

**Assembly Hall  
Lambeth Town Hall  
SW2 1RW**

**RESENT: CPG BOAR** Anna Tapsell, Paul Andell (Ind. Memb.), Lesley Stephenson (Your Story), Doye Akinlade (Brixton Society), Canc velvet Bowman, Shane Collins, Gill Kenealy (Ind. Membs.), Paul Reynolds (Herne Hill Society), Jim Toohill (Victim Support Lambeth), Abdul Sultan irani (Lambeth Older Persons' Forum) **COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY MEMBERSHIP:** Rod Brown (Lambeth Leaseholders Forum), Stuart Horwood (Brixton Market Traders Assoc.), Hedley Johnson (West Indian anding Conference), Lloyd Leon (Brixton Domino Club), The Most Reverend Dr Bancroft McCarthy (HMP Independent Monitoring Board), Brian Mantel (Assoc. of Jewish Servicemen), David Prichard-Jones (Lambeth Older Persons Forum), Hazel Saunders (Victim Support), Michael Somers (Kennington Sector Working Party), David Tomlinson (Stockwell Parents' Assoc.), John Wainwright (Clapham Sector Working Party) **INDIVIDUAL MEMBER** Peter Harris, Lena James, Richard Moore, Bernard Senior **STATUTORY MEMBERSHIP:** John Roberts MPA **LAMBETH COUNCIL** Cllr. Kingsley Abrams, Cllr. Mark Bennett, Cllr. Lorna Campbell, Cllr. Darren Sanders, Cllr. Andrew Gibson, Cllr. Graham Lycoc **METROPOLITAN POLICE SERVICE:** Ch. Supt. Martin Bridger, Ch. Supt. Stewart Low, Ch. Supt. Sharon Roe, Det. Supt. John Corrigan, Supt. Alistair Sutherland, T/Supt. Dave Musker, Ch. Insp. Suzanne Wallace, Sgt. Ronnie Whelan **BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE** Ch. Insp. Paul Wilson **SECRETARIAT:** Ben McKendrick **SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD** John Frankland (Herne Hill) **VISITORS SIGNING:** Hope Barrett, Richard G. Dutton, John Howard, Umar Mahamod, Nabil Mezoughi, Hannah Barker, Catriona Robertson, Ron Holder, Gloria Gomez, Rev. James Odule

**APOLOGIES** Nick Abengowe, Wally Channon, Peggy Tyler, Maud Swick, Rowena Estwick, Robert Holden, Neil Fklanigan, Cheryl Sealey, George Tuson, Cllr. Imogen Walker, Jane Warwick, Hazel Watson

\* Minutes in ***bold italic*** indicate action points

### Information from Board/Group

A Briefing Paper for July was tabled.

### Minutes of the Meeting 5 June 2007

Minutes of the Meeting 5 June 2007 were accepted with the following amendment

Add Cllr. Lorna Campbell to those present

Minute number 4 Last line to read:

Stuart Horwood thanked Ch. Supt. Low at the previous meeting for working to clear up drug dealing in Brixton Market

### Counter-Terrorism

Anna Tapsell welcomed Reschard Auladin, Deputy Chair of the Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA), to the meeting. Deputy Commissioner Andy Hayman had sent apologies for not attending due to recent acts of terrorism which were under investigation.

Mr Auladin, first of all, gave recognition to the phenomenally good work of the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) since July 2005 in dealing

with the continuing threat presented by terrorism, although marred by incidents such as Stockwell and Forest Gate. In relation to the latter, Mr Auladin said that it was a milestone in terms of the police recognising that they urgently needed to do some further work in understanding what Londoners wanted them to do on their behalf. Therefore, the MPA had carried out an extensive consultation exercise which had resulted in the report *Counter-Terrorism: The London Debate*.

7 In recognising the threat of terrorism, Mr Auladin said it was clear that Londoners wanted the police to deal with the matter effectively, efficiently and professionally, and with the public's consent, which was reflected in the report's recommendations. Amongst the key findings were that: counter-terrorism tactics had to be appropriate, proportionate and fair in order to command public trust and confidence; lessons from previous threats needed to be learned; hate crime was under-reported and damaging to the counter-terrorism efforts; community policing had a critical role to play in countering terrorism; communications were vital and needed to be improved; the media was often irresponsible and Islamophobic; stop and search under the Terrorism Act was harmful to community and police relations; British Imams were out of touch; and that British foreign policy was an important component in the mix

8 Mr Auladin said that the previous week the police had responded to the report and were working towards implementing the recommendations. (The MPS response had been published on the MPA website)

9 With regard to stop and search under the Section 44 of the Terrorism Act, Mr Auladin said that a young, black Muslim from Brixton had told him that he had been stopped three times in one week, although it was the manner in which he was treated by "a rude and arrogant police officer" that was of most concern to him. The message, he said, was that Londoners wanted police to conduct stops proportionately and in a satisfactory manner. In this respect, the MPA had asked for regular reports back about its use and from more recent feedback, following the events of the previous days, members of the public had been overwhelmingly positive in terms of understanding why police needed to conduct stops and searches.

10 However, Mr Auladin said that the MPA would continue to monitor the police to ensure that they were conducting themselves according to Londoners' wishes.

To counter terrorism, Mr Auladin said everyone had to tackle it together without demonising any particular community.

Following the attempted bombings in London a few days previously, Mr Auladin said there were indications that the plan for police engagement and communication with the communities had gone well. He added that the police now had a system by which all information was gathered in one place and circulated to all concerned.

In response to Gill Kenealy, Mr Auladin said that he did not have figures for Section 44 stops and searches at hand but figures would be published on a quarterly basis. John Roberts added that as far as he understood, the number of Asian people detained for more than an hour under S.44 over the past six months was a single figure.

With regard to the underground, Ch. Insp. Paul Wilson, British Transport Police (BTP), said that as trains were recognised as specific terrorist targets BTP owed it to the public to take a proactive approach to security and as such were conducting around 1,200 stop and searches per month under S.44. In relation to searches, Ch. Insp. Wilson said that since 2005 a lot of work had been done in terms of briefing officers about standards of searches, making communities aware of BTP's stance, consulting extensively with its own Independent Advisory Group as well as working with the Muslim Safety Forum, both of which provided observers to accompany BTP officers on proactive operations.

Saad Mahmood, Clapham and Stockwell Faith Forum, gave a presentation on the impact of counter-terrorism on the Muslim community (see attached)

In response to Paul Andell, Mr Auladin said he believed that Lambeth played an important role in helping stop and search become more effective and he proposed that borough commanders should look at statistics for these on a weekly basis. For its part, he said that the MPA had worked very hard to improve stop and search and would continue to do so until people were reasonably satisfied that the police were doing a good job.

In relation to S.44 stop and search, Supt. Alistair Sutherland said he had been on a training programme in the United States that helped security services such as the police to assess and screen people to identify a threat based on an individual's behaviour, not their race, religion or appearance. He said that there were plans to pilot the system

in Lambeth as the first borough in the MPS to do so.

- 18 Ch. Insp. Wilson said that the principle point about the training programme was simply noticing behaviour that stood out from the norm, and that it was everyone's responsibility to report it.
- 19 Mr Andell said that it would be appreciated if the police would discuss the pilot with the Stop and Search Monitoring Group (S&SMG) before it was rolled out.
- 20 Catriona Robertson, Clapham and Stockwell Faith Forum (CSFF), reiterated the CSFF's willingness to work with the police, the Group, the S&SMG, the Youth Council and their own young Muslim members towards increasing the number of 'good stops' in Lambeth.
- 21 Ms Tapsell reminded the meeting that it wasn't only local officers who conducted searches in Lambeth and suggested that the Group should invite officers from other units to give account of their experiences..
- 22 Lloyd Leon said that from his experience of stop and search in Lambeth in the 1980s, and the criminalising of young black men, he could identify with the Muslim community. Furthermore, he said that when Brian Paddick was Borough Commander he made officers put in writing the reasons for stopping someone.
- 23 David Tomlinson said that random and general stop and searches primarily served one purpose, which was as a deterrent for people not to carry something they shouldn't. He said that if someone was caught with something illegal then it had failed as deterrent and success should be measured by nothing being found. Mr Tomlinson asked if the MPA and MPS were prepared to rethink the way in which they presented stop and search publicly. Mr Tomlinson added that ethnic composition was irrelevant to stop and search as was demonstrated by 100% of people searched at airports.
- 24 Mr Auladin said that compared to where we were some years ago, there had been a significant amount of development in regard to stop and search and as tactics, policies and procedures evolved over time it may be necessary to look at different ways of doing it. The purpose of recording the ethnic data of those stopped was to see if there was real disproportionality or whether it was perceived.
- 25 In response to Fernando Senior, Mr Auladin said that there had been an intensive and extensive

investigation into the killing of Jean Charles de Menezes in Stockwell and legal proceedings were still ongoing. Mr Auladin said that it was regrettable that two years after the incident it had still not been possible to publicly discuss what had happened and the lessons that have been learned. He said that once all the proceeding had been gone through there would be a number of things that would come out and people would be clearer about what happened on 22 July 2005.

Referring to Operation Kratos, Mr Auladin said that there was not a shoot to kill policy and a number of public debates had taken place to emphasise that. At the same time, he said that armed police (CO19) have been demonstrating what they did and the circumstances in which they would use their guns. Mr Auladin suggested that the Group should invite CO19 to give a presentation and he undertook to contact the Commander of CO19 on the Group's behalf.

John Roberts said that Group's S&SMG was instrumental in making significant changes to the way in which stop and search policy was looked at. With regard to stop and search mediation raised by Mr Andell, Mr Roberts said that if someone gave him a proposal he would look into finding some funding to pilot a scheme.

In response to Michael Somers, Kennington Sector Working party, who questioned whether Muslims were doing enough to protest about terrorism, Mr Auladin said that the leader of the Muslim Council of Britain had been reported in the Evening Standard as condemning terrorism. He added that terrorism was a crime and that he knew many others Muslims who have consistently denounced it but did not get reported.

In response to Wesley Stephenson, who said that one Imam had identified Afro-Caribbean 'reverts' as a problem, Mr Auladin said that a significant proportion of Imams in the country were not fit to preach in the UK.

In response to Doye Akinlade, Mr Audalin said that the young man's concerns had been taken on board and he had been put in touch with someone in the MPS

Jim Toohill asked if the MPA would ensure that the monitoring of the implementation of its recommendations reached down through both the community and the MPS. Mr Auladin said that the role of the MPA was to act on behalf of Londoners but he believed he needed to take a balanced view so he could obtain, through partnership, the services people wanted the MPS to provide for them.

32 Mr Auladin said he understood that the terrorism issue would be with us for the foreseeable future because of the number of people being watched by security services was such that we had to remain being on our guard. Mr Auladin added that it would be by methods such as communities working together that would improve matters.

33 Mr Toohill said that it was everyone's responsibility to try to address the issue of what motivated terrorists and distortion of Islam, since the public could not rely on the police conducting limitless Stops and Searches, or on luck as with the recent car bombs in central London.

34 In response to Canon Ivelaw Bowman who asked which sect represented the authentic Muslim view, Mr Auladin said although he was a Muslim he was at the meeting representing the MPA.

35 Canon Bowman said many people from Guyana, Trinidad and Grenada [living in this country] were of Indian ancestry and if stop and searches were conducted by appearance, society would be heading for serious problems

36 Shane Collins said that the police were in a difficult position trying to keep the lid on pot with the only solution being to turn down the heat. In other words, he said the main cause of terrorism was the country's foreign policy and troubles in Iraq. Mr Collins said that there was a pretty clear choice; keep the lid on, which would mean more stop and searches, and more pressure on the community, or turn the heat down.

37 Mr Auladin said that while he thought Iraq was part of the reason for terrorist attacks, he believed it was acting more as a tool for recruiting would be terrorists.

38 Ch. Supt. Martin Bridger said that post July 2005 numerous meetings were held to discuss Operation Kratos and Jean Charles de Menezes with the IPCC, and the borough had not stood still. Mr Bridger said that questions raised about addressing terrorism had led him and others to Pakistan, Spain and Amsterdam to understand the issues and looking at how to identify the individual who moves towards radical views that lead to violent extremism and mass murder.

39 Last December, Mr Bridger said that he brought together all the Mosques around one table, none of which subscribed to the idea of the terrorist bomber. Mr Bridger said it was necessary to understand and prevent people from going through a cycle such as Richard Reid, the attempted shoe-bomber, had done. Mr Bridger said Lambeth was one of two boroughs, along

with Preston, that would be a pilot site for addressing the terrorism issue.

Saad Mahmood said that he endorsed what Mr Bridger said and confirmed that they had worked in partnership on projects involving prevention and personal development courses with a lot of work continuing to go on.

## Lambeth Police Report

Mr Bridger introduced Ch. Supt. Sharon Rowe, the new Borough Commander for Lambeth, to the Group

Ch. Supt. Martin Bridger gave a PowerPoint presentation on Lambeth police performance for the previous month (see attached). The statistical police report for July was tabled.

Det. Supt. John Corrigan said that four young persons had been arrested in relation to a young Asian man stabbed seven times in the face the previous week. Over the past four years, Supt. Corrigan said there had been a 43% reduction in knife related crime and police wanted to keep the momentum going. However, there had been a 100% increase in the murder of young people during the first six months of 2007.

Mr Bridger thanked Fernando Senior and Gill Kenealy for not allowing murder enquiries to be forgotten by asking for updates on investigations

In response to David Tomlinson, Mr Bridger said that in respect of the percentage target for answering '11 Calls' he would see that it was looked into and an answer provided for the next meeting. However, Ch. Supt. Sharon Rowe said that she understood Lambeth to be one of the best in London in terms of responses.

In response to Rod Brown, Ch. Insp. Suzanne Wallace said that in respect of a dispersal zone in place in Thurlow Park Ward, extensive consultation had taken place with Ward Councillors, the immediate community, the Safer Neighbourhood Panel, the local authority and Community Safety, and the Peabody Trust.

With volume crime down, and whilst the targets remained the same, Paul Andell suggested that the lens of the criminal justice system could be focussed on those crimes that were under-reported, such as racial harassment and domestic violence, which were priorities with partners in terms of community safety.

48 Mr Bridger said he agreed and thought it was something that would develop over the forthcoming years as partnerships began to work in a better way, and the Local Area Agreement, in terms of the partnership being measured, would start to address such issues as the police signed up to more and more partnership work.

49 In response to Seymour McClean, Mr Bridger said that Safer Neighbourhood (SN) teams were doing some outstanding work in engaging with young people. Six weeks earlier, Mr Bridger said he had attended a conference for head teachers where he introduced each of them to a representative of their SN team, and a programme of better engagement with schools had begun.

50 In relation to encounters between police and members of the public, particularly young people, in the street, Mr Bridger said the police could still improve on such interactions and training was ongoing.

51 In response to Richard Dutton, Mr Bridger said that the vast majority of murders in Lambeth were investigated by specialist police officers from off the borough, although they would be accountable to the borough commander.

52 Mr Bridger said that when he was asked to be borough commander of Lambeth he saw it as an absolute privilege and the most fascinating challenge. Having been a police officer for thirty years and having reached as far as he wanted to go, Mr Bridger said he wanted to seek new challenges. Mr Bridger thanked the members of his senior management team and staff officer without whom, he said, he could not have achieved as much as he did. He said he also wanted to thank the community whose support had added to the success, such as through the contributions to policing that emanated out of themed meetings and by allowing people to walk in off the street and hold the police to account. Finally, Mr Bridger said that being a borough commander in Lambeth had made him a better person.

53 Lloyd Leon and Stuart Horwood led tributes to Mr Bridger for all his efforts during his time in Lambeth, especially in trying to engage with young people, and also to Ch. Supt. Stewart Low, not least for all his efforts in trying to clear-up the drug dealing in Brixton Market.

## DATE OF NEXT MEETING

**6.00 p.m. TUESDAY, 4 September 2007**  
**Lambeth Town Hall, Assembly Hall**