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Branch / OCU	Waltham Forest Borough	
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**Waltham Forest Borough
CSB 24 September 2008.**

Briefing

In this report I have covered updates on performance, Safer Neighbourhoods, critical incidents and good police work. It has been an exceptionally busy two months and my officers have responded magnificently. Here are the main issues:

Performance

The data below has been extracted from the Performance Information Bureau (PIB) statistics. The information relates to figures from the beginning of the 08/09 financial year and 7th September 2008.

Gun Enabled Crime –30.2% (target is - 5%)

Knife Crime –10.5% (target is - 5.7%)

Youth Violence -24.6% (target is - 5.2%)

Serious Acquisitive Crime:

Residential Burglary is up by 33.6%, compared to the same period last year. The sanction detection (SD) rate is 19.7%. (Target is 16%)

There has been a 4.2% increase in robbery, year on year. The SD rate is currently at 11.2%. Target set for SD's is 17%.

Theft of MV -15.4% (target - 6.9%)

Theft from MV –12.4% (target is- 5.2%)

Domestic Violence:

DV Offences +25.4% (target not set)

DV SD Rate 43.6% (target is 43%)

DV Arrest Rate 72% (target is 67%)

Hate Crime:

Racist Offences +28.4%

Homophobic Offences -16.7%

Good News

Operation Casper 26/02/08 to 15/04/08 completion of all enquiries 17/09/08: OICs DS Seabrook DS Coyle and DC Martin

A proactive test purchase operation targeting Waltham Forest gangs/drug dealers. Held over approximately 8 weeks and utilising Waltham Forest crime squad, BIU and SCD8 (Trident) officers it was centred on the Wood Street, Leyton and Chingford Hall Estate areas. Test Purchase Officers from SCD10 were deployed on over 22 occasions resulting in evidence of the supply of class A drugs in all three areas. The culmination of the operation was the arrests of 13 persons for offences ranging from being wanted on warrant to possession of a Section 1 firearm.

Those arrested and subsequent sentences/disposal

Ronnie Nwakaeze 3 1/2 years imprisonment drugs supply
Daniel Fenton 2 year's imprisonment drugs supply
Andrew Holder 2 year's imprisonment drugs supply
Reece Burton 18 month's imprisonment drugs supply
Temidire Owalabi 18 month's imprisonment drugs supply
Jarell Warren 2 year's imprisonment drugs supply
Paul Whadwani 39 week's imprisonment suspended for 18 months & DTO drugs supply
Ferris Dean NFA (drugs supply) but recalled to prison on licence
Nathaniel Merchant NFA (drugs supply) but already serving custodial sentence for drug supply

Safer Neighbourhoods

- Insp Dave Partridge joins Safer Neighbourhoods 29.9.08 as the 3rd Inspector. The 20 wards will have greater supervision and support with an emphasis around youth initiatives.
- Marlowe Rd Safer Neighbourhood base opened on the 1st of September. Sewardstone Road is complete but awaits gas repairs.
- On Saturday the 13th September police and councillors opened a multi-use games area just behind Marlowe Road that safer neighbourhood officers, supported by councillors and partners have transformed into a bespoke area for local youth. We are looking at other areas to provide similar facilities.

Youth issues

The Youth IAG has now met with the police on four occasions. We have identified work areas and priorities.

One of these was to be proactive in raising the issue of "youth awareness" among police officers. Often police and young people are brought together in potentially confrontational situations (stop and search being the most common) and it is important that police are aware of how this can make young people feel. The YIAG felt that it could help in the training of police officers in this regard.

As a result of this, the YIAG:

- Have been invited to monitor search operations (two monitored a recent search arch operation and fed their observations into the organisers);
- Have been invited to attend stop and search training of new police recruits;
- Have been invited to participate in stop and search role-play training.

We have also linked with the Diversity Directorate, and police training to organise a Key Encounter Workshop (on 24th September). This workshop will bring the latest Waltham Forest/Redbridge recruits (17) together with 20 young people, who predominantly represent those groups who are disproportionately represented in stop and search (Asian and African Caribbean males).

This workshop will take place at Norlington School and will be independently facilitated. Our stop and search monitoring group will attend and also participate.

We are hoping through evaluation to raise youth awareness training as a Service-wide issue and would like to make a case for it to become part of police training.

Airline plot

The jury found there was a conspiracy to murder involving at least 3 men but failed to reach a verdict on whether the ambit of the conspiracy to murder included the allegation that they intended to detonate IEDs on transatlantic airliners in relation to 7 of the men. It is therefore incorrect to say that the jury rejected the airline bomb plot.

This is still the subject of ongoing proceedings and the prosecution is intending to apply to the court for a retrial in respect of the plot to blow up airliners against all 7 men upon which the jury could not agree.

Borough Commander Ch Supt Mark Benbow said: -

"The message here is simple - there is no place for violent extremism in our borough. We have funding in place to deliver many initiatives such as the Young Muslim Leaders Programme, Islam Awareness Week, Tension Monitoring and the Swapping Cultures initiative. We have also set up a new police Community Engagement Team that aims to build lasting and trusting relationships with people vulnerable to violent extremism. I intend to continue to work closely with everyone in the borough to make Waltham Forest a safe place to live, work and relax".

Operation Blunt 2

Op Gladiator (in support of Blunt 2) ran from 4 to 17 August 2008

Seventy-six (76) persons were arrested by central units for a variety of offences.

Twenty-one (21) arrests were for violence or weapon related offences.

A further **thirty-five (35)** who were arrested for other offences have previous convictions or are known for weapons or violence.

In addition, a further **twenty-one (21)** subjects were arrested by local borough units dedicated to the support of this operation.

Six-hundred and twenty-nine (629) searches were undertaken by TSG units during this operation.

Two-hundred and forty-two (242) stops were conducted by local borough units.

This was a successful operation as can be seen by the number of stops and arrests, the majority of which were undertaken within priority crime locations.

This operation is being monitored by the stop and search sub committee of the Community Safety Board and continues to have support from the IAG and the wider community.

Critical Incidents

Operation Drifton

Police were alerted at approximately 1605 on 24 August 2008 to reports of remains found at Low Hall Farm Allotments, Bridge Road, Walthamstow. E17. Police attended and remains were confirmed as human bones and have been removed from the scene and are being forensically examined. The matter is currently being treated as an unexplained death. Investigation is being dealt with by the Serious Crime Directorate and ongoing.

Operation Dreahook (Charles Hendricks)

Approximately 0140 on 24 August 2008, Walthamstow E17. A serious assault occurred that resulted in the murder of Charles Hendricks. Five people have been arrested. One charged and in custody. Those not charged are on police bail.

Incident in Station Road, Chingford, E4 (Jonathon Brady)

On 16 August 2008 a GBH occurred which resulted in the death of Jonathan Brady who then sadly passed away on 2 September 2008. Following extensive enquiries for witnesses the suspects have been identified and one charged with murder and violent disorder. The other two with attempted GBH and Violent Disorder. All are in custody with the next court date of 23 September 2008.

Road Traffic Collision in Cavendish Road, Highams Park, E4

At approximately 1520 hours on Thursday 18 September 2008, police were called to a Road Traffic Collision in Cavendish Road, Chingford, E4. The collision involved a private motor vehicle and a member of the public pushing a pram with a fifteen-month-old child inside. Tragically, the child died as a result of injuries later that afternoon. A woman was arrested at the scene and the matter is still being investigated by specialist officers from the Metropolitan Police Traffic Unit.

Thank you

Mark Benbow | Borough Commander |

Waltham Forest Borough

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