

# Safer Neighbourhood Board – Board Meeting

## MINUTES

**Date:** 12 January 2017

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

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

**Chair:** Stephen Thompson

Chair of Safer Neighbourhood Board

**Present:** Matthew Cole  
Rita Giles MBE  
Prince Kumar  
Katherine Gilcreest  
Keith Hutton  
Emma Jones  
Kanta Craigen-Straughn  
Sean Wilson

Divisional Director – Public Health  
Dagenham Neighbourhood  
Barking Neighbourhood  
Antisocial Behaviour Manager  
Chair of the IAG  
Victim Support  
Support Officer (Minutes)  
Borough Commander  
Temporary Chief Superintendent  
Barking & Dagenham CVS  
Community Payback  
Neighbourhood Watch Vice Chair  
Superintendent

Erika Jenkins  
Cheryl Deane  
Diane Worby  
Mandy Beacher

**Apologies:** Councillor Butt  
Louise Choppy  
Jim Campe  
Hamera-Asfa Davey  
Dan Neville

Cabinet Member for Crime & Enforcement  
Victim Support  
Forum for the Elderly  
MOPAC  
Whalebone Neighbourhood

### 1. Introduction

The introductions and apologies were noted.

### 2. Minutes of the last meeting

A small correction to the minutes were noted. Diane Worby was incorrectly reported in the previous minutes as having sent her apologies. Diane was in fact present during the meeting.

### 3. Safer Neighbourhood Board – Chair's Report

Since the last meeting a lot has happened within the Borough, there was the tragic murder of Ricky Hayden and since we last met a further murder, this

time Duran Junior Kajama, just 17 years of age as well as Raja Ali and Clemuth Roberts.

There has also been the trial and conviction of Stephen Port who was found guilty of killing 4 men in Barking. Media reports suggest that there are 17 police officers currently under investigation following on from this case an IPCC investigating in underway.

In addition to these recent events January 2107 sees the implementation of a restructuring of how this Borough is policed. From January 16<sup>th</sup> the current model moves away from Borough-based policing to a Basic Command Unit (BCU) where a tri borough approach will be taken and Barking & Dagenham policing will be combined with Havering and Redbridge police.

The main focus of the meeting will be further discuss the implications of the tri-borough policing model.

#### **4. Police Priorities**

Due to time restrictions members of the board were asked to review the meeting pack for the details police priority reports.

#### **5. Performance Summary**

Borough Commander Sean Wilson provided a brief overview of performance:

- Statistics on violence with injury have shown a slight decrease on the previous year.
- Knife crime has been replaced by the use of noxious substances.
- Car registrations involved in street racing in the Choats Road area are being monitored and letters concerning the issue have been sent to local residents.
- The reporting period has seen a general decline in Anti-Social Behaviour.
- Some crimes go unreported and the public are encouraged to submit reports.
- Public Confidence stands at 77% dispute the level of current activity taking place in the borough.
- The public confidence calendar is in place to ensure officers are available to attend major events.
- Crime levels over the Christmas period saw a decline.
- Residents are asked not to leave doors and windows open and ensure that keys are not left near letterboxes.
- The trend of keyless car thefts continues and residents should be aware that criminals can capture signals. Residents are also being asked to be careful about leaving valuables close to windows and car seats.

- Moped enabled crime remains an issue, drivers of mopeds are aware that they will not be perused if helmets are removed. Residents are being asked to report youths seen driving up and down for no apparent reason.
- Incidents of crime taking place in groups have been reported locally and the vulnerable have been targeted.

## **6. Borough Policing**

### **Overview**

A recent announcement from the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) informed us that they are considering a pilot Basic Command Unit (BCU) structure which Barking and Dagenham are involved in. An operational plan is being developed in parallel with the Police and Crime Plan known as the 'One Met Model 2020'.

The current MPS model has 32 units across London replicated in each borough. The new proposal being considered is to move to the BCU model, which sees larger units that cover a number of boroughs to meet the changing demands of crime and public safety.

The main principal of this model will provide more officers at a local level and teams can be shared across boroughs. These are anticipated to be Response Team Units and Senior Management but the detail of these proposals have still to be confirmed.

In order to test this model, two areas have been agreed and these went live in the New year. One of the test areas sees Barking and Dagenham merged with Havering and Redbridge. Camden and Islington have also been selected for testing.

Trials will be undertaken on the understanding that:

- The tests/trials will be reviewed with the Mayor taking a view whether to support implementation across London
- The pilots would be reversible
- The tests would be evaluated in terms of service delivery for each Basic Command Unit and for individual boroughs engaged in the test. The evaluation criteria would be agreed with local authorities involved.

### **Basic Command Unit**

The agenda item was delivered by Superintendent Mandy Beacher. It was reported that Superintendent Beacher will be responsible for the implementation of the BCU and will be available for the next 9 weeks before retirement.

It was noted that after the new mayor was elected it was decided to restructure the MPS this had led to the tri borough policing model.

The timeframes of the implementation have been speedy with Camden and Islington also being piloted.

It was reported that consultation with local groups had not been great due the fast pace of implementation. January 16 is the deadline to deliver some parts of the BCU. There will be no additional assets assigned but existing teams will be reallocated to where there is a need, however it was reported that there would be an increase in Dedicated Ward Officers across the 3 borough some of which will be placed across Barking and Dagenham

DWO's will be ring fenced and will be dedicated to attend ward panels and working in wards according the priorities of the ward. 35 Officers will be placed in schools however the split is undecided and recruitment is underway. Each borough will be allocated 3 partnership inspectors and sergeants have not yet been selected and the remaining teams will be placed in the response teams who will investigate crimes and it is hoped that relationships can be built by the dedicated teams.

It was reported that the tri-borough policing learning experience will be fed back to MOPAC.

It was noted that very little consultation had taken place and very few within the council (including local MPS) were unaware of the proposal it was also frustrating that systems are in place through the Safer Neighbourhood Board and Ward Panels which have not been utilised. It was reported that similar views have been expressed from neighbouring SNB's.

Clusters will no longer exist although neighbourhoods and wards will remain and would be able to set their own priorities for local issues. Currently priorities are police led rather than led by local residents. It was reported that ward officers would not be removed and enhanced arrangements would be put in place if needed. There would be no overall increase in officers but simply a reallocation of resource.

It was questioned whether under the tri borough policing system different priorities will be set for each borough or whether single priorities will be applied across all three boroughs.

It was reported a map of the borough have been drawn up and should be made public in the next few weeks. The results of the model would be feed back to MOPAC and that the BCU could be amended according to the results received, however it was unclear what the end date of the trial is.

Members agreed that a process map showing exact numbers of staff would be helpful and could be shared.

It was further reported that those officers placed in neighbourhood teams have done so on a voluntary basis and it is encouraging that they have done so. It was also stated that provisions are in place to cover all areas and that no elements have been dismantled and no changes will be made to YOT and other officers with specialist skills as information flow is based on these relationships. It is also unclear when partnership hubs will be in place.

It is envisaged that the remainder of the current phase will complete by the end of February, with other functionality being completed by the end of March with the model being implemented in full by the end of the financial year. No building closures are envisaged within this model as this is not one of the

drivers behind the changes however it was acknowledged that the changes in hand are in response to crimes especially those that cross borough boundaries.

Data analysis remains an issues and the MPS were being asked to consider the capacity for data analysis and to ensure that data provided is broken down for each borough.

The MPS were asked to note that their resource had to be placed where the need is but had to be justified to the Safer Neighbourhood Boards and Ward Panels.

The MPS were asked to confirm who would be attending SNB meetings going forward, members were advised that there would be one BCU Commander and Superintendents will be responsible for neighbourhoods. The MPS were also requested to confirm the membership of the BCU Board and if SNB chairs were part of the board to ensure community engagement and participation.

The MPS were also asked to provide details of the mechanism put in place for reporting and feedback of key issues within the new model.

It was reported that the response strand of the model will see an uplift with some element of the emergency response team workload being moved across to the response teams, it was reported that minor offences will be dealt with over the phone which will ensure better use of officer's time and major offences would be attended to. The Investigation strand will cross borders and focus on dedicated investigations, Inspectors will decide on the resource implications.

The members were advised that the control room would be responsible for the notifying the local councils, authorities and neighbourhood teams of incidents, however it was noted that communications need to be reinforced and improved. Additionally, the BCU operations group meetings were taking place and the co-chairing arrangements need to be clarified. Confirmation and guidance was also needed on how the Stop and Search Groups and Safer Neighbourhood Boards across the three boroughs were expected to operate within the new structure and how it is envisaged that the priorities will be agreed. Guidance is also need on how priorities set at ward level are fed back to residents.

Members were asked to note that this is a very testing time of change and de-layering for the MPS and a period of adjustment will be needed for the BCU to settle.

**It was agreed that:**

**The Chief Executive of MOPAC should be invited to attend the next SNB Meeting.  
Action: Matthew Cole**

**The BCU would be placed on the SNB Agenda as a standing item.**

**Action: Kanta Craigen-Straughn**

**Examples of minor and major incidents would be of benefit for the members to review.**

**Action: Borough Commander Sean Wilson**

**The Chair of the Barking and Dagenham Safer Neighbourhood Board would write to the MOPAC regarding the lack of consultation.**

**Action: Steve Thompson**

**The MPS would share the mechanism for feedback by MOPAC to be shared with the Barking and Dagenham Safer Neighbourhood Board**

**Action: Borough Commander Sean Wilson**

### **Changes in MPS rank structure**

The MPS has decided to phase out two of its eleven ranks by summer 2018. The ranks of Commander and Chief Inspector will no longer appear in the new leadership model.

The ranks of Superintendents and Chief Superintendents (the rank of borough commanders) will continue to play significant leadership roles across the Metropolitan Police.

The MPS envisage that these changes will support front line officers in boroughs and specialist units. In addition, it aims to reduce bureaucracy, enable more officers to better use their professional judgement to make quicker decisions, and allow talented officers to be recognised and shine through.

## **7. Ward Panels**

It was reported that Ward Panels across the borough are being supported and in light of the tri-borough policing model the ward panels will continue to be supported.

Diane Worby reported that the Longbridge was well represented and other ward panel chairs have also reported that their panel meetings are also well attended.

It was noted that holding meetings in different locations could be a hindrance with some residents. Village Ward meetings are permanently held in the community hall and are held earlier in the day during the winter months and reasonable attendance has been reported. It was further reported that no meetings have taken place in Whalebone Ward in the last quarter due to a change in management and there were also concerns that Ward Panels Meetings are not being attended by Local Councillors

Discussions took place about additional publicity to ward panels, this could be done through additional notices, electronic publication, mail outs, the one borough newsletter and twitter notification.

It would also more beneficial if the panels had diverse representation. Police and council colleagues also need to be attendance to ensure a two way feedback with the community.

**It was agreed that:**

**Ward Panel date to be supplied to Erika Jenkins for further publicity.  
Action: Katherine Gilcreest**

**Further consideration should be given the administration of the Ward Panels by the ASB Team Members.  
Action: Katherine Gilcreest**

**The Chair of the SNB would write of the Council Leader concerning the restructure of the Ward Panels, establish who attends and their function in terms of how concerns are feed into and out of the Panel Meetings.  
Action: Steve Thompson**

## **8. Recent Major Events**

The agenda item was reported by Borough Commander Sean Wilson, the following was noted on recent events:

**Ricky Hayden** – Allegations were made that gangs in the Hainault area crossed over in to Barking and Dagenham. The needs of the residents in the Marks Gate area have been addressed in several public meetings and it is believed that cheaper housing within this area has led to people coming into the area coupled with imports and exports affecting the flow of placements.

**Raja Ali** – An update on the case was reported to the group.

**Duran Kajiana** – The stabbing has led to an increase in support by the local community in the ward panel meetings with young people also standing up against knife crime. The family of Duran in association with their church have organised a march from Barking Town Centre to Village Ward. The procession will leave at 12pm and will proceed to Barking train station via Arboretum Place and Ripple Road to get a tube to Dagenham Heathway. The procession will then disembark at Dagenham Heathway and turn right down the Heathway, then left into Church Elm Lane and onto Wyhill Walk via Church Street where the Beatrice the mother of Duran will say a few words in memory of her son. It is expected that 400 individuals will be taking part in the procession.

There have been allegations of gang involvement and a dedicated team have been put in place to support the family.

**Clemuth Roberts** - An update on the case was reported to the group and it was not thought that the case was drugs or gangs related.

It was noted that arrests and charges have been made for all four cases and it does not appear as though the deaths are connected in any way. Knife crime has been replaced by other noxious substances.

Recent events have proved that there are significant differences in the crimes that are taking place. Crimes now include organised violence with extreme outcomes, crimes have seen links to music, the drugs culture and more territorial based incidents. Operation Sceptre an anti-knife crime initiative is due to take place which will help remove knives and weapons from the streets and combat the rise in knife crime.

The London Crime Prevention Fund are offering funding to address issues in local hotspots to ensure that the problems are not displaced and replicated in other areas.

Following the Stephen Port trial an IPPC investigation is underway which will scrutinise the way in which the Metropolitan Police Service's response to the deaths of four individuals in the borough.

**It was agreed that:**

**The SNB should be kept informed of the Port trial IPPC investigation into the MPS.**

**Action: Sean Wilson**

## **9. Updates**

Due to time restrictions members of the board were asked to review the meeting pack for the details updates of updates from Community Payback, Independent Advisory Group, Stop and Search Group, Victim Support and Neighbourhood Watch.

## **10. Any Other Business**

No further business was discussed.

## **11. Date of Next Meeting**

SNB Board Meeting

Thursday 23 March 2017, 17:15 – 19:15

Barking & Dagenham Council for Voluntary Service – Board Room

121-125 Ripple Road, Barking, IG11 7FN.

SNB Open Meeting

Thursday 23 March 2017, 19:30 – 21:00

Barking & Dagenham Council for Voluntary Service - Hall

121-125 Ripple Road, Barking, IG11 7FN.

Member and residents are kindly asked to note that parking in this venue is restricted, if anyone would like to book a space please contact [mala.alina@bdcvs.org.uk](mailto:mala.alina@bdcvs.org.uk) or call 0208 532 7300 to do so.



