

In this edition you will find information on:

- Resident's Question Time event on 29 September
- Stop and Search competition
- Tower Hamlets New Police Team – the Partnership Task Force
- Tower Hamlets Responsible Drinking Borough
- 101 – New Police non-emergency contact number
- Introduction of the local street level crime map
- Funding information
- Update on recent event



Reducing crime INCREASING SAFETY

Foreword by Chair

Welcome to the first edition of the Tower Hamlets Police & Community Safety Board (P&CSB) e-bulletin. The bulletin is packed with exciting news and information on important developments in the world of policing and community safety in the borough, such as the introduction of the Responsible Drinking Borough and the new Partnership Task Force.

With the London disturbances breaking out in early August and the English Defence League static demonstration on the 3rd of September, Tower Hamlets has experienced a particularly busy period recently. An invitation was extended by Scotland Yard to myself, as Chair of the Police and Community Safety Board and a representative of the Tower Hamlets Independent Advisory Group to help and assist in restoring calm during the disturbances. I have also been closely involved in planning and contingency meetings with council staff and police colleagues prior to the 3rd of September, strategising and drafting practical measures to contain the EDL supporters and ensuring the safety of our residents' on the day. I was present on the day at the anti-EDL demonstration and as an eye-witness I felt very proud of our community, especially our young people, who showed great leadership qualities, courage, patience and resilience.

While the impact of these events on our Borough cannot be under-estimated, on the whole, the fallout has seen Tower Hamlets experiencing less of the type of problems that other Boroughs have suffered such as the multi-million pounds worth of property damage in Croydon and Enfield. This is due to the immense

labour and strong partnership work between the police, council and our local communities, before, during and after these eventful days.

While the Board is not taking its eyes off national or regional activities that may have implications for Tower Hamlets, we still remain focused and committed to priorities and issues that matter most to our local communities such as tackling drug dealing, increasing police visibility at the right times and reducing anti-social behaviour in all its forms. We will continue working in collaboration with the police, council and other partners so that the citizens of Tower Hamlets get the best possible service and feel safe in their respective communities and neighbourhoods.

I hope that you enjoy reading our first newsletter and looking forward to seeing you all at our next public meeting on the 29th September.

Thank you to all of you who have contributed to community safety in the borough and the work of the Board.

Justin Moore
- Chair, Police & Community Safety Board

Who are we?

The Police and Community Safety Board (also known as Community and Police Engagement Group) is a committed group of people who live or work in Tower Hamlets, who meet regularly to ensure that policing and community safety is shaped around the needs of the local community.

What do we do?

The Board enables local people to effectively engage with the local Police, the Metropolitan Police Authority and the Council, in strategic discussion on policing and crime issues. One of the ways this is done is through holding public meetings, 'Residents' Question Time' events and meetings of board members.

How to get involved

If you are interested in the work of the Board and would like get involved please contact Abu Sufian on 020 7364 1613 or email: abu.sufian@towerhamlets.gov.uk or visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk and search on Police and Community Safety Board.

Board Executive Members/ Core Officers

Justin Moore	Chair	Police and Community Safety Board
Claudia Megele	Vice-Chair	Police and Community Safety Board
Anne Ambrose	Treasurer	Police and Community Safety Board

You Are Invited to our Upcoming event!

Residents' Question Time

A Police & Community Safety Board Public meeting. Focusing on drugs, alcohol and anti-social behaviour

Thursday 29th September 2011
6.30pm – 8.30pm Idea Store Chrisp Street,
1 Vesev Path, East India Dock Road,
London E14 6BT

- Your chance to meet the Police Borough Commander and the Council's Head of Safer Communities, to discuss key priorities
- A great opportunity for local people to share their experiences and views
- Hear about current action being taken to address key issues

Light refreshments will be available from 6.00pm. For further information please phone **Abu Sufian on 020 7364 1613** or E-mail: abu.sufian@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Stop and Search - know your rights competition

Can you produce a catchy short video (Min 90 seconds, Max 3 minutes long) that demonstrates your rights when you are stopped and searched or asked to Stop and Account?

If you think you can, then now is your chance to prove it. Enter this competition and submit your video to your local Stop and Search Community Monitoring Group. What you submit is up to you and should be in your own words and pictures, but should not offend. Entrants must submit their entries by 28 October 2011 to Inspector Simon Wickert: Simon.Wickert@met.police.uk for judging locally. The top two entries selected from this round of judging in Tower Hamlets are then forwarded for the final round of judging across London by 30 November 2011

Competition prizes

- **1st prize Camcorder to the value of £1,000.00,**
- **2nd prize Photography Vouchers to the value of £300,**
- **3rd prize Photography Vouchers to the value of £200.**

The winning entry will also be posted on 'You Tube' supported by the Metropolitan Police Authority and the

Metropolitan Police Service and may be used to share the Stop and Search/Account message to communities across London.

Competition entry requirements

The competition is open to (and only open to), young people up to the age of 25. Entries can be made using mobile phones, hand held cameras, film cameras etc but must be visual moving film recordings and submitted on a DVD. Entrants will be judged on: the Content and Factual information in terms of Stop and Search/Stop and Account, Visuals and cinematography, Sound quality, any Special effects, Impact of the film to the viewer and Clarity of its message.

All entrants must also describe, in no more than 50 words:

- How winning the competition will help to support your local Stop and Search CMG? And
- How will you encourage more young people to get involved with the local Stop and Search Community Monitoring Group?

To find out more, contact Abu about your local Community Monitoring Group on 0207 364 1613.

Partnership Task Force – investing in safety

The Partnership Task Force, sees the council join forces with the police to tackle crime head on. The team consists of an extra 21 officers. 16 are funded by the Council and 5 are provided by the Police. The team aims to directly deal with residents' concerns and tackle drugs and anti-social behaviour.

The move will see the new team of officers working closely with communities to tackle anti-social behaviour and drug-related offences. The new officers are additional to the existing Safer Neighbourhood Team Police Officers, which means more can be done to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in the borough.

The Partnership Task Force officers will work with various local council departments, including the Tower Hamlets Enforcement Officers (THEOs), and will focus on issues that affect the quality of life for local residents such as breaches of licensing laws, nuisance relating to drinking in public, touting, prostitution and illegal trading issues.

In the first month of the team alone, the officers worked for more than 300 days, arrested 45 people, and issued 31 cannabis warnings.

Acting Supt Nigel Nottidge, Partnership said: "Anti-social behaviour and drugs have a serious impact on the quality of life of residents of Tower Hamlets. Working in partnership with Tower Hamlets Council means that we can jointly address any concerns from the local community."

"The successes of the first month show our commitment to reducing anti-social behaviour and drugs across the borough. This is an excellent start for the new team and we expect to go from strength to strength."

Tower Hamlets Council has dedicated over £1.3 million pounds over a two-year period to fund the 16 officers and other initiatives including the successful 'Dealer a Day' programme to arrest 365 drug dealers per year.



Council and police exercise new powers to tackle drink-related anti-social behaviour

Tower Hamlets has become a Responsible Drinking Borough since the 3rd of September 2011. This means that the police and council enforcement officers have additional powers to seize alcohol from anyone causing or likely to cause anti-social behaviour. This does not ban drinking in public. Rather, it provides the police and council officers with the ability to react quickly and effectively to drink-related nuisances and make residents', workers', visitors and students feel safer.

The police and council enforcement officers will be able to stop people and request them to cease drinking and, if they fail to do so, demand, confiscate and/or dispose of any alcohol within the boundaries of Tower Hamlets.

The decision to introduce the Responsible Drinking Borough follows an overwhelmingly positive response to a consultation led by the council earlier this year when 84 per cent of residents backed its introduction. Signs have been placed at key points across Tower Hamlets to make sure that people are aware of the new rules.

Previously the borough had three drinking control zones – in Whitechapel, Bethnal Green and Shoreditch. Although successful, they led to troublemakers moving on and continuing their bad behaviour in other parts of the borough.

For more information visit

www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/responsibleddrinking

DIAL 101

The "101" Police Non-Emergency contact number has now been introduced in London and replaces the existing '0300' number. The aims of introducing 101 are to:

- Help communities to keep their neighbourhoods safe by giving them one easy way to contact their local police and to report non-emergency crime and disorder;
- Make the police more accessible to their communities, whilst reducing pressure on the 999 system and helping the police to put their resources where they are needed most.
- Help the police to cut crime by making it easier for the public to pass on information about crimes in their neighbourhoods and allowing the police to take swift action.

The new 101 number will ease pressure on 999 and give the public one easy way to get in touch with the police for calls that do not require an urgent response. For example, the public should call 101 to report a crime that has already happened, seek crime prevention advice or make police aware of local issues in the community.

As with 999, calls to 101 in London will be handled 24 hours a day, seven days a week by specially trained officers and staff at the MPS's Central Communications Command who will help deal with enquiries. For people who speak no or little English they can also dial 101 where their call will be connected with an interpreter. Callers who are deaf, deafened or have a hearing or speech impairment can use a textphone to call: 18001 101; or in an emergency it's 18000.

Mayor of London Boris Johnson welcomed the introduction of 101 and said: "This quick and easy 101 number will help with a wide breadth of important issues that don't require an immediate response. Some people have inadvertently used '999' for things which aren't emergencies, and this number will free up our blue light brigade to concentrate on critical matters, whilst offering the public an excellent way of reporting other issues."

As well as calling the police on 101 or 999, the public can use online services to get information or report crime; join virtual neighbourhood ward panels to oversee and influence local policing; visit a police station or front counter 24/7; or approach an officer in the street.

Street-level crime maps

The crime and local policing information site www.police.uk was launched earlier this year. It provides the public with access to key crime and policing information and allows them to raise issues or take an active role in tackling crime and anti-social behaviour in their local area.

Using the crime and local policing information website

When you input your postcode, town, village or street, you'll have instant access to street-level crime maps and data, as well as details of your local policing team and beat meetings.

You will also be able to find out how the police are tackling the problems in your area, and what you can do to help. The street-level crime map identifies types of crime including: burglary, robbery, vehicle crime, violence, antisocial behaviour and other crime.



Crime locations are pinpointed

Why create street-level maps?

Publishing crime and local policing information on national maps provides a greater level of transparency about what crimes happen, where and when. This is the first phase in a longer programme, which could see other crime and justice information (like court progress and convictions) being published alongside the maps.

Community action against crime: innovation fund now open!

The £5 million 'community action against crime: innovation fund' is now open for bids from local voluntary groups. The fund is designed to bring together active citizens and encourage new and creative ways of working to tackle crime.

All applications must show that they are innovative, deliver lasting benefit, have involved local communities, tackle crime issues that matter to the local community, with a particular focus on anti-social behaviour, crime in local neighbourhoods, drug/alcohol related crime, reducing re-offending, violence against women and girls, and youth crime.

Applications from grassroots community activists

who are not traditional recipients of government grants are encouraged.

Community action against crime: Innovation fund is funded by the Home Office and delivered by the Community Development Foundation (CDF). The fund is open for applications from the 5th September 2011, to 1st December 2011. You can apply for funding between £1,000 and £15,000 per year for small grants or for larger grants you can apply between £15,001 and £50,000.

For more information, please e-mail: crime.innovation@cdf.org.uk or call 02078331772 and press '3' for a member of the Programmes Team.

Previous event

On the evening of June 30th, there was a packed audience of over 60 residents' at the Whitechapel Idea Store, who fielded pertinent question to senior panel members who included the Police Borough Commander, Paul Rickett and the Safer Communities Service Head, Andy Bamber. Questions ranged from who is ultimately responsible for tackling anti-social

behaviour to how to reduce noise nuisance and disruption from large commercial events in the borough. A paper has been written summarising the main issues from the event with the intention of tabling it at October's Community Safety Partnership meeting where the issues will be further explored.

