

Hammersmith & Fulham Neighbourhood Watch Borough Association

Attendance was recorded from the following schemes:

St Peters Square, Norbroke Street, Branksea Street, Vespan Road, Breer & Dymock, Elmstone Road, St Stephen's Avenue, Estcourt Road, Melrose Gardens, Redmore Road, Edgarley Terrace, Purcell Crescent, Tolton Street, Napier Court, Godolphin Road, Cloncurry Street, Sterndale Road, Wendell Road, Leamore Street, Agate Road, Eynham Road, Coverdale Road, Lancaster Court, St Stephen's Avenue, Masbro Road, Halford Road, Davisville Road, Sulgrave Road, Luxemborg Gardens, Darling Road, Disbrowe Road, Lancaster Court.

Apologies were recorded from the following schemes:

Kensington Hall Gardens, Felden Street, Hartswood, Napier Avenue, Binden Road, Bolingbroke Street, Rylett Road, Crabtree, Devonport Road, Rugby Mansions, Westcroft Square, Chancellors Street, Ellingham Road, Souldern Street, Settrington Street, Langthorne Street, Elitohorn Road, Rylett Crescent, Colehill Lane, Armadale Road, Hurlingham Court, Racton Road, Hammersmith Gardens, Tasso Road, Doneraile Street, PRARA, Millers Court, TRACA, Queens Club Gardens, Stonor Road, Furness Road, Hammersmith Terrace.

Welcome & Introductions

Cathy Robertson opened the meeting by thanking all attendees and introducing members of the Executive Committee to the meeting.

Review of 2009/10

Cathy Robertson spoke briefly about the work of the Borough Association in the past year, emphasising that the focus of the Association's work had been to consolidate the growth in the number of schemes and cascade learning and knowledge through the membership. Highlights of the year included:

- Successfully bidding for £15,000 of funding from the Home Office.
- Increasing the number of schemes to over 170 (covering over 210 streets)
- Production of new website www.hfnhw.org.uk
- Production & Distribution of coordinators guide.
- Coordinator event held at Lyric Theatre
- Development of mentoring scheme
- Improved data management and streamlining of communications.

CR thanks all the coordinators for their efforts over the past year.

Borough Crime Update

Detective Superintendent Bill Lile attended from the police to give an update on crime priorities.

He began by thanking all the coordinators for volunteering their time to help the police fight crime.

He reported that currently the borough is experiencing a large increase in both burglary and robbery offences, although these were framed in the background of 5 consecutive years of reductions. He assured attendees that the police

proactive and reactive burglary and robbery squads were operating at capacity across the borough.
Motor vehicle crime and knife crime is currently seeing significant reductions. BL further reported that there were extra police patrols tasked for the World Cup. He spoke briefly about the issues of drugs supply and an apparent migration in dealing offences from operating from properties to street dealing. He asserted that community intelligence was a vital tool to assist battling this.

Questions & Answers

There followed an opportunity for questions to the panel.

Question - Is there any noticeable pattern to the burglary and robbery offences taking place in the borough?

Answer – BL reported that the offences were currently geographically and temporally mobile.

Q – How does H&F compare to neighbouring boroughs?

A – BL reported that he had been in H&F for the past six months of a twenty year policing career and suggested that joint working between the police and local authority here was as good as he had seen previously.

Q – Is there a typical offender profile?

A - BL reported that there was no typical offender and it varied depending on type of offence and geographical location.

Q – What should a resident who witnesses a crime do?

A – BL advised that they should make a note of as much information as possible and contact the police with this information.

Q – What is Smartwater and will everyone in the borough get it?

A - As reported that the police and council had previously carried out two pilot schemes using forensic property coding equipment. NW has jointly sponsored a third pilot scheme which will be rolled out in Ravenscourt Park ward.

BL reported that SNTs are being encouraged to develop electronic contact lists of local residents in order to send them monthly crime updates and that he would like to see this spread as widely as possible.

Douglas Hurd Cup

This is the third year that the award has been made. It is based on nominations for schemes from the Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams. The winner for 2010 is Agate Road.

A commendation was received by Davisville & Batson Road.

Closing remarks

Cathy Robertson announced that she would be standing down as Chair of the Association as she was leaving the country. She thanked all the coordinators and hoped that current momentum in the development of Neighbourhood Watch would continue. Vice Chair of the Association, David Millar, will take the chair of the Association. David thanked Cathy for all her work on behalf of

the Association. Cathy Robertson was then presented with a Borough Commander's Commendation.