

## Safer Neighbourhood Board – Board Meeting

# MINUTES

**Date:** 15 September 2016

**Time:** 17:15 -19:15

**Venue:** Dagenham & Redbridge Football Club – Boardroom

**Chair:** Stephen Thompson

Chair of Safer Neighbourhood Board

**Present:** Cllr. Laila Butt  
Matthew Cole  
Rita Giles MBE  
Prince Kumar  
Katherine Gilcreest  
Keith Hutton  
Emma Jones  
Dan Neville  
Jim Campe  
Kanta Craigen-Straughn  
Sean Wilson  
  
Tracy Goddard King  
Jo Philips

Cabinet Member for Crime & Enforcement  
Divisional Director – Public Health  
Dagenham Neighbourhood  
Barking Neighbourhood  
Antisocial Behaviour Manager  
Chair of the IAG  
Victim Support  
Whalebone Neighbourhood  
Forum for the Elderly  
Support Officer (Minutes)  
Borough Commander  
Temporary Chief Superintendent  
Superintendent  
Officer

**Apologies:** Erika Jenkins  
Diane Worbey  
Cheryl Deane  
Louise Choppy  
Erika Jenkins

Barking and Dagenham CVS  
Neighbourhood Watch Vice Chair  
Community Payback  
Victim Support  
Barking & Dagenham CVS

### 1. Introduction

The introductions and apologies were noted.

### 2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were noted as correct.

### 3. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

It was reported that it had been agreed at the Safer Neighbourhood Board Annual General Meeting that Steve Thompson would remain as the Chair of the SNB and that Rita Giles M.B.E had been voted in as Vice Chair.

## **4. Inspectors Reports**

### **Barking**

It was noted that the key priorities for Barking include:

- Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour and Violence with injury within the vicinity of Barking Town Centre, it was reported that the meetings held with residents of the Thames Ward would be re-introduced to address these issues.
- The second priority covered the issue of dangerous driving in the Thames Ward this would be intelligence led, working alongside the council to influence local plans.
- It was further noted that the street racing had been problematic and the council were looking to impose a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) to address this as well as enforce fines for those watching. Additionally, the council were also considering traffic calming measures to deter street racing such as road humps and changes to roads.

### **Dagenham**

The key priorities for Dagenham were reported to be as the following:

- Violence with injury and Drugs
- Issues in Heathway and the surrounding areas
- Additional maintenance of CCTV within the area
- Increasing patrols within ASB hotspots

### **Whalebone**

Priorities within Whalebone are reported as:

- Burglaries across the five wards is currently a focus, MET trace kits have been issued to residents with a total of 12075 kits being issued to date.
- Motor vehicle crime in Beacontree ward has been a persistent issue in the area. Activity in motor vehicle crime has seen a slight increase over the last three months.
- ASB activity in relation to motorcycles, mopeds, quad bikes and other inconsiderate behaviour is also a priority.

It was agreed by the group that priorities presented by the inspectors reports fully met the needs of the areas to resolve the issues highlighted.

## 5. Performance Summary

Borough Commander Sean Wilson provided the group an update on the tragic events that occurred in the Marks Gate area and informed the group that everything was being done to uncover those responsible.

The following borough wide data analysis was reported as below:

- A spike had been seen in May within the area of violence with injury.
- Overall burglary within the area has seen decline.
- Criminal damage has seen an increase and has been linked to Anti-Social behaviour
- A decline in activity has been seen in the area of robbery by person
- Incidents relating to domestic violence have stabilised over the period.
- Youth violence and actual bodily harm has seen an increase
- The use of noxious substances has also seen an increase and seems to be the weapon of choice currently.
- Incidents related to robbery have been lower in numbers compared to the previous year.
- Compared to other boroughs Barking and Dagenham have seen smaller numbers of dipping.
- Motor Crime is still an issue with keyless entry systems where criminals are able to capture signals and will be an ongoing problem going forward with further developments in car technology.
- Millennium burglaries remain an issue and residents being urged to keep their car keys somewhere safe following a number of high value car thefts, often these cars are either broken down for parts or taken abroad. In addition, work is being done to clamp down on companies making number plates that are not being registered.
- Moped crime has seen an increase and it was noted only specialist drivers are permitted to pursue criminals, criminals are now aware that if they remove their helmets they will not be chased.

It was noted that the priorities for the London Mayor have been revised and will cover:

1. Protecting Vulnerable People and Adults (PVP)
2. Domestic Abuse
3. Missing Persons
4. Serious Youth Violence
5. Volume Crimes

It was further noted that:

- Dedicated Ward Officers will be increased to 34 with 7 being made available to the borough immediately, however it was noted that the officers will linguistic skills are needed to deal with the demographics of the borough.
- Public confidence has increased to 72%
- Satisfaction has slipped down to 73%, demonstrating a 4% decline on the last few years and it is a police priority is to change this.
- Awareness around anti-social behaviour has altered and this has led to an increase in reporting.

## **6. Updates**

### **Community Payback**

It was noted that information on community payback need to be report back to Safer Neighbourhood Board as assurance to the community that payback was taking place in the area.

### **Independent Advisory Group**

It was reported that Keith Hutton, chair of the IAG attended the Gold group and found it to be very productive, members of the IAG also attended to observe the training sessions in Firearms and Tasers which was beneficial in understanding the police process.

### **Stop and Search Group**

It was noted that the previous Stop and Search Meeting took place on 8 August 2016, the group were pleased results and positive effects of stop and search across the borough had been demonstrated. It was agreed that the reporting and monitoring of performance would continue.

### **Victim Support**

It was reported that Safer Homes funding has been received and that a new Domestic Violence role has been created to support the Children and Young People.

It was noted that crimes reported to the police are forwarded to Victim Support who are able to provide victims with emotional support and provide guidance with home security. Training days are provided to volunteers and staff to

equip ensure they are equipped to manage victims and specialist training is provided to those dealing with Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence.

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

It was noted that Neighbourhood Watch were given MOPAC funding to run activities, approximately £2k was provided for signage, training and to set up website etc. Currently the situation with funding and activities is unclear and an update is needed.

#### **It was agreed to:**

**Facilitate a meeting with neighbourhood watch to clarify the funding arrangements and to progress commitments**

**Action: Katherine Gilcreest**

## **7. Any Other Business**

It was noted that the level of begging has increased in the borough it was felt that this has increased through homelessness and rough sleepers. It was felt that individuals are being trafficked for the purposes of begging and some individuals are intentionally made disabled for this purpose.

Barking Town Centre has seen Asian youths begging for money using the story that leads the victims to believe that their mother has died and they are being asked to hand over money for their travel to see the family. It was further reported that the Met Police will be conducting an operation to displace these individuals.

The issue of quad bikes also remains an issue for residents and reported incidents will be attended to.

## **8. Date of Next Meeting**

SNB Board Meeting

Thursday 12 January 2017, 17:15 – 19:15

Dagenham & Redbridge Football Club – Boardroom

SNB Open Meeting

Thursday 12 January 2017, 19:30 – 21:00

Dagenham & Redbridge Football Club – Victoria Lounge

