



**SNB (Safer Neighbourhood Board) Meeting September 16, 2025**

**Committee Room 3 – Civic Centre**

**MINUTES**

**Present:**

(HL) Hoda Lacey	SNB Chair
(JH) Jean Hillman,	SNB Vice Chair
(DC) Donna Cooper	LBH Community Safety
(DL) Dave Ludlow	Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch
(KM) Kevin Mepham	Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch
(BW) Chief Inspector Ben Wright	Metropolitan Police
(SF) Inspector Sarah Fox	Metropolitan Police
(LR) PC Lisanne Rice	Metropolitan Police
(MC) Mike Crane	BID Manager
(JS) Jeremy Stern	Lay Member
(CT) Chris Tarr	Lay Member
(CM) Claire Morris	Lay Member
(CS) Colleen Sullivan	Councillor, LBH
(PS) Peter Smallwood	Councillor, LBH

**Apologies:**

(CB) Chris Beatty	Age UK
(LH) Lana Hormiz	Hillingdon Youth Council Worker
(GS) George Summerville	Hillingdon Youth Council
(SG) Suresh Gupta	Lay Member
(CH) Chris Head	Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch

<p><b>Minutes from the last meeting 10 June 2025:</b></p> <p>The minutes were agreed and noted, with no amendments.</p>
<p><b>CHAIR’S QUARTERLY REPORT</b></p> <p><b>1. Overview:</b></p> <p>There are fewer activities during the summer recess. Many meetings are suspended for summer holidays. We have had a few SNB applications coming through our Hillingdon page. The process is that these are forwarded to DC who sends an acknowledgment and forwards applications to HL. We vet applications and respond accordingly. Some are timewasters. Others apply in good faith then change their minds. Few make it to attendance. I am so glad that applicants still come to the SNB. This means that there is more info out there somewhere that is attracting them.</p> <p><b>London Community Police Partnership (LCP2)</b></p> <p>A meeting was held on 19th June at Camden Town Hall. Some of the relevant points raised to this meeting were about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· The Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee and Review.</li><li>· Ward Panel Review</li><li>· Crime data Provision – Connect inconsistencies. Problems getting DA call data.</li></ul> <p><b>London Safer Partnership Board: HL unable to attend meeting.</b></p> <p>This is a broad term which refers to various strategic groups across London dedicated to improving community safety.</p>

The Hillingdon branch does include the SNB as a partner. These meetings previously catered only for attendees in person. HL is given to understand that these may soon offer online attendance as well. Having missed the last meeting, due to a conflict of dates, HL has nothing to report till next meeting.

### **London Assembly Police and Crime Committee**

These meetings have now reconvened after the summer break. HL attended the last meeting online. This meeting was principally a discussion on young people's experience with neighbourhood policing. If you want to catch up, please log onto <https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/londonassembly/meetings>. You can then navigate to the Police and Crime Committee page. There you will find previous minutes and details of forthcoming meetings.

### **Ward Panels:**

Ward Panels in London are about to be reviewed. HL's primary interest is with the operations of the Hillingdon WPs. We need clarity, commitment, communication and consistency. It is highly improbable that these outcomes will be achieved within our current organisational resources and processes.

Ward Panels need to be high on our agenda. They are designed to be our residents' first points of contact. There will be an online ward panel chair meeting held on 9th October and I hope to clarify some of my concerns. The meeting will be chaired by Sergeant Paul Whitcomb.

### **Police Front Counter Consultation:**

Following the letter from the MPS re the consultation on the closure of front counters, sent to you recently, please note there will be a consultation session specifically focused on the impact of these closures on the boroughs of Hounslow, Hillingdon and Ealing. Text of email from Chief Inspector Barinder Gill follows:

Good Afternoon,

You may already be aware that the Met's financial position requires us to deliver savings of £260 million. Crimes reported at MPS Front Counters make up around 5% of all reported crime and require significant associated costs. Due to our financial position and the need to protect front line policing a proposal is undergoing consultation to fully understand the impact of reducing Front Counter's across London.

I would like to invite you to a consultation session specifically focused on the impact within Hounslow, Hillingdon and Ealing Borough's (WA). The session is designed to capture your views/concerns and to provide you with the opportunity to gain further information concerning the proposal to reduce/close Front Counters

within WA. Local Police Senior Leaders and staff driving the proposal will be in attendance to provide a comprehensive overview and answer your questions.

The decision to reduce Front Counters is not taken lightly. Your attendance and contribution is critical in order for us to fully appreciate the impact on community groups within Hounslow, Hillingdon and Ealing. I would therefore urge you to attend the below engagement session and help us to fully understand the impact of the proposal on our communities and residents.

Thursday 18th September between 18:00 and 21:00

Uxbridge Football Club, Honeycroft, Horton Road, West Drayton, UB7 8HX

### **MPS (Metropolitan Police Service) Quarterly Performance Report/Stop & Search Update**

#### **Update provided by CI Ben Wright:**

- Budget shortfall of £260 million, leading to cuts in 1,700 officer posts and staff, reducing staffing to the lowest in 25 years.
- Court backlogs: Some cases (e.g., rape) delayed for years, impacting victims and prosecutions. High remand threshold: serious offenders usually held, but some may be out on bail.
- High reoffending rates: 55% reoffend within 3 years, 25% within 1 year.
- Impact of national/international events (e.g., Middle East tensions, protests) on local resources; abstraction of officers for central London events, but efforts to minimise impact on neighbourhood teams.
- Heathrow crime figures inflated due to system merger; fix expected soon.
- Local autonomy: Most funding and priorities set centrally, with limited local flexibility for operations and contingency.
- Crime trends:
- Vehicle crime remains a challenge; efforts to improve prevention, including lobbying for DVLA to send targeted crime prevention messages.
- Shoplifting: Focus on repeat offenders, use of Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs) for deterrence.
- Robbery: Targeted operations have reduced incidents; key individuals removed from networks.
- Hate crime: No significant link to Israel-Gaza tensions, but community tensions are being monitored. Most hate crimes are sporadic and not race-targeted.

- Homicide and gun crime: Both significantly reduced.
- Violence with injury: Downward trend due to targeted action in problem areas.
- Modern slavery: High reporting due to immigration center and Heathrow, not necessarily reflective of local incidents.
- Rape/sexual offences: Detection rates improving, but court delays remain an issue.
- Stop and search: 3,000 stops in past year, 36% positive outcome rate, most for drugs or weapons. Disproportionality exists but most encounters are well managed and recorded.
- Child-first policing: Emphasis on safeguarding and diversion, not criminalisation. Example given of a 13-year-old with cannabis being referred to support services rather than prosecuted.
- School officers: Now integrated into SNTs, still able to do targeted work with schools.

JH – mentioned the difference between having a district judge at Magistrates court, instead of magistrates who are less likely to remand.

JH thinks there are problems with the CPS and not enough Barristers meaning that some people are ‘roaming’ around that shouldn’t be.

**MOPAC (Mayor s Office for Policing and Crime) Funding and Finance:**

Update provided by DC:

**Summary Sheet**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Cost</b>
1. Confidence	£2500
2. YMCA – Free Football	£3000
3. Youth Council Crime and Safety	£5046
4. Growing Against Violence	£2400
5. Teen Room	£2000
SNB Administration Funding	£5,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>£20146</b>

- YMCA football: Free sessions in Hayes are oversubscribed and have a waiting list.
- Youth Council: Developing a video on youth-police relationships, including interviews with young people about their experiences.
- Growing Against Violence: Workshops scheduled in primary schools, with more pending due to school term timing. Aim to cover both north and south of the borough.
- Teen Room (Botwell): Funding provided for equipment; update pending on spending.
- Project Confidence (Lisanne): 48 sessions delivered, reaching 1,230+ people, including a wide age and ability range. Sessions include practical safety training and engagement with local officers. Upcoming sessions planned for a safe house, public events, and a BAME mothers' group. Lisanne will continue the project even if their role changes.

PS asked DC to request that GAV project made provisions for a session to be held in the North of the borough. (Update: Introductions made via email between PS and the project coordinator to facilitate this).

**Membership:** Issues – covered at the beginning of the meeting under Chairs introductions.

**Ward Panels**

CS members still waiting to meet new Hillingdon East Inspector (Pav Dhaliwall) The panel want to meet him, but he has been covering Ben. No request for Inspectors to attend as Ben needs to use their time more wisely.

- Inspector attendance at ward panels is limited due to workload; board agreed to manage expectations and prioritize operational policing.
- Local issues: Begging and safety concerns in Long Lane, need for improved street lighting, and reporting options for community safety concerns. Emphasis on the importance of reporting incidents to police or via alternative channels (e.g., StreetSafe, CrimeStoppers).
- Engagement: SNTs are prioritising crime outcomes over engagement events due to limited resources.

## **Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch Report**

**Presented by** Dave Ludlow

### **Met Engage**

Met Engage came online essentially from the beginning of July. Insp Flowers for Hillingdon immediately put in place weekly online progress meetings so that we could monitor progress and deliver mutual support. This approach has proved very successful for both partners. Metrics in terms of London-wide membership of Met Engage have been hard to obtain and have not been routinely provided - this is something that the MPS Central (not Hillingdon) rollout team ought to be providing, it is key to identifying whether members signing up to Met Engage are also signing up to NHW. Local measurements show that the rollout for Hillingdon has gone extremely well, there are several PCSOs who are delivering the message on doorsteps, and NHW membership has also increased as a result of that.

### **Funding and Reporting**

MOPAC has requested detailed metrics and reporting, and this is currently 6-monthly. The next period for reporting is imminent (1<sup>st</sup> April - 30<sup>th</sup> September) and this is already in hand with DC.

### **Events**

We have attended two public events with our stall since the last meeting, where we engaged with many residents and discussed Crime Prevention. We also recruited several new potential members, By the time of the SNB we will have attended the Eastcote House Heritage Day on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September where we hope to have engaged with an audience of hundreds, weather permitting! DL and KM recently took part in separate "ridealong" events with the 999 Response teams operating out of Southall. These were very valuable experiences, and the teams very welcoming.

### **Communications**

The HNW website at [www.hillingdonnhw.co.uk](http://www.hillingdonnhw.co.uk) has been updated with comprehensive joining instructions and other Crime Prevention advice. Materials have been updated to incorporate the Met Engage logo as this is all one system, and that needs to be made very clear to residents going forwards. We now have a London-wide WhatsApp group in which Hillingdon participates. We have recently shared publicity artworks with Havering and the City of Westminster, and other activities will no doubt follow. We continue to actively participate in Teams meetings of National and London Association Leads hosted by National Neighbourhood Watch.

	<p><b>Hillingdon Youth Council.</b></p> <p>No update given. George unable to attend.</p>
	<p><b>Councillor Report:</b></p> <p>Long Lane beggars have been addressed. RNA has something at back of COOP, passageway/alleyway. CS making a request for streetlighting in the area. Two female members of staff were followed by a male in a hoody – not reported to police.</p> <p>CS – would like street surgeries rather than surgeries in libraries. Ben wants his officers to focus on crime rather than engagement. What has been delivered and what impact has it had. Engagement is good when used well but they need to look for intel and then patrol to target.</p>
	<p><b>Age UK:</b></p> <p>JH – more volunteers needed. Funding lost. Hillingdon, Harrow and Brent now merged but not as deeply involved. Demand outweigh resource.</p>
	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Jewish Festival coming up – plan and regular engagement in place.</p> <p>Claire Morris is a new member and has joined as a representative resident, not as part of the NHS. Claire asked:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the strategic priorities of the SNB.</li> <li>• What is the focus of the SNB.</li> </ul> <p>Hoda to have a follow up meeting with Claire.</p> <p><b>2025 Meetings:</b></p> <p>Tuesday 16 December</p> <p>All held at the Civic Centre, Committee Room 3 from 7pm to 9pm.</p>