



Notice of Meeting:
**Ealing Safer
Neighbourhood
Board**

Meeting Location:

Virtual Meeting (Public)

Date and Time:

Tuesday, 29 March 2022 at 19:00

Contact for Enquiries:

Address:

Democratic Services,
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Interim Chief Executive:

Paul Martin

Committee Membership:

Ms Sara Kumar (Chair), Mr Mohamed Ali (Member), Inspector Leigh Ballard (Member), Neighbourhood Anthony Bennett (Member), Annamarie Braganza (Member), Ms Beata Felinczak (Member), Mr James Guest (Member), Ms Kiran Gupta (Member), Mr William Hardman (Member), Ms Anu Khela (Member), Ms Gita Langston (Member), Mr John Martin (Member), Mr Rajat Nath (Member), Mr Andy Oliver (Member), Mr Andrew Rollings (Member), Mr Jags Sanghera (Member), Acting Shazaib Shah (Member), Ms Rukhi Sohi (Member), Ms Wendy Starkie (Member), Councillor Seema Kumar (Member), Councillor Aysha Raza (Member), Jess Murray (Member),

AGENDA

Open to Public and Press

Public participation

This meeting of the ESNB will be held virtually and will be a public meeting. Members of the public are invited to contact democraticservices@ealing.gov.uk to request the link to join the meeting. Members of the public may submit their questions for the ESNB to the following email address sarakumar321@gmail.com, by 5pm on 28 March 2022.

1 Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

To note any apologies for absence and substitutions.

2 Minutes

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 20th January 2022.

Draft ESNB minutes_20 January 2022

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3 ESNB Board Introductions

4 Chair's Report

5 Projects Report

6 Woman and Girls Safety Report from the Police with Q&A

7 Full Police Report with Q&A

8 Any Other Business

9 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 3 May 2022.

Published: Monday, 21 March 2022

Paul Martin
Interim Chief Executive, London Borough of Ealing

Minutes of the meeting of the Ealing Safer Neighbourhood Board

Date: Thursday, 20 January 2022

Time: 19:00

Venue: Virtual Meeting

Attendees:

Inspector Leigh Ballard, Annamarie Braganza, Mr James Guest, Ms Kiran Gupta, Ms Sara Kumar, Mr John Martin, Jess Murray, Councillor Aysha Raza, Mr Jags Sanghera, Acting Chief Inspector Shazaib Shah

1 **(Annual) Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

Sara Kumar, explained that there had not been any expressions of interest for the positions of chair and vice-chair of the Ealing Safer Neighbourhood Board.

Resolved that:

Sara Kumar and John Joseph Martin would remain in their roles of chair and vice-chair respectively, for another year.

2 **Apologies for Absence and Substitutions**

Apologies were received from Councillor Seemar Kumar (shadow spokesperson), Martin Mallam (Greenford ward panels representative), Gita Langston (community member) and Anu Khela (community member).

There were no substitutions.

The chair informed the meeting that Mr Martin Mallam had tendered his resignation from the ESNB. The chair thanked Mr Mallam for his contributions to ESNB, and its predecessors, over the last fifty years. The Board thanked Mr Mallam for his contributions and support and wished him all the best for the future.

3 **Minutes**

RESOLVED that: the minutes of the meeting held on 21 October 2021 were a true and accurate record of proceedings and that they be signed by the chair.

4

Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting (21 October 2021)

a. Update from Leigh Ballard on Agenda Item 3 (Ward Panel update – with view from the Police and Board) of 21 October 2021 meeting.

On the the issue of youth engagement [in ward forums], Leigh Ballard said this had initially been raised by Ealing’s Independent Advisory Group (IAG) and a couple of ward panels. Safer Neighbourhood Teams officers had engaged with West London University and schools and colleges with a 6th form in order to promote the ward panels and IAG youth membership. In addition to this Leigh said he had requested all PCSO’s to promote the ward panel meetings to appropriate members of their communities, expressing the need for younger adult members to join and attend.

Leigh said he was waiting for any suitable updates for people willing to attend the meetings, so far there were none, however this remained an ongoing item for him.

Anthony Bennett, the borough's Neighbourhood Superintendent (replacing Jill Horsfall), introduced himself and suggested it might be considered how to use schools as some sort of ward panel - he would leave this with the schools' officers.

Councillor Raza asked whether Leigh had engaged with the Young Ealing Foundation, to try to get young people involved in civic matters. Leigh responded that he had been in contact with Elly Heaton, Chief Executive Officer of YEF, however they had not yet had a face to face meeting.

Jess Murray suggested it might be worth contacting Peter Gardner, former MPS Borough Commander for the west area BCU, as he previously engaged with the policing and crime aspect of the Ealing Race Equality Commission. Jess continued that young people might find this type of meeting format (with older people) intimidating and that the schools' setting might be better and would encourage them to share knowledge peer to peer.

Jess also made the following suggestions: contacting Steve Curtis, who worked for the Ealing 'YES Project', affiliated to the borough's social work teams; police cadets may already have good engagement and behaviours; the police/the ESNB could ask young people how *they* wanted to input. James Guest concurred with this last suggestion and

thought it would be a good idea to see how young people wanted to engage, even if they were not formally part of the ward panels.

b. Update from Shazaib Shah on Agenda Item 5 (Women's Safety - with view from the police and board, following the tragic case of Sarah Everard) of 21 October 2021 meeting. Shazaib Shah gave the following update on this item to the ESNB:

- Baroness Casey had now started her internal review of the Met Police; this would include a review of cases over the last ten years, for learning opportunities.

- The vetting of officers would be subject to review and officers would be subject to on-going review (post appointment).

- Anthony Bennett, the borough's Neighbourhood Superintendent, had conducted a senior officers' survey, as a result of the Met's 'He for She' program. The survey would be used as an initial point of contact for female staff and what they had encountered; the majority of females had a positive view, however 25% had witnessed inappropriate behaviour and 25% lacked confidence that issues would be dealt with properly.

- Shazaib said the visibility of BAME officers was also an issue as well as that of women. West London was out-performing the rest of the Met and they were aiming for 40% of BAME and/or female officers in the workforce. The following initiatives were currently being implemented:

- **Street Safe:** this was being promoted both corporately and locally to capture information around the concerns of females. The data was received daily with findings published weekly to colleagues and partners across neighbourhoods, Emergency Response Policing Team (ERPT), CID & Safeguarding. The data that was captured was shared with partner agencies and local authorities to identify best solutions to solving problems e.g. lighting, CCTV (e.g. around transport hubs), fencing or infrastructure changes, for consideration. The six-month pilot for Street Safe was to be extended.

- **Walk & Talk:** this initiative was aimed at getting female colleagues to talk to the public to discuss day to day concerns in order to build a better intelligence picture.

- **Sexual Offences:** all sexual offences were now reviewed by CID for progression, investigation advice if picked up by another unit. There were now KPIs relating to sexual offences, through which significant changes have been made in timelines for investigations. Sexual offences was a key priority and sat within the BCU GRIP Agenda for PACE Setter meetings with overarching responsibility sitting with Silver (WA400).

Shazaib informed he had noted concerns around sexual offences when he had worked on New Year's eve, in particular concerns about open spaces, police visibility in parks, town centres and shopping centres. There was now significant funding to deliver an increase in Police Visibility in open spaces. The POP (policing operational plan) was now in place to resolve the violence issue in general in the top 10 locations of the BCU. Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) remained a MPS Priority and ran through each policing plan/significant public event.

Sharing his screen, Shazaib noted there were six or seven areas in the BCU where offences were likely to take place, including open spaces, bus shelters, night clubs and pubs (licensed venues). Jess Murray contributed that the Safer Ealing for Women survey was now up and running, including a 'give my view' page and mapping tools where women can identify up to two areas where they feel less safe. The survey would run till 28 February and was available via the following link: [Safer Ealing for women and girls](#)

Jess recommended that ESNB members promote this survey in their communities to amplify the message and drum up support. There had been approximately 2500 responses so far; some of the responses from the survey referred to car parks among the least safe places, e.g. lighting issues. Jess pointed out that some car parks were not owned by the council. It was a Safer Ealing Partnership survey as the police were involved. Women could also use the police's app to report issues.

Anthony Bennett noted that Acton Town was a hot spot for sexual offences, according to the west area command unit (WA-CU). There were now constables charged with investigating such offences over an eight week period and the sexual offences team was fully staffed, including with a detective inspector, and was receiving more attention, focus and supervision. James Guest suggested a relevant question might be 'where do you feel unsafe and at what time of day?' Shazaib said he would take that away and work with Anthony on that.

c. Update on Agenda Item 6 (Police report – general) regarding 3 incidents mentioned in the 21 October 2021 meeting. Leigh Ballard provided the following update:

i) With regards to the transgender person knocking on doors, the ward sergeant, Sergeant Faizal Naim, was aware of this person and knew who they were. They have been issued with a CPW (community protection warning) by the local SNT and they have been warned that any further behaviour of the same would result in a CPN (community protection notice) and then arrest. If there were any criminal matters disclosed prior to the CPN, they would be arrested.

A member of the Board suggested that this had been happening over a number of years; the person may have already been arrested in the

past and had done the same thing once released from jail. Leigh Ballard responded that the local SNT was most appropriate to deal with this and could ban the individual from the area through the courts.

ii) Regarding the matter of the telephone and/or internet cables being cut in one road, that had been due to a disgruntled ex-employee who had been arrested, interviewed by CID and charged with criminal damage.

iii) The third point regarding the male reportedly exposing himself along the canal towpath between Elthorne and Hobbayne wards; there had been two incidents that the police were aware of. To combat this, the West Ealing SNT had conducted joint operations in both high visibility and covert patrols within the area and the surrounding roads, which had prevented any further occurrences. Violence against women and girls (VAWG) continued to be a police priority, therefore these patrols along the canal path and open areas would continue in order to protect women and any vulnerable people within those areas.

A member of the Board said similar incidents at Churchfield and Warren Farm had been reported to the police and they asked if it was the same individual. Leigh said the matter was a priority case for the police at the moment and if a suspect was brought in, they would be questioned on all these incidents.

RESOLVED that:

The Ealing Safer Neighbourhood Board noted the police updates on the three matters arising from the minutes of the 21 October 2021 meeting.

5 **Projects Report**

John Martin gave the following update on the three projects that had been award recipients:

- Self-esteem: this project had become fully booked with ten people very quickly; 95 people had applied. The classes (six sessions in total) were aimed at assisting women with what to do about self-defence.

John had visited the final class on 27th December 2021. The view of the participants was that it was £5,000 well spent.

- Southall Community Alliance Project: this project, to circulate fridge magnets, was on-going. As the Our Southall group did not yet have a bank account, it had recently been agreed with Anthony Bennett that Southall Community Alliance would hold the funds for the time being.

- Znaniye Russian School/Foundation: This group had received the money in November 2021 however the project had not started yet due to Covid 19. The group did have a marketing strategy and had started some publicity around the project.

Jess Murray stated he would be interested in having a discussion about extending projects, though this would depend on funding. Projects could potentially be eligible for funding from the Mayor of London, the Home Office and Transport for London. Sara Kumar, ESNB chair, noted that the self-esteem/self-defence group had been applying for funding for a number of years. Two years ago the ESNB had awarded them £17,000, which was the biggest award the Board had ever given to any one project. It was possible to scale the self-esteem project and it would be good if ESNB members knew of other sources of funding that could be shared with them.

Mr Martin then related his experience about taking up an invitation from Leigh Ballard to join a police 'ride-along' scheme.

On 9th November 2021, Mr Martin had joined police Response Team D. The day had started with the a team briefing and had included incidences such as section 60 notices, burglaries and missing persons. The team had included PCs Joseph Burgess and Nicolas Beasely and tasers had been given to the police. John Martin had witnessed a stop and search, which had been done very professionally. He also noted that members of the public were prepared to make a 999 call, however they were often not prepared to be seen talking to the police.

The team had then gone to Norwood Green as they had received information about drugs being sold there. Then followed a police response to a domestic abuse allegation; the alleged victim was taken to one side; their partner was taken to Acton custody suite and read his rights. Witness statements were taken and passed to CID, along with photos. The team then left Acton and spotted a pool car being driven by a person suspected of of dealing drugs. The two police officers were very professional and searched the area. Drugs were found but they could not be linked to that individual.

Mr Martin said his experience showed we should all be very proud of the police and he wanted to thank Inspector Summers. Mr Martin said it was right to hold the police to account but we should also support them. Anthony Bennett said the West Area BCU was one of the busiest BCUs and he would encourage more people to take up the 'ride-along' scheme.

Sara Kumar said she had participated in a 'walk-along' a few years ago. Jags Sanghera informed the Board he had also done a 'ride-along' on 29th November and his experiences had also been very positive. In his view, the police were very professional and he would echo much of what John Martin had said. Mr Sanghera said it appeared that the police were very busy and did not have enough time to deal with everything. There were constant calls about family disputes. Mr

Sanghera said the last call he had attended with the police had been a road traffic accident (RTA), which had involved multiple units. Mr Sanghera suggested younger people could also be interested in a 'ride along' as well as those concerned about how policing had changed and the time that was spent.

Resolved that:

The Ealing Safer Neighbourhood Board noted the Projects Report and the the report(s) on the police 'ride-along' scheme.

6

Police Report on violent and knife crime

Anthony Bennett said violent knife crime was a very important priority for the police. Through the last quarter and over last summer (i.e. over the last year) £100,000 had been devoted to high visibility policing and also to policing open spaces and the night time economy. The strategy was problem-oriented policing and included measures to enhance safer neighbourhood boards, the use of knife wands to detect if a knife was being carried, the purchase of knife stores, more cameras installed, getting information from the Border Force units with respect to estimating how many knuckle dusters and zombie knives were being purchased. Mr Bennett gave the example of 20 or 30 knives being seized from one address.

Other measures being implemented included offender management; work with schools, including knife prevention sessions in schools. Against the five-year picture, they were not doing too badly however it was recognised they needed to keep the numbers down.

A member of the ESNB suggested that some branches of the police were working with the London School of Economics on a project to use behavioural science to target resources to tackle knife crime. Another member of the ESNB suggested that the police needed to reach young people before secondary school, as children were already carrying knives in secondary school. A message needed to reach the younger age groups as knives were well established in secondary schools.

The ESNB congratulated the police on catching the catalytic converter thieves. Leigh Ballard informed that they had been caught through operation San-Kapp and that the perpetrators were five individuals who were also suspected of committing a multitude of other offences including the theft of BMWs.

In response to the suggestion from the ESNB that having only one custody suite in Ealing was stressful for the police, Anthony Bennett

said there were custody suites in Polar Park (west Drayton) and in Acton.

The discussion turned to the use of drones with a Board member stating that Hertfordshire police had been making use of drones to carry out initial investigations. Leigh Ballard said the Ealing police had made use of drones only last week and that their use was fairly new. They would make an assessment to see whether there were requests to make use of drones over open areas.

Resolved that:

The Ealing Safer Neighbourhood Board noted the Police Report on violent and knife crime.

7

General Police Report (including statistics) followed by Q&A from the ESNB members

Leigh Ballard went through the MOPAC Crime Dashboard for Ealing over the 12 months to December 2021, which showed a comparison with the previous month and the previous year. Among the important points to note were:

- Anti-social behaviour (ASB): if the ward police officers could deal with the low level matters, that would free up Response Team to deal with higher grade offences.
- Burglary in other buildings: with more people working from home, burglaries had moved away from home addresses to shops and offices.
- Disability hate crime: the police were aiming to inspire people to report crimes.
- Domestic abuse hate crime: the police were taking every opportunity to have an intervention, including arrests and sign-posting to other services.
- Gun crime: required specialist teams to come out to make the guns safe; it was a difficult offence to deal with.
- Homophobic hate crime: along with disability hate crime, people were being encouraged to report such crimes and some reports were historic.
- Knife crime and knife crime with injury: the increase in numbers was a concern.
- Racist and religious offences: specialist officers dealt with reports of racist crime.
- Rape: this could be a historic crime; there were very few stranger rapes, most rape attacks were committed by persons known to the victim.
- TNO: total notifiable offences to the Home Office.
- Theft from a motor vehicle: this could be combatted by education and was often discussed at ward panels. The police recommendation was

that nothing should be left on display in cars.

- Total robbery: robbery could be a violent crime and could be intimidating.
- VWI: stood for violence with injury, there was a small in decrease this in December 2021.
- Youth violence: the police were working with schools to try to discourage youth involvement in violence from a young age, which would help the youth to have a brighter future.

Mr Jags Sanghera informed that at one point, there had been two burglaries in Southall within 24 hours. There had also been a spate of thefts of disabled badges in Southall, including motor vehicles being smashed to access the disabled badges. He added laptops in car boots were potentially vulnerable if a blue tooth signal could be picked up from them. Mr Ballard said jackets left on car seats were more of a problem than laptops left in car boots. Mr Ballard also said he believed owners had to put their vehicle registration number on the badges, however he would check on this point.

The discussion turned to e-scooters, with Mr Ballard informing that the use of private e-scooters on the public footpath needed to be reduced to ensure the safety of pedestrians using the pavements. Sara Kumar said e-scooters were likely to come up in the public ESNB meeting in March 2022.

The ESNB noted that as the impact of Covid-19 lessened, patterns of going out would change with more youth out and about. The Board expressed appreciation to Leigh Ballard and the police teams.

Anthony Bennett noted there had been an increase in the reporting of sexual offences due to the Sarah Everad case. From the point of view of public protection, there was a link between the opening up of the night-time economy and sexual violence.

Resolved that:

The Ealing Safer Neighbourhood Board

- i) noted the police report on crime and statistics; and
- ii) expressed their appreciation to the police.

8

Any other business

Anthony Bennett updated the ESNB on the Ealing police station. It would be closed as part of a broader MPS plan, possibly in May 2022. The incumbent police units would be moved to Acton or Southall. Mr Bennett said the police were aware the closure would be likely to cause concern to local residents and businesses and there might be a possible touch down point in Ealing Broadway.

Sara Kumar suggested that Sean Wilson, the Chief Superintendent at the Metropolitan Police and the borough commanders, should attend the next ESNB meeting on 29 March 2022, as this would be a public meeting.

John Martin extended thanks to Jude Sutherland, LBE Finance and Co-ordination Officer, for sorting out the funding for the projects.

A member of the ESNB requested an up-dated WA-BCU organisation chart and Leigh Ballard said he would circulate this.

With respect to women's safety, the ESNB suggested that the barriers at Ealing stations could be looked at and that enquiries could be made with Transport for London regarding publicising the Safer Ealing for Women survey in the borough's stations. Jess Murray responded that he would speak to the LBE communications team and that any publicity would only be applicable to stations in Ealing. The ESNB also suggested publicising a link to the women's survey on large, moderated groups on social media websites such as Facebook and Next Door.

Resolved that:

The Ealing Safer Neighbourhood Board noted the views and comments expressed under Any Other Business.

9

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 29 March 2022 and will be a public meeting.

The meeting concluded at 8.59pm.

Sara Kumar (Chair)