

EALING SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, 1st May 2019, at 7:00 pm, Elizabeth Cantell Room, Ealing Town Hall.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Richard Chilton | Chair |
| Sara Kumar | Vice-Chair |
| Jamila Bibi-Sawar | Community Member |
| Suzanne Fernandes | Community Member |
| James Guest | Ealing Ward Cluster Representative |
| Susan Lindo | Independent Custody Visitors' Panel |
| Martin Mallam | Greenford Ward Cluster Representative |
| Alan Murray | Community Member |
| Rajat Nath | Community Member |
| Jags Sanghera | Southall Ward Cluster Representative |
| Don Tanswell | Acton Ward Cluster Representative |

COUNCILLORS

Councillor Seema Kumar; and Councillor Joanna Dabrowska (not on ESNB)

METROPOLITAN POLICE SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Leigh Ballard | Inspector |
| Andrew Deane | Chief Inspector |

IN ATTENDANCE — EALING COUNCIL OFFICERS

| | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mwim Chellah | Democratic Services Officer |
| Jess Murray | Head of Community Safety, Tenancies and Regulatory Operations |

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed Members present, and noted apologies from those who had sent them in advance of the meeting. There were also some members of the public present.

Apologies were received from Councillor Joanna Camadoo, Mohamed Ali, Sarah Constable, Beata Felinczak, Anu Khela, Andy Oliver, Andrew Rollings, Wendy Starkie and William Hardman.

The Chair informed the meeting that James Lawley-Barrett had resigned for personal reasons. Furthermore, other community members had served their required terms of

office. The Chair would get in touch with those members. There would be some retirements leading to more vacancies. Moreover, there were currently two vacancies for board members.

2. Minutes of the Meeting Held on 23rd January 2019

The Board considered the minutes of the meeting on 23rd January 2019.

Approved: the minutes of the meeting on 23rd January 2019.

3. Minutes of the Public Meeting Held on 11th March 2019

The Board considered the minutes of the meeting on 11th March 2019.

Approved: the minutes of the meeting on 11th March 2019.

4. Hate Crime Report

Received: a report from Chief Inspector Andrew Deane.

Noted: that the Police recorded many criminal incidences as “hate crime”. However, after investigations by detectives, it was then ascertained whether the reports constituted a hate crime or not. There were five centrally monitored strands of hate crime: race/ethnicity; religion/beliefs; sexual orientation; disability; and transgender identity. There is a “Positive Action” and “Positive Arrest” policy in place in West Area. Hate Crimes are given priority and dealt with by specialist trained officers.

Noted: that the under-reporting of disability hate crime was a long-identified problem. Third party reporting was crucial if victims could not make the reports on their own. There were specially trained safeguarding officers who dealt with reports involving vulnerable people using the “*Achieving Best Evidence Technique*” (ABET) approach.

5. Crime Statistics Report

Received: a report from James Guest.

Noted: that the report, with statistics, had been distributed to members prior to the meeting. There had been an overall rise in offending in Ealing over the past 12 months, predominantly relating to robbery and burglary. There had been an extra 1000 reported offences in Ealing, mostly theft from motor vehicles, particularly in locations near transport hubs.

6. Progress Update on Projects

Received: a report by the Vice-Chair Sara Kumar.

Noted: that the two projects on “personal safety and self-defence” and “crossing boundaries” had been successful. There was a waiting list on the first one.

Action: there was potential to undertake another project on “raising awareness on hate crime targeted at those with learning and/or physical disabilities”. Members with ideas for further projects should present them to Sara Kumar as soon as possible.

7. Lovebox Festival 2019 Report

Received: a report from James Guest.

Noted: that organisers were expecting 40 000 people each day on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights of the festival. However, organisers wanted to use Ealing Broadway Station as one of the two stations from which goers would disembark. Local residents were concerned about safety, particularly from possible anti-social behaviour, due to “inadequate stewarding”.

Moreover, organisers were “not sharing” more information on numbers and routes, citing “anti-terrorism” reasons. That had rendered meetings with them “tokenism”. Therefore, there was need to engage with the Police on the possibility of closing off some routes to ensure public and local residents’ safety.

Action: James Guest to engage with the Police and organisers over safety concerns to determine which routes could be blocked out using Police regulations.

8. Police Update

Received: an update from Chief Inspector Andrew Deane.

Noted: that the Police’s priority continued to be dealing with serious violence and knife crime. The introduction of section 60 measures in Ealing had resulted in the seizure of more weapons, notably knives. There was also a discussion about vacancies in the BCU/Ealing Borough initiated by James Guest.

Queried: Councillor Joanna Dabrowska asked if the impact of the employment freeze would affect Police numbers in the borough even after the lifting of the freeze. Even with the employment of new Officers, it was felt that the gap from the freeze would not be adequately covered.

Response: Chief Inspector Deane was optimistic that the employment of additional Officers, some of who would be deployed in the borough would significantly ease challenges around Police staffing numbers in the borough.

Queried: Suzanne Fernandes, Community Member, asked if convicted serial online offenders being released back into the community, especially those from proscribed groups, such as National Action, were managed the same way as a “gangs matrix” with local Policing. There were serious threats from terrorist organisations online. How were these managed in the Borough?

Furthermore, Ms Fernandes asked if body worn cameras were being used by Officers in the West Area BCU to take statements from victims of crime?

Responded: Chief Inspector Deane informed the meeting that convicted online offenders, particularly those with links to terrorist organisations were treated in accordance with established Police procedures in the borough and nationally. He gave an example of recent case with a member of National Action from Acton. In that instance, the Police had worked with the “Prevent” organisation. Furthermore, there were concerns about recent anti-Semitic graffiti in Ealing.

Chief Inspector informed the meeting that using body cameras was not usual protocol to take statements, however, it had been used in some instances.

Action: The Police to share the results of the effectiveness of “stop and search” in Ealing, giving numbers of weapons seized.

9. Any Other Business

Martin Mallam, Greenford Ward Cluster Representative, raised the issue of “travellers” and whether an injunction could be implemented in Ealing to ban them. It was advised that the Council and Police were in constant communication over the issue. Any action had to be within the parameters of the law. If the situation warranted, an injunction could be used. However, it had been previously assessed that this had not been required in the past. This position was subject to review on a case by case situation.

10. Date of the Next Meeting

It was noted that the date of the next meeting would be communicated in due course.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

RICHARD CHILTON (CHAIR)