

Lambeth Town Hall, Acre Lane SW2

PRESENT: CPCG BOARD: Anna Tapsell (Chair), Ivelaw Bowman, Sandra Moodie (Cressingham Gardens TRA), Shae Collins, Ros Munday (Clapam Community Partnership), Doye Akinlade (Brixton Society), Jim Toohill, Wesley Walters-Stephenson (My Story), Jane Warwick (Lambeth Women's Aid)

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY MEMBERSHIP: Jim Fairweather (WIESA), Neil Flanigan (WISEA), Lloyd Leon (Brixton Domino Club); Stuart Horwood (Brixton Market Traders Association) Lena James (Churches Together in Clapam), Irena Kowaleska (Leaseholders Council), Joan Francomb (Leaseholders Council), Brian Mantell (South London Synagogue), Nick Mason (Lambeth Summer Projects) David Tomlinson (Stockwell Park Residents Assoc.); George Tuson (Southern Sector Working Group), Arulini Velmurugu (Lambeth Towers TRA), David Warner (Brixton Society)

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS: Hope Barrett, Richard Dutton, Rosemarie Falaiye, Gloria Gomez, Clare Moore, John Howard, David Prichard-Jones, Richard Moore, Fernando Senior

STATUTORY MEMBERSHIP: MPA Caroline Pidgeon, Jude Sequeira **LAMBETH COUNCIL** Cllr Rachel Heywood, Cllr Alex Holland, Cllr Julia Memery, Cllr Mike Smith, Cllr Matt Parr, Cllr Judith Best, Cllr Kita Ogden, Ann Corbett, Dean Woodward **METROPOLITAN POLICE SERVICE** Ch. Supt. Nick Ephgrave, Insp. Malcolm Nichol, Supt Paul Wilson, Chief Insp Pat Benyon, Chief Insp Rob Atkin (CO19), PC Charlotte Pooley (CO19)

VISITORS: Myriam Hay (Portuguese and Spanish Speakers Forum – Lambeth) Patrick Sullivan, Clovis Reid MBE, Office of Chuka Umunna MP, Maju Roy, Dolly Adams, Ivor John, Isael Pecleoso, S Koklina, Patrick Horgan (Hillingdon CPCG), Karen Moore,

Felix Ogbogoh (Streatham Wells Safer Neighbourhood Panel), David Green (Gypsy Hill Safer Neighbourhood Panel)

Apologies: Patricia Moberly, George Marshman, Cathy Valentine,

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

Introduction

- 1 Anna Tapsell, CPCG Chair and chair for the meeting, welcomed members and visitors. She drew the meeting's attention to the murder of Zac Olumegbon outside Park Campus School days earlier. She asked the meeting to reflect on what it was that could cause his killers to behave in so brutal and callous a way. The meeting paused for a minute's silence.
- 2 Several contributors offered their condolences to Zac's family and friends and also praised the

school's record and achievements Clovis Reid spoke from his experience of working with the schools whilst Rosemarie Falaiye spoke highly of the behavior of the pupils at the school. David Green (Chair, Gypsy Hill Safer Neighbourhood Panel) spoke of the need to avoid demonising youth and to ensure that there continued to be available resources to support young people.

- 3 Cllr Judith Best (Streatham Wells) commented that it was widely held amongst young people that Zac had had prior knowledge that someone was 'after him'. She queried why there had been no one in a position of authority to whom Zac could have spoken.
- 4 The meeting also noted the death of Ron Bridges, Nick Mason (Lambeth Summer Projects) spoke of Ron's community involvement over 30 years, particularly in the Kennington area, and his work as a founding Trustee of Lambeth Summer Projects. He was subsequently a winner of the Frank O'Neil trophy.
- 5 The Chair, on behalf of the Group and the meeting, wished Supt Paul Wilson well in his imminent retirement and thanked for his contribution to the borough, and to CPCG, over the four years of his time as Superintendent with responsibility for Partnership and Safer Neighbourhoods. Paul responded that it had been a great experience and that he, in turn, thanked the Group for holding the police to account. He said he hoped that the importance of accountability at the local level was fully realised

Minutes of the Meeting, 1 June 2010

- 6 The minutes were accepted with the following amendments:
 - 6.1 Record apologies from Patricia Moberly [Patricia Moberly by email]
 - 6.2 Amend Minute 43 to read "The young man....on his way to the wake at the library, was taken across the road, pushed on to a wall and then TASERed six times....." [Clovis Reid]
 - 6.3 Insert into Minute 44, after "There was blood on the pavement" insert 'Mr Reid said he remonstrated with the police, regarding the use of their boots, pointing out who he was and his

experience in the community. He said the police told him to 'F-off' and to 'get out of their face'. [Clovis Reid].

- 6.4 Amend 44 to read "Mr Reid asked his son"
[Clovis Reid]

Matters Arising

- 7 There was no representative from the Territorial Support Group present (due to attendance at a funeral) to answer Lloyd Leon's query regarding the ethnic composition of TSG. [Minute 7, 1/06/2010]. **The matter would be carried forward.**
- 8 Anne Corbett (Assistant Director for Community Safety, LBL) reported that there had been a meeting with Pastor Mimi Asher (4 June), which Wesley Walters-Stephenson had also attended, and that a building had been identified for use by the Word of Grace Ministries (in Lothian Road).[Minute 11, 1/06/2010]. In addition, a one year capacity building programme had been agreed which would be facilitated by John Kerridge. The Chair thanked Anne, (together with Errol Patterson, Nick Ephgrave and George Marshman) for their sustained efforts to resolve this issue.
- 9 Chief Supt Nick Ephgrave reported that a meeting had been re-arranged with Myriam Aquilar Hay (Forum for the Portuguese and Spanish Speaking Communities – Lambeth) [Minute 21, 1/06/2010].
- 10 George Tuson suggested that it would be useful to ensure that the views of young people (as evidenced by the Resident Survey – Minute 24, 1/06/2010) were widely distributed eg to Safer Neighbourhood Teams and Panels. Neil Flanigan asked if, more generally, rank and file officers in the borough got to see CPCG minutes.
- 11 Chief Supt Ephgrave responded that he did not distribute the minutes within MPS Lambeth but he did précis the issues addressed in an internal unit newsletter. He was aware that minutes are available from CPCG to anyone who wants them. Jim Toohill pointed out that a number of Safer Neighbourhood officers were in fact on CPCG's mailing list and would receive papers as a matter of course.
- 12 Neil Flanigan queried the debriefing referred to in Chief Supt Andy Tarrant's CO19 presentation [Minute 54, 1/06/2010] and the implications for accountability. The Chair suggested that it was not possible to reopen an earlier discussion, particularly given that Andy Tarrant was not present.
- 13 David Tomlinson, with reference to Clovis Reid's account of the reaction of police to his intervention at West Norwood [Minute 44 et seq, 1/06/2010 and above], recalled that there had been discussion in the past of providing some form of identification to recognised community leaders. He appreciated the potential difficulties in arranging such, but felt it worth pursuing.
- 14 The Chair said that such a proposal had indeed been made and some progress made in developing it but that not all the issues had been resolved. **She agreed that it was a proposal that should be reactivated.**
- 15 Jane Warwick expressed her concern, as Chair of Lambeth Independent Custody Visitors (ICVs), that ICVs had not been called to visit the young man who was arrested after being TASERed. She pointed out that as well as ensuring the well-being of detainees, ICVs can play an important role in reassuring the community in circumstances where feelings may be riding high. She was also concerned regarding other incidents which had occurred and of which the ICVs were not informed.
- 16 **Chief Supt Ephgrave said that he had asked Supt Andy Howe to address the issue and to develop appropriate protocols for such circumstances.**
- 17 In a more general discussion of the role of Appropriate Adults, Dean Woodward (Assistant Director, Children and Young People) offered to answer any questions regarding the operation of the current contract, which he managed. The Chair said that the whole issue of ICVs and AAs needed to be revisited and **that an appropriate point at which to do that might be when the Group received the report of the Mental Health Working Group, thereby considering the wider issue of vulnerable people in police custody in the round.**
- 18 Shane Collins said that he found the statement that it was permissible to TASER individuals whilst under restraint [Minute 57.2, 1/06/2010] chilling and evidence of mission creep. He

reminded the meeting that when TASER was first introduced it was presented as a less lethal option in circumstances where a firearm might otherwise be used.

- 19 Felix Ogbogoh (Chair, Streatham Wells Safer Neighbourhood Panel) asked if the data regarding the ethnicity of TASER subjects were available [Minute 75, 1/06/2010]. ***It was agreed that these would be supplied by email.***

Lambeth Police Report

- 20 Chief Supt Ephgrave presented a summary of 'year to date' comparisons for major crime types (included in attached statistical report).

21 He drew particular attention to:

- 21.1 The decrease in acquisitive crime, with 227 fewer burglaries for example, compared to the same period last financial year;

- 21.2 The increase in violent crimes, which he felt to be the big issue for the borough. However, he said most of that comparative increase was in April and early May and he pointed to the substantial work which was underway currently, for example in sophisticated operations which were aimed at deterring those individuals who were most responsible for this type of crime. He was hopeful, therefore that the police had now 'got a handle' on it.

- 22 Chief Supt Ephgrave also addressed the murder of Zac Olumegbon. He did not want to go too deeply into an investigation underway, but wanted to applaud the Park Campus School, echoing comments made earlier in the meeting. He said there had been effective cooperation between the school and the police but reflected that, whereas attention had been given to events around the school at turning out time, perhaps not enough though had been given to policing and supervision around the school before the school day started.

- 23 The borough commander then spoke of events in the aftermath of the murder, describing an agitated gathering of young people on the Friday night, in Tulse Hill, which intelligence suggested was in response to what had happened to Zac. He said that every visible asset to hand was put out, into the early hours, He said there were no further serious incidents over the weekend.

More generally, he said that the police were alert to the possibilities of retaliatory action in response to the murder and would be deploying assets appropriately.

- 24 The Chair of Positive Education (who is also the Chair of a Safer Neighbourhood Panel) said that we all have a role to play – we should, for example, be more supportive of searching young people who must be made to realise what suffering the use of weapons caused. He summed up his approach as 'We are the father – we are the family'.

- 25 A member of the public said she had refused to let her child attend Park Campus, based on the experience of a friend whose daughter is a pupil there. She asserted that young people don't get help from the police but rather that there was process of criminalisation, from which to protect her two sons, she had conducted a 'military operation'. She cited the frequency with which young, black boys were stopped by the police and the manner in which they were treated.

- 26 Chief Supt Ephgrave said he found it hard to respond because he didn't recognise the picture painted; he did not believe that officers were only interested in criminalising young people. He said it was frequently a 'hard call', but the response was not always Stop and Search.

- 27 Fernando Senior said that Chief Supt Ephgrave needed to hear what was being said, in this case and that of Clovis Reid, and if he didn't recognise the behaviour on the part of the police nonetheless to go back and check.

- 28 Irena Kowalewska, of Arlington Lodge, felt that whilst burglary may be down across Lambeth, perhaps what remained was concentrated at Arlington Lodge. She related the theft of expensive ceramic pots and plants for which the residents had fundraised, prior to a Royal visit. She said the estate suffered from a lot of vandalism but, she felt, got little support from the police or the Council. The Safer Neighbourhood Team were around during the day, but not in the evenings when a lot of low level crime happened. Meanwhile, she said, the residents keep hearing the sirens going by on Brixton Hill.

- 29 Lloyd Leon raised three issues with the borough Commander:

29.1 He wanted to hear the justification for, and an account of the use of, the statutes relating to 'Joint Enterprise', which he felt to be more dangerous than 'Sus'. **He said he would be happy for this to be pursued at a later date.**

29.2 How would the anticipated cuts in public spending impact on policing in Lambeth, particularly the Safer Neighbourhood Police?

29.3 Is there a dedicated resource co-ordinating intelligence around gangs across Lambeth and Southwark?

30 Chief Supt Ephgrave said that he would be happy to address Joint Enterprise at a future date. He said that there was a huge amount of being done to address the issue of gangs and in intelligence gathering – he pointed to Operation Numentine. But he cautioned around limitations of intelligence, which did not provide a crystal ball. Like an iceberg, two thirds of activity was below the surface whilst notions of structure and hierarchy, which an adult might intuitively impose on intelligence, don't necessarily exist for young people for whom structures assemble and disassemble with the speed it takes to send a text message. He said that Lloyd was welcome at any time to see the intelligence process in action.

31 With regard to spending cuts, Chief Supt Ephgrave said that he believed that Safer Neighbourhood Policing was the future. He didn't see any immediate drop in numbers but could foresee a situation of retirements exceeding new recruitment, and a slower decline in that way. More generally, he said that his planning included contingencies in case he was asked to make cuts of up to twenty per cent.

Engagement with Schools

32 Chief Insp Pat Beynon gave a presentation on the Engagement with Schools (attached)

33 He described the engagement as having three key elements – the Safer Schools Partnership, Lambeth Police Operations and the Safer Lambeth's Young and Safe initiative.

34 Pat elaborated on the material in the presentation with the following additional points:

34.1 The Safer Schools Partnership now involves a team of 10 officers (9 PCs and 1 PCSO)

working in all the secondary schools in the borough and reporting to an Inspector. Additionally, the Partnership includes panels of young people within the schools. Within the listed objectives for the Partnership, there was a clear orientation around the Every Child Matters agenda. All police officers now training in Every Child Matters and Safer Schools officers receive additional, more specialist training.

34.2 Insights and intelligence gained from the relationships established within the Partnership, as well as specific analyses (eg of hot-spots and of time-spikes), feed into the cycles of tasking and coordination, of which the principal were the police's own Borough Coordination Tasking Group (BCTG) – a daily cycle – as well as the fortnightly, wider Partnership Tasking and Coordination process, bringing together the police and the local authority and including, for example, youth workers and park rangers.

34.3 Pat also set out the relationship between the Partnership and the Council's Young and Safe initiative, which seeks to provide not only activities for young people but also opportunities in education, training, personal development and employment. [Young and Safe has been the subject of a detailed presentation to CPCG's September 2009 meeting].

34.4 Chief Insp Beynon ended his presentation with reference to a number of diversionary activities with which the police were involved. These included uniformed activities for young people (the Police Cadets and You London), the Junior Citizen Scheme (aimed at Year 6 and based at Clapham Fire Station) and the Growing Against Gangs project, which was aimed at the crucial Year 6 to Year 7 progression. Police officers were also involved in delivering diversionary projects under the Lambeth Summer Projects scheme.

35 Nick Mason (Chair, Lambeth Summer Projects) updated the meeting on progress with the Summer Projects Trust, now in its 23rd year, having originated following disturbances in the Norwood Area, and which has become the largest project of its type in London (Nick had given an extensive presentation on the Trust to CPCG's October 2008 meeting).

- 36 The Trust currently has four Trustees and is recruiting a further four, increasing the diversity and age range of Trustees; he was pleased that there appeared to be potential Trustees emerging from amongst young people who had participated in the project.
- 37 In the current year there would be four venues, with over 600 activity sessions, staffed by volunteers, youth workers from the London Borough of Lambeth, Safer Schools Officers from the MPS as well as Met Volunteers. Additionally, particular projects were to have input from specialist units such as CO19, TSG and local Safer Neighbourhood Teams.
- 38 The projects were to cater for around 750 young people from across the borough, over the summer period.

CO19 (Firearms Command) and Engagement

- 39 Chief Inspector Rob Atkin and PC Charlotte Pooley gave a presentation covering the programmes run by CO19 around Engagement, Young People in Gangs and Preventive work in schools.
- 40 Charlotte explained that she had moved into a full time role working in preventative work in schools, having previously spent two years working in armed response vehicles.
- 41 PC Pooley presented first a product called Operation Makepeace (a PowerPoint presentation with embedded video sequences) the aim of which is to inform and educate young people regarding gun and knife crime. Aimed at 11 to 19 year olds, it has been delivered in schools across London, including three in Lambeth.
- 42 Charlotte illustrated the presentation with just one of the video sequences (the presentation in its entirety is approximately an hour long) – she also extended an invitation to view the whole presentation in a live setting (**at Blackwood School in Croydon the next day**).
- 43 The second product which PC Pooley described was an exercise called Choices, developed in response to feedback to earlier presentations of Makepeace which had indicated young people's desire for a more interactive approach. Choices comprises a Makepeace presentation, a two-
- 44 Armed Police – Could You?, in contrast is aimed at older community leaders. It is an interactive video based 'range', where the participants are put in the place of armed officers needing to make split second judgements.
- 45 Nick Mason explained that Makepeace – which he said had been delivered to 3.5k young people so far and had been very successful – sat within a wider initiative, Growing Against Gangs. This was a development, with input from Oxford based academics, of a product aimed at a wider cohort of young people than those already in contact with the criminal justice system – those on the 'cusp'. Growing Against Gangs including elements such as Makepeace, but also work with TSG around Stop and Search and (it was anticipated) work with Counter-Terrorism Command.
- 46 In total the programme now adds up to 25 hours of structured engagement (at a cost of just 94p per hour) across the year 7 age group, over an academic year. It includes elements around anger management, conflict resolution, communications and goal setting.
- 47 Gill Kenealy commended the presentation and especially welcomed engagement of CO19 and TSG with young people. In that context, she raised concerns about stories in circulation regarding the behavior of some TSG officers towards young people. (These she kept hearing in her role as a youth worker working at a number of locations across the borough.) She said that she had identifying details of the officers involved which she would pass on.
- 48 With regard to the barbeque in Tulse Hill on the Friday night, following the murder of Zac Olumegbon, Ms Kenealy said that from accounts given by people who were there, and on a local website, there was an impression that the police response had been heavy handed and aggressive. By contrast she said, the police response the following night was much lower key and less confrontational.
- 49 Ms Kenealy also expressed concern about her understanding of anticipated reductions in the number of youth workers in the borough, and the replacement of full time workers with part-time. She argued that numbers of youth workers

needed to be maintained to support and guide young people away from negative activities.

- 50 Felix Ogbogoh (Chair of Streatham Wells Safer Neighbourhood Panel) asked Pat Beynon how it was proposed to establish good relationships between youths and Safer Neighbourhood Teams, rather than hostility, particularly given that the police were often reliant on information from the community (including youths) to combat crime. Felix also asked how 'emergency' was classified. He cited a case where a woman and her child were being threatened but the police did not respond for seven hours.
- 51 In response to Gill Kenealy, Chief Insp Beynon said that he would encourage young people to formally complain if they feel they have been ill-treated and more generally, in relation to Stop and Search, to use the Stop and Search Monitoring Group
- 52 In response to Felix Ogbogoh, he said that he would very much like to see the development of 'Youth Panels' to run in tandem with the Safer Neighbourhood Panels. With regard to the emergency response issue, he explained that there is a grading system with a requirement for those calls which are graded 'I' (immediate) to be met in 12 minutes.
- 53 John Howard said the presentation was impressive but he wondered whether the right people were being reached? Do young people really have a 'Choice' when they feel abandoned. He cited the proposal from Kit Malthouse (MPA Chair) to work with government ministers to develop solutions to the increase in knife crime. Mr Howard felt that Mr Malthouse would do much better talking to young people on the streets and on the estates.
- 54 John Howard pointed to what he saw as a theme linking comments made through the meeting, around Appropriate Adults and ICV's, around TASER procedures and thresholds and also comments made about the criminalisation of young people. He said that it mattered more that police officers (and others) didn't just come and make presentations but that they listened carefully to the underlying lessons and took them back.
- 55 Myriam Aquilar Hay said that she felt that the root of many of the issues of violent behaviours which had been described lay in drug dealing. Whilst she congratulated the police on the considerable progress which had been made in Brixton Town Centre, she said that whereas in the past offers of drugs for sale were indiscriminate, dealers were now less obvious by targeting just young people. She wanted to know what was being done to address this.
- 56 Cllr Rachel Heywood (Cabinet Member for Communities and Community Safety) commended the huge range of extraordinary activities that had been described. She was proud of the achievements of the Safer Schools Partnership. She also wanted to praise the work of the police, council officers and those in the community who come together in the face of tragic events such as the murder of Zac. She said that she had visited Park Campus School with Tessa Jowell, where she found the school community devastated. She asked for support for the school and pledged to work to address issues in the locality, together with her colleague Peter Robbins who is cabinet member for Children and Young People.
- 57 Rachel reiterated the administration's commitments to tackle gang related crime and said that the issues go deep and wide; she said that there was need work to address issues in housing, education and the range of Council services. **Cllr Haywood had no knowledge of the cuts in Youth Services to which Gill Kenealy had referred, but she would be happy to address it.** Whatever the stringent financial circumstances demanded, she felt we could not afford to let our young people down.
- 58 Richard More said he was pleased with what he'd heard from the presentations and said that it contrasted with his perception that it was sometimes felt that it was inappropriate for young people to be involved with CO19. More generally, he queried whether sometimes people made decisions on behalf young people.
- 59 He said that there appeared now to be 11 secondary schools involved in the Safer Schools Partnership, whereas a matter of months ago there were only 9. Mr Moore said that he had managed to get Chief Supt Tarrant of CO19 to invite the chair of the Head Teachers Forum. Whilst there was no response as yet, he felt that was a positive development.
- 60 He claimed that the sometimes schools were wary of engagement for fear of damaging their reputations. He felt there was need for a wide public campaign to urge schools to engage. He

said there was a tendency to burrow heads in the sand.

61 He specifically asked how many schools were involved and how many schools were there to go. Patrick Beynon said there were 12 schools involved and that all secondary schools in the borough were involved in the programme.

62 Selwyn yyyyy said he felt that the presentations had been good, but that he had known good and bad police. He that it was hard to understand the damage that was done by relentless bullying, wherever it came from – he would like to see a video made about that.

63 ***In response to Gill Kenealy, Anne Corbett said that she would bring back information about cuts in respect of the Youth Service –it was not her direct area of responsibility.*** She agreed with John Howard that a lot of young people feel abandoned. She pointed to the 2007 Executive Commission which made 13 recommendations which formed the basis for Young and Safe. But an event like the murder of Zac always raised questions of whether enough was being done or whether the right things were being done.

64 Anne added that Makepeace had been delivered to Marcus Lipton Youth Club, that it was impressive and that the borough would welcome more.

65 Chief Insp Atkins said .officers work tirelessly to deliver the product and targeting is decided with the boroughs, PC Pooley added that the product development is based on feedback and in that way is responsive to what young people want.

66 With regard to the TASERing incident, Rob Atkins pointed out that it was sub-judice. He understood that a complaint had been brought. The highest standards were expected of CO19 officers and if there had been wrong doing it would be dealt with and reported back to CPCG.

67 In closing the meeting, The Chair said that it was important that people who felt they had been treated unfairly did keep a diary and use the complaints procedure, through CPCG if they felt more comfortable with that. She was sure that none of the senior police officers take any pleasure that there may be officers who misbehave.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

6. 00 p.m. TUESDAY, 7 September 2010
Lambeth Town Hall

Lambeth Community-Police Consultative Group
Unit 58 Euro link Business Centre, 49 Effra Road
London SW2 1BZ,
T: 020 7733 0878 E: admin@lambethcpcg.org.uk
F: 020 7274 7623 W: www.lambethcpcg.org.uk

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