

**WALTHAM FOREST COMMUNITY SAFETY BOARD****24th January 2008****Council Chamber, Waltham Forest Town Hall, Forest Road Walthamstow****Present**

Borough Commander	Supt. Sue Williams (Deputy)
MPA Representative	Jennette Arnold
Crown Prosecution Service	Antony Salmon
HM Court Service	Huw Richards
Probation Service	Mary Pilgrim
London Fire Service	Richard Mills (Deputy)
Community Representative	Roger Desouches
South Chingford and Highams Park Community Council	Peter Jaggs
Walthamstow West Community Council	Abid Hussain
N Chingford Community Council	Diane Sinclair (Deputy)
Leyton and Whipps Cross Community Council	Steve Williams
Community Group Representative	Neil Collins (VAWF)
Community Group Representative	Bill Ravenscroft
	Carmela Crute- Jones
Race and Equality Group	Afzal Malik
Community Group Representative	Jeilani Sufi Mudhir
Disability Group Representative	Pat Bhabra
Faith Forum	Faisal Raja
East Thames Group	James Cooke
South Leytonstone Area Development Association (SLADA)	Phillip Dundon
Head of Community Safety	Robin Tuddenham
Community Safety Portfolio Lead Member	Afzal Akram
Councillor	Richard Sweden
Councillor	Liz Phillips
Councillor	Graham Sinclair

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from

British Transport Police

Chris Horton

Resident	Gulam Thakor
Community Group Representative	Brian Wilkes
WALB Community Council	Mike Cave
Leytonstone Community Council	Jane Brueseke
Victim Support Group	Chris Casey
Disability Group Representative	Pat Bhabra
ELOP / LGBT	Teresa Sharpe
Worth Unlimited	Matt. Perry
Resident	Dr A Hussein
Resident	Mr J Joseph

**Also Present**

Sasha White	Resident
Edward Upcraft	Resident
Stella Gordon	Resident
Maiphy Richards	Resident
Sylvia Poulsen	Resident
Gwen Williams	Resident
Lyndsey Buchanan	Youth Officer
Helen Nolan	MPS
C Bateson	Resident
Edward Gold	Resident

**18. Welcome and Introductions**

Steve Williams the Chair of the Board welcomed all those present.

**19. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 November 2007 were agreed as a correct record.

**20. MPA Link Member's Report**

Jennette Arnold the MPA link Member reported on the following matters.

**TASAR Pilot**

The MPA has been involved in this pilot, and endorsed the introduction after considering various reports on its effectiveness and problems. The MPA has established a reference group to monitor the use of TASAR and this will receive details of every occasion where it is used its efficacy and if any problems were encountered.

An interim report on the TASAR pilot will be presented to the Community Safety Board (CSB) in due course. Enquiries regarding the monitoring group should be addressed to Jennette Arnold who is a member of the Reference Panel.

### **Stockwell Incident**

The MPA is conducting an inquiry into the incident when on Friday 22 July 2005 Jean Charles de Menezes was shot by MPS officers at Stockwell underground station following anti terrorist operations resulting from the terrorist bombing of the London transport system on 7 July 2005 and the failed terrorist attacks on the transport system on 21 July 2005.

## **21. BOROUGH COMMANDER'S REPORT.**

Superintendent Sue Williams reported on behalf of Mr Benbow who was unable to attend our meeting on this occasion.

### **Performance Data**

It was noted that Police have been set some challenging targets this year, both reduction targets and Sanctioned Detection targets. Amongst the most challenging are the targets for Personal Robbery and Residential Burglary.

### **Reduction Targets**

Superintendent Williams reported that for Personal Robbery - the Police had been set a reduction Target of 1.0%, and that they were currently achieving a 25.4% reduction.

In terms of Residential Burglary the Police had been set a target of a reduction of 6.0% and currently they were achieving a reduction of 4.3%

With regard to other performance targets Supt. Williams reported the following statistics:

<b>Crime</b>	<b>Reduction Target</b>	<b>Reduction Achieved</b>
Theft person	9.9%	8.1%
Gun Enabled Crime	5.0%	+ 8.8% (increased from 7.1 reported at last meeting)
Common Assault	5.0%	8.9%
Violent Crime	7.0%	8.1%
Theft of MV	9.9%	5.9%
Theft from vehicle	7.5%	22.5%

The other main target is a reduction of 7.5% for Total British Crime Survey (BCS) Comparator Crime, and currently the Police are achieving a 12% reduction in this area.

### **Sanctioned Detections**

With regard to sanctioned detections the Police have been set a very challenging target of 24%. Currently the Police are achieving 24.8%

Other Sanctioned Detection targets and achievements are:

<b>Offence</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Achievement</b>
Domestic Violence	40%	41.2%
Racist Crime	31%	32.0%
Homophobic Crime	33%	33.3%
Rape	30%	41.9%

Superintendent Williams also updated the Board on a number of notable successes achieved in individual cases.

Crime Squad officers raided an E17 address on 20 November and found substantial quantities of class A and C drugs, including cocaine, heroin and MDMA. A 57-yr-old male has been charged with possession of a Class A drug with intent to supply and money laundering.

Larkwood Safer Neighbourhood Team has secured a 2 year conviction ASBO against a prolific car crime and ASB offender. The 18 year old male, has been banned from 10 car parks. As a result, car crime has fallen dramatically in the area.

A 15-yr-old boy from E4 was charged with 3 counts of possessing a firearm and one count of possession to supply a class A drug on 19 November 2007.

Waltham Forest Police and the Council led a two week crime prevention campaign in the run-up to Christmas to combat robbery and burglary, including hosting road shows and stalls. The Community Safety Unit also got involved hosting community safety outreach events to raise awareness.

Endlebury and Hatch Lane Safer Neighbourhood Team's together with Trading Standards and FACT closed a pirate DVD factory in E4 after raiding the premises on 14 December. Thousands of pre-burnt DVDs valued at up to £30,000 were seized along with equipment. Two males were arrested.

Five youths who terrorised a part of E17 have received interim ASBOs. The ASBOs were secured by Wood Street Safer Neighbourhood Team and The

Council following complaints from residents, and bans the youths from entering the area. A full ASBO hearing will be heard on 28 January 2008

Additionally Supt. Williams reported that Counter Terrorism remains high on the agenda of Waltham Forest Police. Accordingly a table top exercise was held whereby invited community members including some from the CSB were able to experience at first hand the issues, challenges and decision making process faced by the police and partners whilst dealing with terrorism cases. Over 45 people attended this event over the two day period.

Finally Supt Williams updated the CSB on the firearms amnesty that has recently been announced and on the work undertaken to publicise this.

The following questions were asked

**Question AM** What is behind the reduction in crime levels?

**Answer SW** This is due to a combination of factors – intelligence led police work, removal of some main offenders, the trust and intelligence gathered by safer neighbourhood teams and the work of the partnership in hand with the community.

**Question RS** What additional resources have been used to combat gun crime?

**Answer SW** Again this is a multi faceted response, with firearms patrols, additional officer time and central expertise all contributing to the reduction.

**Question PD** Were you aware that a TASAR was on sale in a department store in Leyton?

**Answer SW** We did investigate this report but were not able to substantiate it.

**Question DS** What effects does the TASAR have on people with heart conditions – and on other electrical functions of the body? Is another form of restraint not available?

**Answer JA** All known effects were considered when the pilot was originally discussed, both across London and Nationally. I would advise anyone who has doubts about this to meet with me to discuss this further.

**Comment SW** Any non lethal way of dealing with difficult situations must be a preferred option.

**Comment PJ** Could we have some real figures in future reports - %age figures give good indicators but no ideal of levels of crime.

## 22. SAFETY NET REPORT

The Board received and noted a report from Robin Tuddenham Assistant Director Safe & Strong Communities. The report informed Members that Priority crime<sup>1</sup> in Waltham Forest is falling at a rate greater than the regional average for the first time in the last 18 months or so. It was estimated that performance against burglary reduction targets has resulted in a domestic burglary rate that now ranks the borough in the second quartile in London, which is excellent news. Performance in reducing personal robbery has resulted in a robbery rate that has moved out of the fourth quartile for London where it has been stuck for the past two years.

Arising from this the following questions were asked

**Questions NC** Will the introduction of an Alcohol Reduction Zone (ARZ) in the High Street, merely relocate the problem elsewhere?

What can be done for the offenders?

What does car parking crime refer to?

What is project Athena?

**Answers RT** The introduction of an ARZ in Leytonstone had very positive effects as it made drinkers go home rather than pushing them into adjoining areas.

Street drinkers are a difficult group to reach as they quite often reject any offers of help. There has been some rehabilitation work made available but it is under - funded and thus limited.

Car Parking crime relates to theft of and from cars in car parks.

Project Athena relates to reduction of hate crime.

**Comment PD** The ARZ in Leytonstone has been a great success, and accompanying crime has also reduced.

**Question AM** Can you explain what electronic reporting is?

**Answer RT** This relates to the use of text messages and email to report crime.

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### **23. FUNDING ISSUES**

Members received a copy of the MPA Community Engagement Group Funding Application Form 2008/2009 that is to be submitted on behalf of the CSB.

Arising from consideration of this, members noted that it was proposed to regenerate the "Stop and Search" Group and that work with youth was of paramount importance to the MPS and the MPA

In conjunction with this report Members also received a report outlining a potential response to the recent Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA) paper entitled 'Young People and the Metropolitan Police Service'. The paper has invited all London boroughs to contribute to a pan-London consultation into the causes, effects and impacts of young people's involvement in crime

The report proposed that a group of young people be recruited to take part in a Citizen's Panel Event are invited to participate in a structured discussion around the future involvement of children and young people in policing.

A secondary exercise where is planned where approximately 10 of the young people who were engaged in the preliminary consultation will be supported to form a Citizen's Panel. They will consider a range of information and evidence from relevant sources and come to an opinion around the future involvement of young people in local policing issues and make a series of recommendations to that end.

Arising from consideration of the proposals members accepted the need for greater youth involvement in all forums

### **24. MEMBER FEEDBACK**

Community Representatives raised the following issues that had been bring to the Board's attention by their respective Groups.

- Peter Jaggs reported that concern had been expressed at the high numbers of vehicles parking in the roads surrounding Highams Park.
- The Chair enquired at the efficacy of the publicity arrangements in Cathall and Cann Hall wards following a particular high profile case affecting the area. It would appear that leaflets were to be distributed and a 24 - hour contact telephone line was to be established. Robin Tuddenham undertook to look into problems with the arrangements.

### **25. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions submitted.

### **26. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 27 March 2008 at Waltham Forest Town Hall, Forest Road E17 4JF