with an individual officers or groups of officers and discuss why interactions were poor with the aim of resolving differences and building confidence in each other.

Paul Andell (Vice-Chair and Chair of Stop and Search Monitoring Group)

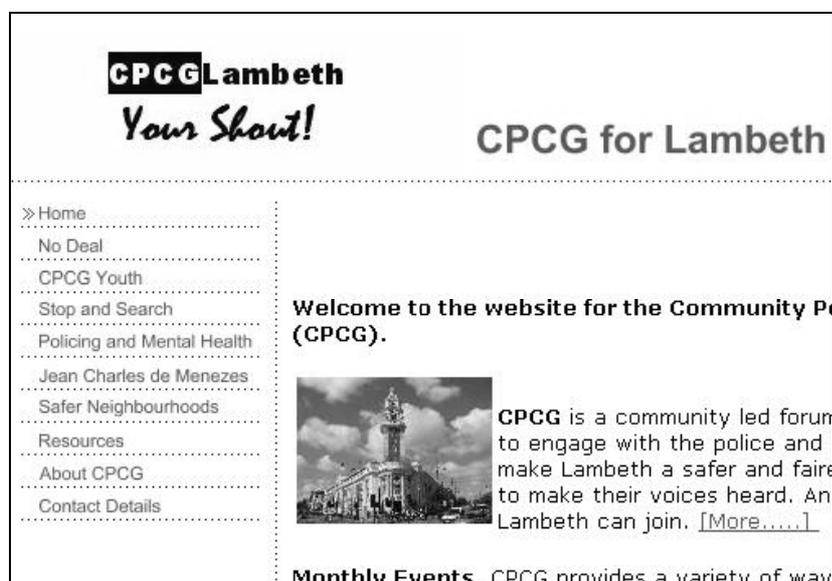
Wesley Walters-Stephenson (Vice-Chair)

What We Do

Our aim is to provide anyone who lives, works or studies in Lambeth with opportunities to engage with the Police, and the wider SLP, so that they can contribute to making Lambeth a safer and fairer borough. We provide a number of vehicles to do this, ranging from access to information through our website, regular and ad hoc public meetings, to joint working with police and other agencies, in our working groups or in contributing to the briefing and monitoring of police operations, for example.

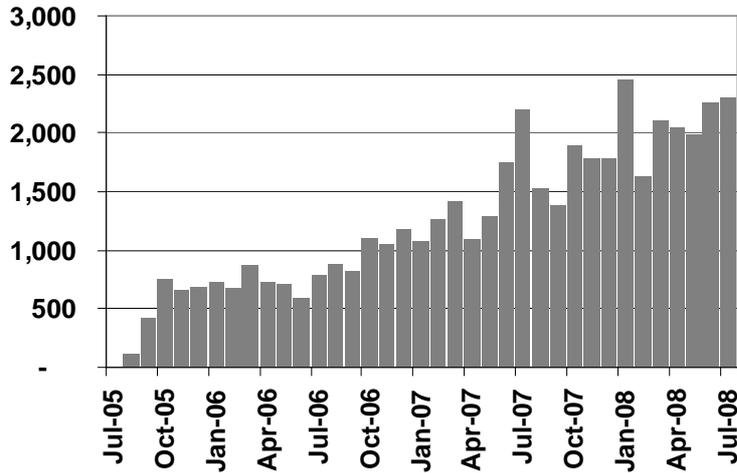
WEBSITE

Since its inception, the number of visitors to our website has grown steadily to over 2,000 per month by July 2008. These are still small numbers relative to big players on the web, but provide a useful adjunct to the 100 or so people we interact with each month in person, and of course the site is available 24/7.



Analysis of the pages visited shows a good half of visitors download information such as the monthly police report or presentations made at meetings.

UNIQUE VISITS TO CPCG WEBSITE EACH MONTH



A 'Unique Visit' is one where the user loads more than one page

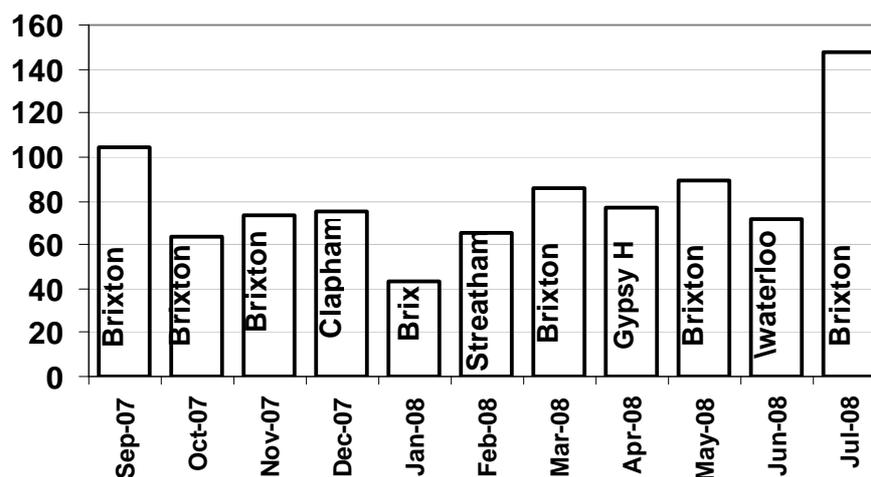
REGULAR MEETINGS



CPCG for Lambeth continues to hold open access public meetings 11 times a year around the borough, invariably attracting healthy attendances. The borough extends from the very heart of the capital to leafy residential suburbs and encompasses high-density estates, commercial trading town centres and a growing number of night time destination. Our meetings are rotated in and out of the geographic (and transport) centre of

the borough in Brixton, to better serve this diversity.

ATTENDANCE AT CPCG MONTHLY MEETINGS



These regular meetings are the longest established and possibly best known aspect of our work. They form an important basis because:

Their frequency means that issues raised at one meeting can be responded to within the month and there is a continuing check back;

Local people have the opportunity to track developments and trends in policing and community safety issues;

They are open access – anyone can walk in off the street and have their point heard in a public space – they don't have to wait two or three months;

They provide not only the time for a regular reporting on current issues, but also time to examine key themes in the borough with some focus, and to initiate action if needs be.

We have been particularly pleased that the SLP has taken an increasing role in our monthly events. Later in this report (pages 24 to 27) you can find in some detail the issues and themes addressed by these meetings over the year. Full minutes of the meetings are available on the website.

AD HOC MEETINGS AND EVENTS

During the year, we have held additional public events and meetings in response to developing events or needs. These have included:

Safer Neighbourhoods Panel Conference (February 08)

CPCG worked with Chairs of Lambeth Safer Neighbourhood Panels, Lambeth MPS and Lambeth Borough Council Community Safety Division to establish an annual conference for Panels. The first was held in February 2008 and focussed on contentious issues surrounding the governance of the Panels together with the potential for a support package of practical help for the panels. The conference was an opportunity for healthy debate and exchange of ideas.

Youth Event (February 08)

In the latter part of 2007 the MPA launched a Scrutiny into relationships between Young People and the MPS. To better feed into the Scrutiny, CPCG worked with SE1 United to hold a half-day event for young people during the February half-term. The event was facilitated by young people and the results of its workshops, together with those of a more widely circulated questionnaire, formed the basis of a submission to the MPA's Scrutiny. Notable conclusions were:

Young people felt that they were often poorly, and unfairly, represented in the media;

They were generally ill-informed about the law and policing powers and had positive suggestions about how this might be addressed;

Attendees at the event, and respondents to the questionnaire, emphasised the importance of direct contact between young people and the police and its influence on their relationship. They were supportive of some interventions (e.g. Safer Neighbourhood Teams) but not others (e.g. Dispersal Zones or Mosquito devices);

They would only 'sometimes' report crimes to the police and gave a number of reasons for their reluctance;

They did not have strong confidence in the police's current attempts to fight crime and felt more should be done to provide activities for young people as well as educate them about the effects of crime;

They felt the police should have better training in communicating with young people and in listening to them. They were critical of attitudes sometimes displayed by the police during Stop and Search;

They felt that crime was getting worse in Lambeth and that victims and perpetrators were getting younger. Drugs, Robbery, Guns, Knives and Gangs were identified as their main concerns;

They cited the main reasons why young people commit crimes are because they desire material things, poverty, peer group influence, bullying, mental health issues and lack of aspirations.

They felt the best way to tackle these problems is to reduce hours for working parents, to stop trying to create a desire for material things on TV, to improve housing, to increase youth employment and to improve youth provision.

The submission can be found on the CPCG website. The event, and SE1 United's input and preparation of the report, were funded by the Safer Lambeth Partnership.

People's Expos (Jan and Feb 08)

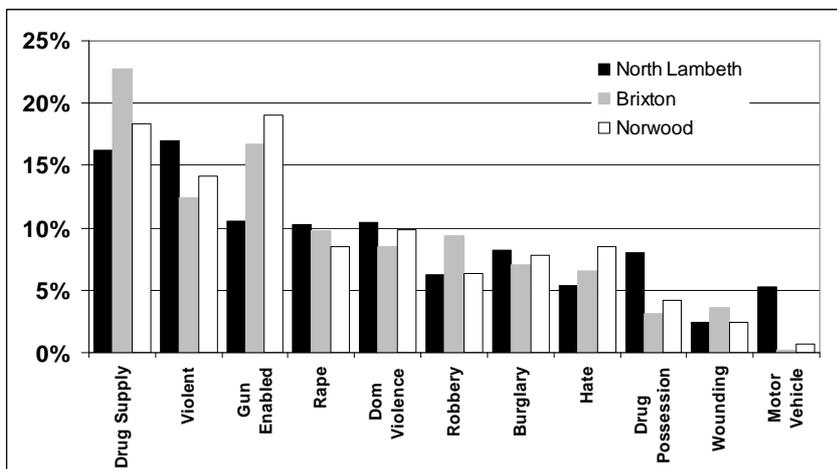
This was a new initiative from Lambeth Borough Council and comprised three events



held on Saturdays at locations in Vauxhall, Brixton and Norwood respectively. They were all-day 'fairs' providing local community and voluntary organisations, and the public agencies the opportunity to engage with local people. They included sessions for debate and discussion.

CPCG was one of very few community organisations to have a presence at all three Expos Visitors to our stall were asked to indicate the relative priority they would give to different types of crime by casting pebbles into appropriately labelled buckets. The exercise was approached very thoughtfully by most participants and provided a useful vehicle for information giving and listening to residents. Though hardly scientific, we did muster a respectable sample across the three sites and the results were generally consistent, demonstrating that crimes which harm people took clear priority.

PEBBLE POLL RESULTS FROM PEOPLE’S EXPO’S



MPS Management Asset Plan (Feb 08)

In early summer of 2008, the MPS launched a consultation around its Asset Management Plan (AMP), focussing primarily on its estate (police stations, custody facilities, Safer Neighbourhood Team bases and so forth) and MPS Lambeth asked CPCG to host a consultation event around the outline plan for Lambeth. Key issues raised at the meeting, which had a disappointing attendance, were:

There was strong feeling against losing police stations, most strongly expressed in respect of Streatham;

There were questions of where the money was coming from if not from asset sales;

There was strong support for sorting out custody facilities, especially providing some alternative to what is currently available at Streatham in particular;

There was opposition to the idea of 'warehouses' for response units both because it doesn't make particular sense given the topography and traffic flows in Lambeth but also because it was felt it would distance officers from the communities they serve.

There were queries as to where the extra officers, to staff up the proposed new front counters, were to come from and whether the desks would only have restricted opening hours.

In the event, the MPA subsequently indicated its dissatisfaction with the consultation London-wide and the election of a new Mayor for London also intervened. The Asset Management Plan remains a live issue.

African Caribbean Special Meeting (June 08)

Mindful that there had been a number of high profile policing interventions in the borough (e.g. club raids), as well as planned initiatives London wide against knife crime and gangs, which had or might be expected to have a disproportionate impact on the African Caribbean community, CPCG hosted a meeting specifically for this community with the police. The meeting focussed not only on the impact of police enforcement activities but also the wider social and economic factors at play and the role of other agencies in the Safer Lambeth Partnership, especially with regard to young people. The meeting formulated a schedule of areas for action and this work has been followed up at subsequent meetings.

CPCG Business Meeting (June 08)

As the focus of our monthly events has shifted over recent years to provide opportunities for the whole community to address concerns around policing and community safety, then so there has been less opportunity for the membership to routinely address issues of CPCG business and governance.

This meeting, which we hope will be the first of a regular pattern of one or two meetings for the membership each year (in addition to the AGM) was triggered by a proposal from the SLP to set up a new engagement vehicle. This would be a Panel of

SLP appointed residents meeting quarterly in private and chaired by the SLP. Chair. There were concerns amongst our membership that the arrangement would not be reconcilable with CPCG's core values of accessibility, openness and transparency in engagement and consultation.

The meeting was well attended and, whilst expressing a clear wish to work closely with the SLP and to support it in meeting its statutory obligations, the membership also set out a set of principles against which any arrangement, and CPCG's involvement, should be judged. These were:

Formal structure – the engagement vehicle should have an open membership

Governance – the governance of the vehicle should be elected not appointed.

Accessibility - the vehicle should have open meetings.

Activities – the vehicle should be able to undertake, jointly with the agencies as appropriate, research and scrutiny activity in addition to traditional meetings.

Accountability – the vehicle should be accountable to the community.

Independence – the vehicle should be demonstrably independent of the agencies.

An alternative proposal had been agreed by the SLP Board to work with existing structures, specifically the CPCG, as recommended by the Audit Commission, rather than set up a new vehicle. CPCG is working with the Partnership to develop this proposal into a robust set of working and governance arrangements.

'Your Shout' Tent at the Lambeth Country Show (July 08)

CPCG again had a presence at the Lambeth Country Show with our Big Tent. This year, in addition to stalls, film shows and networking opportunities, we held two 'Question Times' or face the people sessions.

The Saturday session was given over mainly to politicians and the panel comprised Cllr Donatus Anyanwu (Labour), Cllr Steve Bradley (Liberal Democrat), Cllr Graham Pycock (Conservative), Shane Collins (Lambeth Green Party) and June Pilgrim (Director, Lambeth Women's Aid). The discussion ranged far and wide, even attempting to answer the question "what is a crime?"

On Sunday, the panel was made up of the chief officers of the three main players in the SLP (Derek Anderson as Chief Executive of Lambeth Council, Caroline Hewitt as Chair of the Primary Care Trust and Chief Supt Sharon Rowe for the MPS) together with Lloyd Leon, CPCG member and former Mayor of Lambeth. Notable in the debate was the commitment from Derek Anderson to learn the lessons around Youth Provision in the borough, the majority on the Panel who saw alcohol or tobacco as more damaging than drugs, in the broadest sense, and the majority of the tent who now felt less safe in Lambeth now than they did five years ago.



The tent proved that serious debate need not be dull and over the weekend we estimate we had around 1,000 visitors – a novel and cost effective way of engaging with local people. We were particularly pleased that this year Southwark CPCG were able to join us in the tent.

Working Groups

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESEARCH PROJECT

This was a project undertaken in autumn of 2007 by a *pro bono* consultant, Laura Rawnsley, from PA Consulting together with a research assistant funded by the **SLP**. We are grateful to both PA Consulting and SLP for their support and to Lambeth MPS for their extensive cooperation and support to the project team.

CPCG commissioned the project to determine the impact of newly introduced procedures (in 2005) for collecting information at Domestic Violence incidents, has had on bringing offenders to justice. In particular, these procedures, which embodied a new recording form called 124D, had been hoped to facilitate 'victimless prosecutions'. Additional anticipated benefits were raising awareness (amongst the police) of domestic violence, improving the professionalism of the police in dealing with domestic violence and increasing the confidence of domestic violence victims to report crimes.

Using both quantitative analysis of police data together with qualitative interviews with key stakeholders and players, the studies key conclusions were:

Evidence capture – the 124D supports the gathering of evidence and acts as a valuable *aid memoire* for officers attending an incident. There continue to be concerns over police prioritisation of evidence capture, classification of crime and non-crime incidents, and understanding of the current risk assessment and management models.

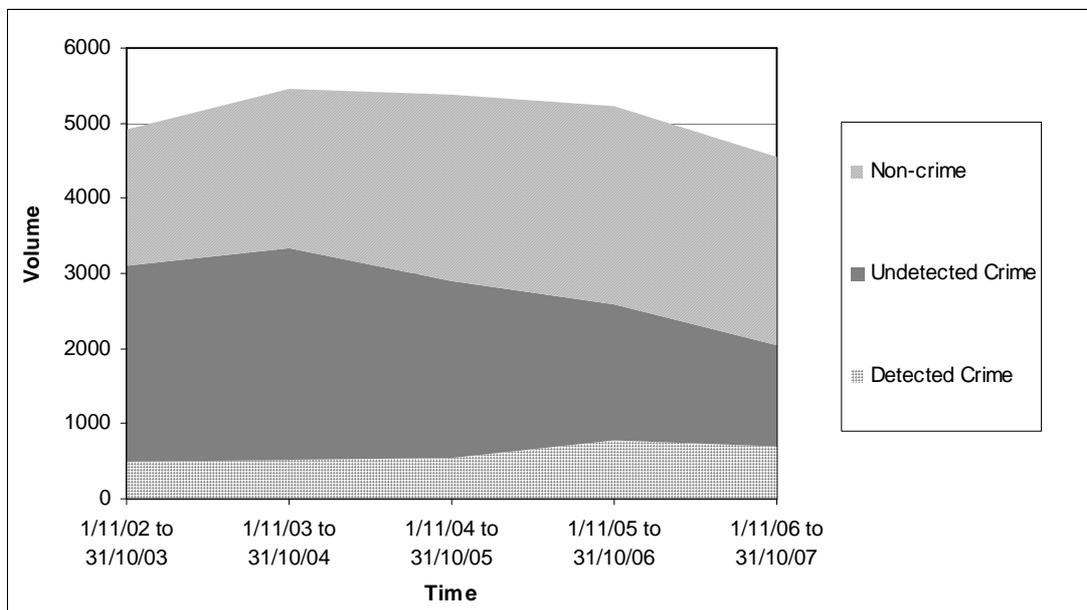
Awareness of domestic violence – officers are aware of domestic violence and committed to tackling it, however, there is little awareness of the end-to-end process, how the 124D form is used by other units or agencies, or the complexity of domestic violence.

Professionalism of police – the 124D has helped to ensure a standard way of responding to domestic violence incidents. However, there is still discrepancy about how a case is pursued. The form has also led to a significant administrative burden on officers. This impacts on the victim's experience and drives negative attitudes towards the completion of the form.

Victim confidence – recent changes, including the 124D, have had little impact on the confidence of victims, who still struggle to navigate a complex, multi-agency system. Low awareness about their rights, the procedures followed, and services available result in feelings of insecurity and uncertainty that discourage victims from reporting domestic violence crimes. In particular, the use of the police risk assessment by partnering agencies can negatively impact on the ability of victims to access services and reflect poorly on the police

In particular, the analysis showed that comparing the period before and after the introduction of the 124D, the incidence of Domestic Violence has remained broadly static but the proportion of those incidents which were classified as non-crime have steadily increased. This is probably as a result of the introduction of more stringent crime recording standards. Over this period, the Detection Rate had increased.

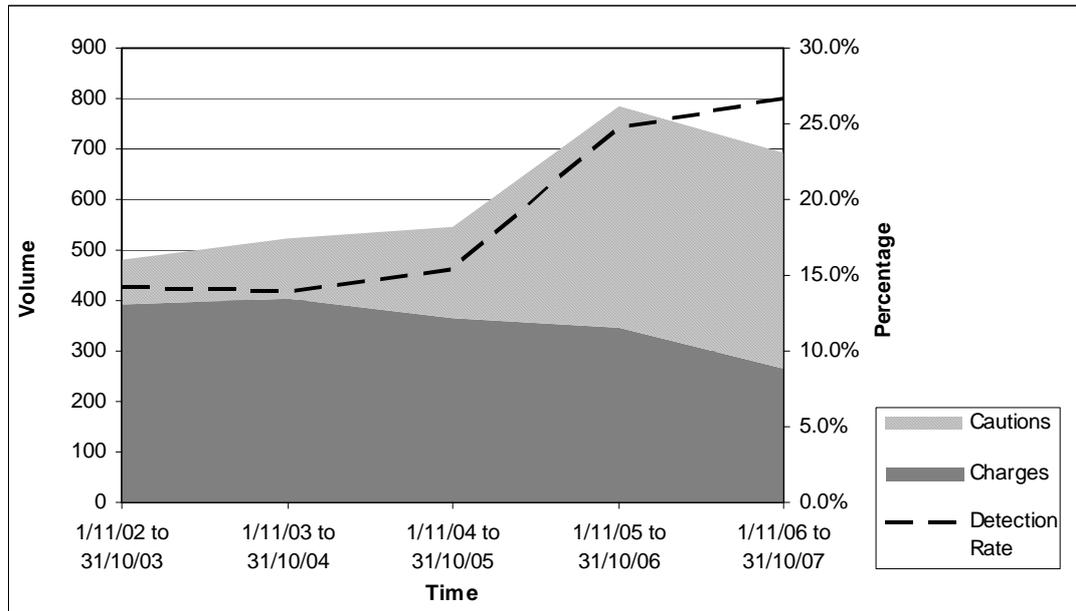
INCIDENCE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN LAMBETH



Source: 'Understanding the Impact of Form 124D on Domestic Violence in Lambeth' CPCG

However, the increased Detection Rate has not been associated with increased charges pressed. Over the period there has been a dramatic increase in the number of Cautions issued with an associated decline in Charges. This is a matter of concern since many would hold that victims are at particular risk when, having reported an incident, their attacker is released back home seeking someone to blame for (usually his) having been cautioned.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN LAMBETH: CAUTIONS UP, CHARGES DOWN



Source: 'Understanding the Impact of Form 124D on Domestic Violence in Lambeth' CPCG

The report made a number of recommendations, principal of which were:

End-to-end performance targets – to encourage supportive behaviours by all agencies and reduce inconsistency in approaches.

National minimum standards – to improve quality and consistency of service across regions and agencies.

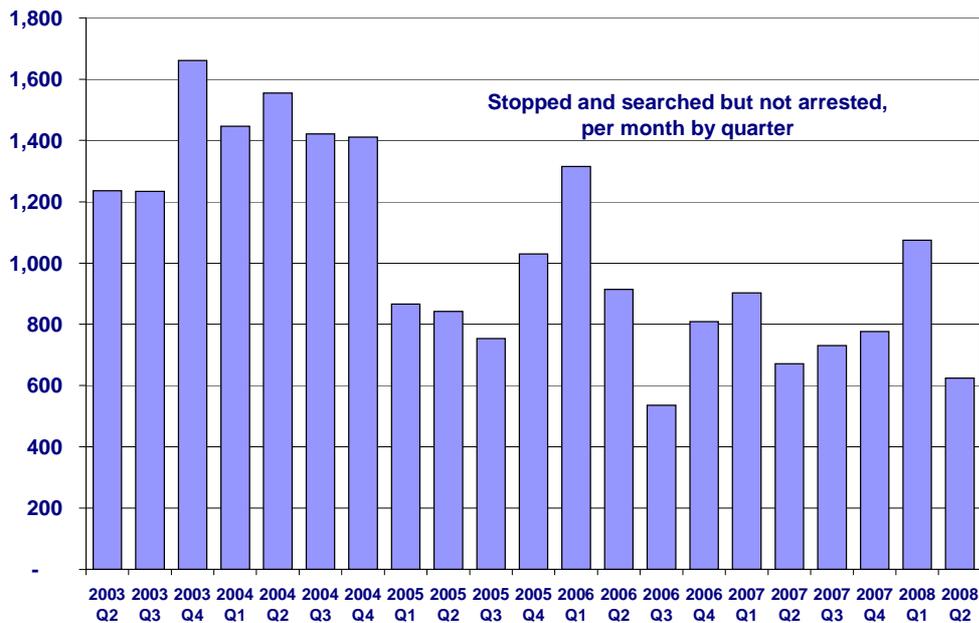
Improved information-sharing – to improve understanding and ability to take the appropriate course of action. Sharing of information needs to be on a daily basis and include expertise, policies and procedures, guidance and training, and performance information in addition to operational information.

In the current year, we intend to seek funding to continue this research project looking specifically at the working arrangements between the police and other agencies where there are ‘children in need’.

STOP AND SEARCH

CPCG’s SSMG has continued its work through the year, meeting approximately monthly and is comprised of members of the community and officers from Lambeth MPS and (more recently) the Territorial Support Group (TSG).

LOWER LEVELS OF ‘WALKAWAYS’ HAVE BEEN SUSTAINED



Source: MPS Stops Database/Lambeth SSMG

The SSMG gave its Annual Review of Stop and Search to a very well attended CPCG meeting in Lambeth Town Hall in July 2008. Key findings were:

The falling trend in the number of stops and searches, reported a year earlier, had now levelled off;

A rising trend in the disproportionality (in respect of BME groups) has been pulled back;

The higher arrest rate for Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) Act Stop and Searches has been sustained (and is higher than the MPS generally). These three factors taken together mean that the numbers of people who are stopped and searched and walk away (which had been falling) has now plateaued.

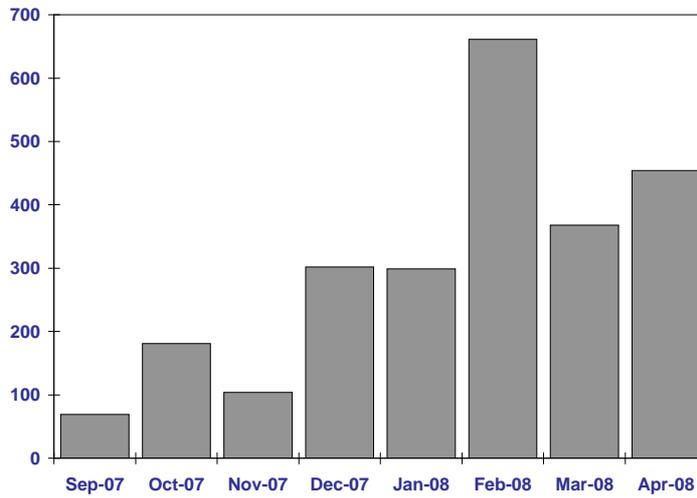
It remains the case that the likelihood of being Stopped and Searched under PACE by Lambeth officers is lower than that across London generally, that the associated disproportionality against Black people is lower in Lambeth and that a higher proportion of Lambeth Stops are Stop and Account rather than Stop and Search. The arrest rate in Lambeth is also higher than for the MPS generally.

There has been a very substantial increase in the use of Section 60 and Section 44¹, neither of which require 'good grounds' and both of which have very low arrest rates;

Inadequacies in information systems continue to frustrate any attempt to measure the effectiveness of Stop and Search in terms of bringing offenders to justice.

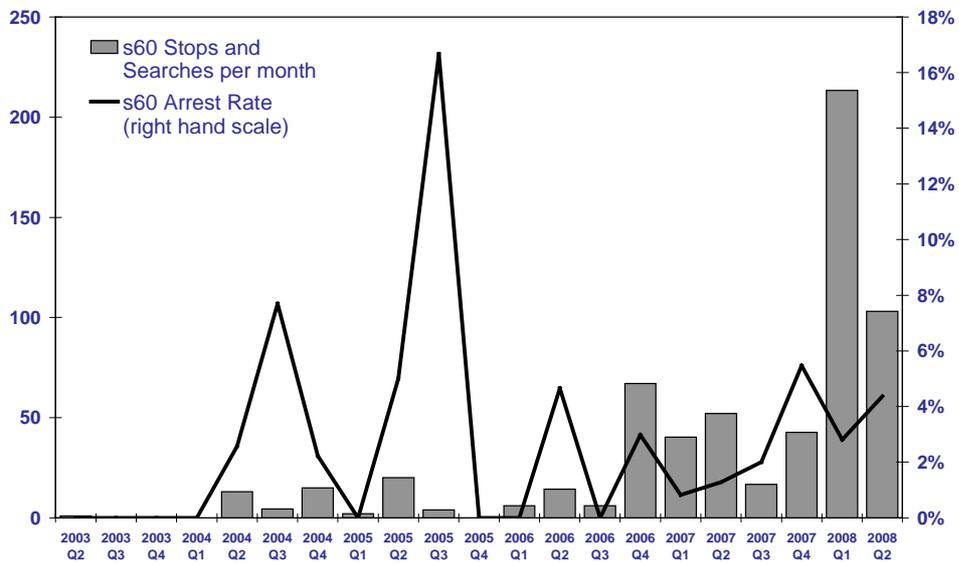
¹ Section 60 of the Crime and Disorder Act (1998) and Section 44 of the Terrorism Act (2000)

SECTION 44 STOPS PER MONTH HAVE BEEN INCREASING



Source: MPS website

SECTION 60 IS NOW MORE COMMONLY USED



Source: MPS Stops Database/Lambeth SSMG

Of particular concern was the discovery, mid-year, that not all Stops and Searches made in Lambeth by the Territorial Support Group (TSG) had been entered on the MPS's central Stop and Search database which meant that our analysis reflected primarily the activity of Lambeth MPS. We have had assurance that from March 2008 all TSG Stops and Searches will be entered on the database. We are also pleased that officers from the TSG have joined the SSMG so that we can hope to replicate the working relationship we have enjoyed with Lambeth MPS, with the TSG.

The working group is the longest established in CPCG and has been followed in other borough's across London. Likewise, the success of Lambeth Police in reducing the numbers of Searches, whilst increasing the arrest rate and sustaining crime reduction, has been held as a London-wide model.

Operational Engagement

There have been many occasions during the year where CPCG members have worked directly with Lambeth police in respect of operations which have had the potential to impact on community confidence. Examples have been:

Operation Blunt 2 – In response to rising concerns over knife crime, MPS launched this London wide operation during 2008. The campaign involves increased use of Stop and Search, including the use of 'knife arches' (portable metal detectors), and the targeting of known offenders.

CPCG's SSMG was able to input into the Community Impact Assessment for the operation, demonstrating from analysis of historic trends that there would be no evidential basis for disproportionality in the use of knife arches. This message was carried through into operational briefings, which CPCG were able to attend. CPCG members subsequently accompanied officers on the knife arch operations and to canvass public reactions (which were overwhelmingly positive) to the operations.

CPCG has had a similar involvement with British Transport Police (BTP) led knife operations during the year.

During the year there were two raids on clubs in the borough (one in Herne Hill and one in Landor Road) which attracted media attention. Both were attended by an observer from CPCG who was able to draw attention to the need for proper provision for minors who, alarmingly, were discovered on both the club premises in the early hours of the morning.

Critical Incident Groups – CPCG members continue to contribute to ‘Gold’ Groups called by the police following Critical Incidents, of which there have sadly been an increasing number during the last year. We hope in the latter part of the current financial year to work with both the Safer Lambeth Partnership and the police in instituting training which will widen the pool of local people available for this activity.

Policing Issues

The monthly meetings provide both an opportunity for current events and issues to be raised by the police, the SLP or members of the community, but also are the basis of an ongoing public dialogue. The details of that dialogue can best be seen in the published minutes (www.lambethcpcg.org.uk) but in amongst the specifics there are a number of key elements:

- The monthly up-to-date reporting of crime and policing performance statistics by the borough commander and the broad picture it paints of continuing, though increasingly resistant, reductions in overall levels of crime in Lambeth. Lambeth again ended the financial year showing a further reduction, for the sixth year running, in overall levels of crime and across most categories. Our local police and partners are to be congratulated on that.
- Within this context of undoubted success, particular types of crime – involving weapons – caused increasing concern, not least in the apparently progressively reducing age of both victims and perpetrators.
- The limitations of policing in addressing the progression of young people into crime and the need for the rhetoric of ‘joined up’, ‘holistic’ or ‘partnership’ approaches to become a reality – and to stay the course.
- The consumer demands on the police in terms of basic service standards – queuing times in police stations, waiting times on the new MetCall reporting system, and response times for despatch to incidents.

- As Lambeth retreats from the extremes of levels of crime generally, the conflicting priorities of gaining further reductions – by increasing public awareness and guardedness – and of avoiding promoting the fear of crime above the reality.
- The associated risk that increased use of enforcement and intervention – dispersal zones, Penalty Notice for Disorder (PND), Stop and Search (especially section 60) – could fracture the steady improvement in police community relationships on which success has been built
- The need to resolve uncertainties, which can undermine confidence, around management structures and asset plans.

Themed Meetings

LAMBETH SUMMER PROJECTS

October 2007

Celebrating its twentieth anniversary, Lambeth Summer Projects (LSP) Trust is a voluntary organisation and registered charity, and a CPCG member. The LSP's aim is to break down barriers (real and imagined) between the police, young people and the wider community by promoting good citizenship and reducing the potential for young people to either become involved in criminal activity or fall victim to it. It also seeks to promote a partnership between statutory, voluntary, private sector and other organisations to encourage their active involvement in local youth initiatives.

Nick Mason, Chair of the LSP, gave a presentation to the CPCG about the LSP's programmes which ran throughout July and August 2007. Held at venues across the borough i.e. Brixton, Clapham, Kennington, Streatham and Norwood, the programmes attracted around 600 young people from a multi-cultural background and, in some cases, very disadvantaged circumstances.

Offering diverse recreational and educational activities, with an underlying theme of crime prevention and good citizenship, LSP gave young people the opportunity to make new friends and increase their self-esteem as they took part in decision making activities, pursued new interests and learned how to stay safe and keep healthy. At the

same time, young people were diverted away from or being drawn into criminal and anti-social behaviour. Instead, LSP hoped that coming into contact with police officers, its principle partners, in a non-confrontational situation, would build relationships and create a better understanding that could help in any possible dealings with the police in the future.

Nick Mason assured the CPCG that LSP was active in trying to recruit Trustees from minority communities to better reflect the diversity of the borough. Further information about LSP can be found at <http://www.lambethsummerprojects.co.uk/>

STOCKWELL TWO – IPCC INVESTIGATION

October 2007

Stockwell Two is the name of the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) investigation into complaints made by the family of Jean Charles de Menezes, a Brazilian national, in October 2005. The complaint concerned the handling of information by senior officers of the MPS in relation to the police shooting of Mr de Menezes at Stockwell underground station on 22 July 2005.

For over two years the CPCG had been following the progress of the investigation with IPCC Chairperson, Nick Hardwick, maintaining regular contact through his presence at CPCG meetings, such as in October 2007, which was also attended by Catherine Crawford, Chief Executive of the MPA and Supt. David George of the MPS. The MPA's role in terms of the investigation's finding was to consider disciplinary action against MPS officers. For its part, the MPS had acknowledged that internal and external communications systems in place at the time had not worked properly and that the MPS Commissioner, Sir Ian Blair, had apologised to the de Menezes family for the distress and suffering caused. The communication failings have since led to the MPS establishing a Knowledge Management Centre with a Crisis Management Team brought together to deal with serious incidents which would separate authentic information from any speculation and rumour, from whichever source they may come.

The CPCG commended *Stockwell Two* as a thorough investigation which had exposed the failings in communication in the MPS at the highest level; something which may

never have come to light had the de Menezes family not made a complaint. At the same time, the CPCG drew from the detail of the report a number concerns about MPS culture. For example, some officers seemed unwilling to express their views to their superiors for fear of contradicting them, while witness statements from the scene of the shooting were allowed to be relayed to the media without being filtered, tested and questioned, thereby lending the MPS a protective bias. Can the public be certain that the MPS has recognised these problem and put matters right?

Further to this, the CPCG was disappointed that the MPS had appealed to the Attorney General to drop the Health and Safety trial while at the same time, the CPCG believe that the MPA put itself in a precarious position by offering financial support to police officers seeking judicial review of the IPCC's report, which could have been seen as the MPA closing ranks with the MPS.

It is fair to say that those who have read the report have found it to be a very disturbing and shocking portrayal of London's most senior police officers during a time of national crisis.

NIGHT-TIME ECONOMY

November 2007

Lambeth's diverse night-time economy is constituted by hundreds of licensed pubs, clubs, bars, restaurants and various other entertainment venues and outlets which draw thousands of people to the borough every week to enjoy its nightlife. At the same time, however, the night-time economy also attracts illegal activity, perhaps largely in relation to drug supply and demand. That said, the night-time economy could be even more diverse if the perception of crime and fear of it did not affect the confidence of many elderly people about leaving their homes in the evening. Economic downturn and adverse weather notwithstanding, surely a barometer of low crime and fear of crime would be seeing a greater proportion of elderly people out in the evenings.

The presentation to the ~~Group~~ CPCG on the night-time economy from the SLP and Lambeth Businesses Against Crime (LBAC), confirmed that greater consumption of alcohol and drugs during the evening, particularly over the weekends, presented a different proposition for the SLP in terms of community safety and the measures

needed to prevent and reduce the negative aspects of the night-time economy, involving licensing, crime prevention advice, alcohol and drugs awareness, law enforcement, anti-social behaviour orders, exclusion zones, use of technology and information sharing. Issues raised by the CPCG included the use of existing laws to prevent people drinking alcohol to excess, the sale of cheap alcohol (sometimes to children) by supermarkets, which accounted for 80% of the retail market, and a dearth of public toilets in the borough's town centres.

STOCKWELL ONE - IPCC REPORT INTO THE SHOOTING OF JEAN CHARLES DE MENEZES

DECEMBER 2007

Stockwell One is the report into the shooting of Jean Charles de Menezes on 22 July 2005 at Stockwell underground station, the consequences of which are still being felt more than three years later.

For a significant period of time on 22 July 2005, many people believe that the Borough of Lambeth was potentially left exposed to a terrorist attack. For had the police been correct in their assumption that Jean Charles de Menezes was the wanted terrorist Osman Hussein, he would have had plenty of opportunity to detonate a bomb prior to reaching Stockwell. Furthermore, since the police were wrong about their identification, the person supposedly under surveillance was still at large with the public left in a vulnerable situation.

At the CPCG meeting in December 2007, Mehmuda Mian-Pritchard, representing the IPCC, gave an account of the IPCC's investigation, which had been concluded within six months of Jean Charles' death, where after it was sent the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) in January 2006. Having decided that there was a case to answer, the MPS was put on trial on a health and safety charge of endangering the public. This in itself shocked some people following the case and attending the CPCG meeting, who thought that there should have a charge of murder brought against the police. The MPS was found guilty on 1 November 2007.

As an inquest into the death of Jean Charles is being held at the time of writing this report, and while there is an appreciation of the need for diligence in collating the

evidence, many people have been, and still are, frustrated at the length of time it has taken to conclude the legal processes in respect of the killing of Jean Charles. The inquest is expected to go on until December 2008, after which the CPCG will be able to scrutinise the outcome and move on to a wider public debate about the tactical options available to police to combat the threat of terrorist suicide bombers.

While the untimely and tragic death of a completely innocent man, Jean Charles, remains the most important aspect of *Stockwell One*, other significant concerns which the whole incident has raised have deeply troubled the CPCG: the breakdown in communications and poor planning for an ostensibly dangerous operation; the failure to follow procedure and protocol for dealing with suicide bombers, which at the time everyone thought had occurred; the enduring fear that the incident had instilled in the various communities of Lambeth, such as Asian and Latin American, making them more suspicious of the police than previously; the use of army personnel over which the IPCC has no jurisdiction; and the interference by the Commissioner Sir Ian Blair in trying to prevent the IPCC investigation.

The CPCG commended the *Stockwell One* as a thorough, honest and independent investigation compiled with as much evidence as could be gathered.

IPCC publications relating to the fatal shooting of Jean Charles de Menezes have been removed from its website www.ipcc.gov.uk pending the outcome of the Inquest, which is understood will be concluded in December 2008.

TASER

January 2008

Taser is a handheld device which delivers an immobilising electric shock. Effectively, it is a stungun which has been used in London since 2003 by firearms officers (CO19) in response to increased levels of violence towards police and the public in general. With the aim of reducing injury to both violent offenders and the police, the trial of Taser allowed for normally unarmed officers to use the device in unarmed incidents.

The use of Taser has received support from the IPCC, on the basis that it is the least injurious of tactical options at the police's disposal, while police also garner support

from the United Nations via Article II of its Code of Conduct, which states that law enforcement agencies should choose a number of options when dealing with conflict resolution. With regard to IPCC, police are no longer obliged to give notification of Taser having been used, although its deployment is said to be rigorously logged and all complaints referred and investigated. Out of fifty-six Taser incidents logged up to the time of the presentation to the CPCG, Taser had only been fired twice in the capital during the trial with no complaints recorded.

In London, the TSG had been chosen to trial Taser because of its command structure (one inspector, three sergeants and eighteen constables on each shift), which was resourced to provide five shifts a day, 365 days a year. They are also regularly deployed to incidents of violent confrontation.

TSG officers Insp. Laurie and Sgt. Harding made a good case for the use of Taser as a tactical option, alongside batons and CS Spray, to stop individuals acting in a violent manner or threatening to do harm to others or themselves. In this respect, police have noted that the threat of using Taser in itself has thus far proven enough to cause an individual to desist behaving violently or threateningly and has brought conflicts to an early resolution.

The CPCG, however, maintains its right to question the use of a new police tactic where public safety is concerned, whilst bearing in mind the welfare of police officers. Not surprisingly the CPCG has a number of reservations about the trial, such as Taser being used (1) when negotiation could be tried to resolve an incident (2) without warning, indiscriminately and disproportionality (3) resulting in a fatality or serious injury (4) bringing about an escalation in weaponry on the streets (5) in an unsafe environment or against vulnerable people.

The CPCG would find it useful to have a guide to the circumstances in which a Taser could be employed as it already appears to be capable of distancing people from the police in the way that arming all police officers would. Police reassurances that the use of Taser is heavily monitored, and that officers using it have to justify their actions, may not convince those who are sceptical about adding more firepower to the police arsenal. On the other hand, for some the jury may still be out in terms of the advantages of Taser over a firearm if it means that lives can be saved.

Now that the trial has ended, and was reportedly a success, there is talk of allowing all police officers access to carrying Taser. At the time of writing, the CPCG awaits the publication, by the MPA, of the evaluation of Taser trial.

SERIOUS VIOLENT CRIME

February 2008

Towards the end of October, 2007, the SLP had implemented its Violent Crime Strategy containing action plans with regard to intelligence, enforcement, prevention and reassurance to address murder, GBH, rape, weapon enabled crime, robbery and gangs. With regard to the latter, a great deal of activity had begun to address gang interventions on estates in Lambeth, which the Borough Commander, Ch. Supt. Sharon Rowe reported as leading the way in London. For while in the past there had been good work undertaken to break the cycle of gang and gun culture, much of it had been done in isolation. Throughout the year we have heard how work in this respect has been more coordinated and was having an impact.

Similarly, the police maintained that there had been a difference made in terms of reducing serious violent crime, helped by support from New Scotland Yard and Operation Trident with extra money and resources. However, we are aware that such assistance may not last and that improved partnership work across the borough is one answer to sustainability.

Operation Six Bells is one of the police operations to have stood out over the past year, not least because of its scale, which involved a raid on two premises, Cafe Tris, an unlicensed nightclub, and Eats in Landor Road on 26 January. Following intelligence of gang activity and firearms, the operation employed around 200 hundred police officers, including TSG and CO19, as well as forensic services, custody and medical support. One individual was hit by Taser.

At Café Tris, 139 people, including a number of teenage boys and girls, were found jam-packed in a basement with drug paraphernalia and odour. Each individual was processed in a temporarily established 'search city' comprising of tents, coaches, search stations, holding and medical areas, expedited by a conveyor belt system. As

a result of the operation, twenty-eight people were arrested, including eighteen illegal immigrants. Anna Tapsell was present as an observer throughout the operation which carried on until late Sunday morning.

Since the operation had been covert out of necessity for success, the police were unable to warn the wider community other than informing the CPCG. However, police asserted that they had received positive feedback from the local community and Safer Neighbourhood officers who were employed to provide reassurance to local residents.

As a borough with a high incidence of rape and sexual assault, the CPCG were pleased to receive a presentation from Det. Insp. Keith Richardson, a member of Operation Sapphire, a unit which investigated incidents of rape, sexual assault and other sexual offences deemed serious enough to probe, even if they occurred many years ago. The unit's aims are to identify and prosecute suspects accused of sexual offences, and provide care to the victim from the time of coming to police. In respect of the latter, the MPS have been involved in setting up three Haven Projects, sexual assault referral centres where victims could report a crime without involving the police and undergo a full forensic examination and receive counselling. Across London, The Havens receive around £2 millions funding from the MPS annually. While the CPCG lauds the efforts of the police in addressing sexual offences, it remains concerned about local authorities which appear to be slow to react in assisting victims of rape and domestic violence to move to a different address, preferably in another borough. June Pilgrim, Lambeth Women's Aid (LWA), also highlighted the difficulty of accessing public funds, not least to help women whose legal status was in question.

Victims of sexual offences and domestic violence can contact LWA, Gaia Centre and Refugee Council for further information.

SAFER LAMBETH STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

February 2008

Ann Corbett, Interim Head of Community Safety Division, and Geoff Wade, a consultant, gave a presentation to the CPCG on SLP's Strategic Assessment, a statutory requirement described as a new model for addressing crime and disorder

reduction through interpreting data and information, intelligence gathering, analysis of levels and patterns of crime, and looking at cause and effect and drivers of crime in Lambeth. At the same time, the Assessment also made comparisons with similar boroughs and took into consideration Lambeth residents' views about key priorities. The Assessment was to be the fulcrum of a Partnership Plan setting out the SLP's priorities for Safer Lambeth over the next year, and would also provide a means by which the community could hold the SLP to account.

As the Assessment seemed to be a very important exercise about which the CPCG had not been involved in any meaningful consultation, we offered to facilitate a further meeting in order to digest and discuss the large amount of information which informed the evaluation before it was signed off. After all, the Highlight Standards for community safety sets great store in community consultation.

The CPCG therefore arranged to discuss the Assessment in March but the meeting was cancelled by the then Head of Community Safety, Simon Harding.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

March 2008

The CPCG organised a panel of representatives working within different fields of Domestic Violence to inform the community about the size and depth of the problem, how it affects the lives of many to varying degrees and services on offer to help victims.

From a police perspective, Insp. Neil Paton of Lambeth police gave a presentation on incidents of DV with breakdowns of statistics including the number of incidents, arrest rates and victims, who are overwhelmingly female with 1 in 5 being a repeat victim and an average of two women killed every week in the UK..

Anna Tapsell gave a presentation about a CPCG commissioned research project which had examined the use of information gathered by police (on a form 124D) at incidents of DV incidents, and its effectiveness in bringing perpetrators to justice. The project had used *pro bono* consultancy from PA Consulting with research assistants funded by the Safer Lambeth Partnership. Whilst the introduction of the 124D has had

positive outcomes, both real and potential, there have been limitations, especially when viewed in regard to the capability to bring victimless prosecutions.

Further contributions to the debate came from members of the Lambeth Domestic Violence Forum (LDVF), chaired by Hazel Saunders (Borough Manager, Victim Support Lambeth). The LDVF has a membership drawn from both the voluntary and statutory agencies.

Helen Longhurst (Victim Support Lambeth) informed the CPCG about the Lambeth Sanctuary Scheme which provides practical security based support to enable victims of DV to feel safe in their homes as well as an ongoing support service to help victims make informed choices and changes in their lives.

Lambeth Women's Aid (LWA) staff, Project Manager June Pilgrim-Ndure and Sharon Facey) gave a presentation about the services it provides, including a refuge, an outreach service and a Children's' Outreach project . Further information about LWA can be found at <http://www.lambethwomensaid.org.uk/>

Laura Stretch, Manager of the REACH project at St Thomas's Accident and Emergency Department supports patients presenting to A&E with injuries which are, or are suspected to be, the result of Domestic Violence.

The Gaia Project presented by Jo Enright, Lambeth Council's Domestic Violence Coordinator, is set up to be a one-stop shop and has twelve partner agencies – three public (Lambeth Council, Lambeth MPS and Lambeth Primary Care Trust), three private (solicitors) and six voluntary. The Project was visited by the National Audit Office (NAO) in September 2007 and subsequently cited in the NAO report 'Reducing the Risk of Violent Crime' p.27, as an example of good practice in multi-agency working. Contact details for the Gaia Project and other DV organisations offering advice and support can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/44jhaf>

CPCG members and members of the public were engrossed by the DV presentation, so much so that the police report was deferred, and admiration was expressed to all those who were working towards greater safety for women in society.

Closing the discussion, Anna Tapsell expressed a wish that men in the UK would emulate their Canadian counterparts who were beginning to recognise that domestic

violence was an issue primarily for them and were making open pledges to raise awareness amongst sons and male colleagues that domestic violence was no longer to be sidelined or ignored.

GUNS AND GANGS

April 2008

Professor John Pitts and Lambeth Council's Head of Community Safety, Simon Harding, gave presentations on Young & Safe in Lambeth: The Deliberations of the Executive Commission on Young People & Violent Crime 2007 (the report can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/3j7xpf>), and the Strategic Action Plan to tackle violent crime amongst children and young people.

By and large, many commended the report for highlighting what many in the community had been saying for years and found both the Report and Strategy useful documents by which to monitor their implementation and publicly hold SLP to account. Some people cautioned that we should be careful not to imply, from the report's conclusions, that deprivation invariably led to criminality, which would only further demonise young people in particular communities and depress individual aspirations.

Others expressed the view that the situation in Lambeth for young people had begun in the 1990s with the decimation of the then Lambeth Youth Service and by the sales of assets and resources such as Dick Shepherd School, without re-investing savings and gains back into youth provision. In this respect, it was emphasised that much of the success of the Strategy would depend on resources being made available to the various community groups in Lambeth which worked with young people who daily faced ~~with~~ the temptation of becoming involved in drugs and gangs.

As well of providing youth facilities, CPCG members have also expressed their concern about the lack of investment and support in relation to youth referral orders to ensure that young people undertook reparation in the community by, for example, doing productive work such as gardening and decorating.

At the time of writing this report Lambeth Council should have extended the opening times to all youth clubs in Lambeth to seven days a week and increased their opening

hours. At the same time a significant number of support workers should have been employed in schools and community centres to support families whose children are at risk of offending, as well as a dedicated youth outreach team targetting young people at risk. The CPCG will be following up these proposals.

ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN & WALRUS II

May 2008

The CPCG received a presentation about Asset Management Plan (AMP) concerning police buildings and the borough restructuring exercise, Walrus II, which some members fear will lead to the closure of police stations and a reduction in police staff. A case in point is Streatham, which is viewed by the MPS as not being fit for purpose, having failed to meet Health and Safety requirements and putting staff at risk on a daily basis. The AMP is seen by the MPS as an opportunity for the borough to work out its needs and report their findings to the MPA.

From CPCG members' perspective the AMP appeared to be a centrally driven exercise, uniform across all London boroughs (a case of one size fitting all) which undermined the opportunity for any individualisation for the borough's needs. It also seemed that the positioning of police buildings was the overriding factor when it was the policing structure which needed to drive the siting of police stations in Lambeth while taking into account the importance of having police facilities in the borough's town centres i.e. Brixton, Clapham, Kennington and Vauxhall, Norwood and Streatham. On the contrary, some CPCG members viewed AMP as being capable of leading to both a reduction in the number of Lambeth officers and a less even spread of police stations throughout the borough to serve the community.

Police told the CPCG that no firm decisions had been made about the closure of any police stations or the opening of any trial bases without a policing structure being in place. And, furthermore, that there was no absolute view in terms of following the corporate structure and estate strategy word for word. On the contrary, Lambeth police have said that they will use and vary parts of the strategy while retaining their option to

tell the MPA which parts it believed would best fit Lambeth and its policing environment.

In terms of consulting the community, CPCG has been told that alternatives need to be explored and part of the ongoing consultation is to bring to the community the options and proposals being considered. Lambeth police have said that they want the absolute best for the public, police officers and staff, although it could not promise to deliver everything that the community wanted. For that reason the CPCG will continue to engage in the consultation process on behalf of the Lambeth community.

LAMBETH POLICE UPDATE

June 2008

Having curtailed Lambeth Police Updates in order to discuss particular single issues in previous months, the June meeting provided an opportunity for fuller report on general policing matters and high profile incidents of concern to the community.

The reported tragic loss of life of a 15 year-old girl, Arsema Dawit, who had been stabbed to death at a block of flats where she lived, was all the more poignant for having occurred the day before the CPCG meeting and very close to the venue in Waterloo. The murder highlighted the scourge of knife related crime and the safety of women from the violence of men. The incident was further compounded by allegations that the suspect had been reported to police for assault and harassment of Arsema some weeks before her murder, and that there had been a seven month wait for repairs to a broken door where Arsema lived. In all, there had been fourteen murders in Lambeth in the twelve months leading up to August 2008, the same number as in Southwark but much higher than the vast majority of other London Boroughs which range from none to mid-single figures.

The issue of young people taking to carrying knives and using them to inflict serious injury or kill another person has been a growing concern over the past few years. In response, since May 2008, police across London have been conducting Operation Blunt 2, an ongoing initiative aimed at tackling knife crime and reducing the number of people carrying knives as a matter of routine by using Stop and Search, Knife Arches

and handheld metal detectors. Lambeth is in the top six boroughs in London for knife enabled crime and the CPCG is willing to work in partnership to help alleviate, if not solve, the problem. However, there are issues pertaining to Stop and Search about which reassurances are needed, especially the increased use of Section 60. With regard to Blunt 2 in Lambeth, Det. Supt. John Corrigan told us that the initiative was an intelligence oriented operation in terms of how it was mapped and led. For our part, over the past year, Group CPCG Board members have attended underground stations in Lambeth to observe BTP conduct Knife Arch operations, sometimes in conjunction with Lambeth police.

The ease with which knives are obtained by young people is an issue in itself. Of course, the first place anyone seeking to acquire a knife is the kitchen drawer and parents should be vigilante in this respect. However, the ease of which young people can buy knives in high street shops and at markets is a point that has often been raised at CPCG meetings.

STOP AND SEARCH

July 2008

The CPCG received a presentation from the CPCG's SSMG: Paul Andell, Ch. Insp. Patrick Beynon and Jim Toohill. Further details are on page 19.

Honorary Comptroller's Report

CPCG has had a successful year in its activities. We have continued to grow our membership, sustained our working groups, commissioned research for the first time, have formed new relationships within the police (with TSG and BTP for example), resolved a potential fracture with the Safer Lambeth Partnership and settled into a less turbulent relationship with the MPA.

Our mailing list is still growing as is the number of people visiting our website each month. Our traditional monthly meetings continue to be well attended, in the main, whilst we have held additional events through the year, to address particular issues, to provide for particular constituencies or to adopt novel approaches in new settings. The

successful Youth Event in February was an example not only of finding a way to give young people their voice but also of working collaboratively with another organisation in the borough. The People's Expos allowed CPCG to engage with new faces in their own neighbourhoods, whilst our return to the Country Show provided local people with an opportunity to quiz the most senior people in the Safer Lambeth Partnership.

So each year we make solid progress in taking our core values of open, transparent and accessible engagement, between local people and the public agencies involved in ensuring our safety, to a wider and more diverse cross section of our neighbours. But, of course, we cannot continue doing more and more for effectively less and less.

A representation of our Accounts for 2007/8 is shown on the pages following – these are not the formal Company Accounts for approval by the AGM, which are published separately, but are in our familiar format and perhaps easier to follow. There are detailed notes given at the end of this representation but the key feature is that we have been able to show a deficit in 2007/8 by effectively drawing down our inflated reserves at the end of 2006/7. They were inflated by (1) an overpayment from the MPA in 2006/7 which was largely clawed back from the 2007/8 allocation and (2) the grant from the Safer Lambeth Partnership which, whilst showing as income in 2006/7, was only available to spend in 2007/8.

We did not end 2007/8 in such a healthy position. Our funds at the year end were approximately £3k over our desired reserves position. (This is a consequence of our purposely putting the brakes on spending towards the year end, when it became apparent that there might be some delays in the MPA 2008/9 funding). Given the capped funding position from MPA of £50k, this means that we can only hope to do the bare minimum in 2008/9 if we are not to start to eat into reserves, which at two month's costs are a thin protection against unforeseen circumstances.

The underlying position is shown in the functional analysis at the end of the presentation of the Accounts. We have a fixed cost base of around £49k, before we undertake any activity, against a capped MPA allocation of £50k. Whilst we have steadily reduced our non-staff and accommodation costs by, for example, undertaking on a voluntary basis tasks which most organisations pay someone else to do or by not

claiming any expenses, we have probably now reached the minimum and can only expect these costs to inflate.

In effect, we have a year's grace. During this time we shall seek to fundraise from other sources and can hope for some success, though mindful that funding for core costs is not easy to come by for the voluntary sector – the MPA itself has declared its intention to move funding for Community Engagement Groups onto a commissioning basis tied to service level agreements. Our first base must be to secure our position, from which we are will then be able to seize new opportunities to develop CPCG to its full potential. Our membership can be assured that they will be kept informed of our progress through both our monthly briefing but also through CPCG Business Meetings which we shall hold for our members as the year progresses. Whether celebrating success, or facing up to hard choices, we shall do it together.

Jim Toohill

Honorary Comptroller.

Annual Accounts 2007/8

Expenditure		2007/8	2006/7
<i>Notes</i>		£	£
	Salary Costs	35,843	35,357
	Travel	19	57
	Telephone, Fax and Broadband	1,393	1,305
1	Room Hire	3,716	1,562
	Rent	9,104	9,041
2	Refreshments	2,235	1,149
3	Professional Services	5,383	1,274
	Postage & Printing	474	684
4	Office Supplies	1,548	1,169
	Cleaning	-	-
	Office Equipment	808	1,502
	Sundry	-	28
	Conference/Training	241	125
	Relocation	-	566
	 <i>Total Non-Salary Costs</i>	 24,922	 18,462
		60,765	53,819
Income		2007/8	2006/7
<i>Notes</i>		£	£
5	MPA - Direct Payment of Salary Costs	5,805	35,357
5	MPA - Grant	36,836	27,500
6	Safer Lambeth Partnership		10,000
	LPICV (Copying, Room Hire etc)	340	64
	MPS - Contribution to Refreshments	550	
	<i>Other</i>		143
		43,531	73,064
 Net (Deficit) Movement in Funds		 (17,234)	 19,245

Balance Sheet Movements

	£
Cash in hand and at Bank 31/3/2007	25,898
6 Debtors at 31/3/2007	10,000
Creditors at 31/3/2007	(2,722)
Net Funds at 31/3/2007	33,176
Movement on Funds 2007/8	(17,234)
Net Funds at 31/3/2008	15,942

Balance Sheet at 31 March 2008

	£
<i>Current Assets</i>	
Cash in Hand and at Bank	24,246
Debtor: MPS contribution to refreshments	300
	24,546
<i>Current Liabilities</i>	
<i>Creditors</i>	
LVAC: Membership Fee	50
Reimbursement J Toohill: Office Equipment	195
Staples Ltd : Office Supplies	413
Reimbursement J Toohill: SmartStamp	408
Reimbursment J Toohill: OneandOne Web Hosting	133
Maria's Kitchen Ltd: Refreshments	106
Karibu Centre: Room Hire	100
7 HMRC: PAYE and NI	4,999
BT: Telephone Charges	139
Reimbursement: S Collins Flyer Printing	61
NACRO: Retained Payment	2,000
	8,604
8 Net Funds at 31/3/2008	15,942

Notes

- 1 Room Hire Includes Country Show Tent and Pitch
- 2 Refreshments in include Youth Event
- 3 Professional Services includes SE1 United for Youth Event
- 3 Professional Services includes Dom Violence Researcher
- 4 Office Supplies includes Balloons for Country Show
- 5 The MPA overpaid us by £12,857 in 2006/7 against the capped allocation of £50k. £7,359 was clawed back from the £50k allocation in 2007/8 leaving the balance ring-fenced within Reserve against redundancy liability.
- 6 SLP Grant of £10k made in 2006/7 arrived in April 2008.
- 7 Outstanding PAYE and NI due after financial year end.
- 8 Reserves policy is for 2 months unavoidable expenditure plus ring fenced fund for redundancy liability (see note 5)

9 Functional Analysis of Expenditure	2007/8	2006/7
Salary and Accomodation	£44,966	£44,455
Office Costs -Fixed	£2,605	£3,177
Professional Services - Fixed	£1,387	£1,399
<i>Total Unavoidable Fixed Costs</i>	<u>£48,958</u>	<u>£49,031</u>
Relocation		566
Plumbing	240	
<i>One-Off Costs</i>	<u>£240</u>	<u>£566</u>
Meetings & Events - Printing, Room Hire, Refreshments etc	£7,195	£4,222
Project Work	£4,372	
Relocation		
Plumbing		
<i>Total Activity Related Costs</i>	<u>£11,567</u>	<u>£4,222</u>
Total Costs	<u>£60,765</u>	<u>£53,819</u>

Appendix: Membership

Membership during CPCG year 2007/8 (July to July) with those who have joined since, up to the time of publication, shown *

Community and Voluntary Organisations

Angell Town Tenants Management Organisation Cathy Valentine
Brixton Domino Club Lloyd Leon
Brixton Market Traders Federation Stuart Horwood, John Gordon
Brixton Society Doye Akinlade
Churches Together in Brixton Rev Stephen Sichel
Churches Together in Clapham Elizabeth Gibson, Anna Long
Clapham Community Partnership David Hart, Ros Munday
Clapham and Stockwell Faith Forum Catriona Robertson
Clapham Sector Working Party John Wainwright
Community Empowerment Network Toaha Quereshi
Clapham Town Neighbourhood Watch Peggy Tyler, Wally Channon
Crossingham Gardens Tenants and Residents Association Sandra Moodier
Flipside Jean Carpenter
Friends of Brockwell Park Robert Holden
Herne Hill Forum Nick Abengowe
Herne Hill Society Paul Reynolds
HM Prison Brixton Independent Monitoring Group Most Rev Archbishop Bancroft McCarthy, Phyllis Jackson
Kennington Sector Working Party Michael Somers
Lambeth Independent Appropriate Adults Support Group Jane Warwick
Lambeth Leaseholders Council
Lambeth Older People's Forum Abdul Sultan Virani, Martin Walsh
Lambeth Summer Projects Trust Nick Mason
Lambeth Towers and Lambeth Road TRA Arulini K. Velmurugu
Milkwood Residents Association Maude Estwick, Hazel Watson
NACRO Tony Chrouch
Popular Youth Association Rowena Estwick
St Matthew's Estate Sheila Draper
South London Synagogue Dr Brian Mantell
Stockwell Park Residents Association David Tomlinson
Streatham Common Southside Neighbourhood Watch Anna Hunter
Streatham Southern Sector Working Party George Tuson
Tulse Hill TRA Kathy White, Rhoda Anderson
Victim Support Lambeth Hazel Saunders
West Indian Ex-Servicemen's Association UK Neil Flanigan, Jim Fairweather, Keith Shaw
West Indian Standing Conference Hedley Johnson
Your Story Wesley Walters-Stephenson

Statutory Organisations

British Transport Police Insp. Ian Mixer

Crown Prosecution Service Shuba Karan

HM Prison Brixton Paul McDowell

London Borough of Lambeth Council (pre-May 2008) Cllr. Kingsley Abrams; Cllr. Mark Bennett; Cllr. Lorna Campbell; Cllr. Rachel Heywood; Cllr. Neeraj Patil;

Cllr. Stephen Morgan; Cllr. Graham Pycock; Cllr. Darren Sanders; Cllr. Imogen Walker

London Borough of Lambeth Council (post-May 2008) Cllr. Kingsley Abrams; Cllr. Donatus Anyanwu; Cllr. Diane Braithwaite; Cllr. Lorna Campbell; Cllr. Rachel Heywood; Cllr. Stephen Morgan; Cllr. Neeraj Patil; Cllr. Graham Pycock; Cllr. Imogen Walker

London Borough of Lambeth Executive Director of Environment and Cultural Services – Robert Overall (pre-June 2008), Jo Cleary (post-June 2008)

London Probation Service Adam Kerr

MPA Link Member John Roberts

MPS Lambeth Ch. Supt Sharon Rowe, Supt Paul Wilson

Panel of Independent Custody Visitors for Lambeth Doye Akinlade, Lloyd Leon

Individual Members

Paul Andell

Hope Barrett

Steve Bolarina

Rev. Canon Ivelaw Bowman

Rod Brown

Shane Collins

Habiba Compaore

David Corderoy

Richard Dutton

Rosemarie Falaiye

Gloria Gomez

Peter Harris

John Howard

Lena James

Lee Jasper

Bushy Kelly

Gill Kenealy

Clare Moore

Richard Moore

James Osho

Brian Parker

David Prichard-Jones

Cheryl Sealey

Fernando Senior
Jean Slater
Jim Toohill
Anna Tapsell
Mike Tuppen

Board 2007/8

Individual Membership:

Anna Tapsell (Chair); Paul Andell (Vice-Chair); Ivelaw Bowman; Shane Collins; Gill Kenealy; Jim Toohill (Honorary Comptroller)

Community and Voluntary Organisations:

Wesley Walters-Stephenson (Your Story: Vice Chair); Doye Akinlade (Brixton Society); Ros Munday♦ (Clapham Community Partnership); Paul Reynolds (Herne Hill Society), Jane Warwick (Lambeth Independent Appropriate Adults Support Group)

Safer Neighbourhood Panels: Vacancy

Observers: Supt Paul Wilson (MPS Lambeth); Anne Corbett (LBL.)

Administration: Ben McKendrick

♦ Co-opted May 2007

Glossary**Acronyms**

AMP	Asset Management Plan re police MPS estate e.g. police stations
BTP	British Transport Police
CO19	Armed Police
CPCG	Community-Police Consultative Group
CPS	Crown Prosecution Service
IPCC	Independent Police Complaints Commission
LBAC	Lambeth Business Against Crime
LSP	Lambeth Summer Projects Trust
LWA	Lambeth Women's Aid
MPA	Metropolitan Police Authority
MPS	Metropolitan Police Service
PACE	Police and Criminal Evidence Act (1984)
PND	Penalty Notice for Disorder
SLP	Safer Lambeth Partnership
SSMG	Stop and Search Monitoring Group
TSG	Territorial Support Group
VSL	Victim Support Lambeth

Other terms

Blunt	Police operation against knives
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Gold Group Incidents	Meeting between Police and members of CPCG/public re Critical Incidents
MetCall	An integrated command and control centre for London's 32 boroughs
Neon	Inter-departmental police operation to recover firearms
Section 44	Section 44 of the Terrorism Act (2000)
Section 60	Section 60 of the Crime and Disorder Act (1998)
Trident	Police Operation against violent crime in the black community
Walrus II police	Analysis and research leading to proposals for restructuring Lambeth police