

Stephen Greenhalgh
Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime
10 Dean Farrar Street
London
SW1H 0NY

Date: 06 March 2013
Direct dial: 020 8489 2241
Email: Richard.Watson@haringey.gov.uk

Dear Stephen

Draft Police and Crime Plan 2013-2016

The London Borough of Haringey welcomes the opportunity to respond to the draft Police and Crime Plan 2013 -2016 and the accompanying Estate Strategy. We are aware that you have already received comments from the Leader of the Council, Cllr Kober and the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Cllr Rice. Both responses are attached for your convenience and it is intended that this response builds on the comments made in those letters.

You will be aware of the historical events such as the Broadwater Farm riots and the recent Tottenham riots in 2011. Both demonstrate why it is vital that the public and the Council are confident that any changes to policing will build confidence in the way that the borough is policed in the future. Both the earlier McPherson report and the recent Stuart Lipton report commissioned by the Mayor of London confirm this view. As an outer London borough with inner London crime issues, we recognise the importance of working in partnership with the community to raise public confidence, reduce the fear of crime and attract much needed investment to the borough. To that end there is a clear recognition across the borough that the role of the police and how we can encourage the public to actively engage with all partners is extremely important.

As you are aware the recent public meeting held in Haringey on 25th February, where you presented your proposals was well attended and a number of questions and statements were made raising concerns and anxiety about the police numbers and the reduced counter service, especially in Tottenham. We have not tried to capture all of the comments but have included key concerns which are also reflected in the Council's view of the changes.

We have chosen not to use the standard questions to respond as we feel this will not allow us to adequately reflect the views of the Council and the community. Instead for ease I have divided our response into three main areas, namely 24/7 policing in Tottenham, Safer Neighbourhood Policing and Safer Neighbourhood Boards.

24/7 Policing in Tottenham



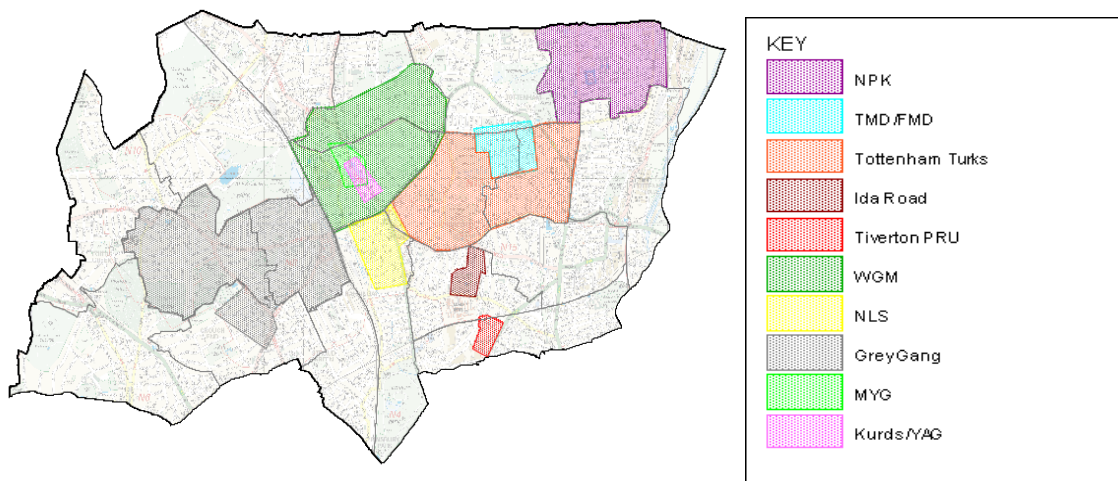
The draft Estate Strategy suggests one 24 hour police station per borough. You will be aware from the comments made at a number of meetings, including with Cllr Kober and I in December 2012, the public meeting held on 25th February 2013 and meetings that you have held with David Lammy MP that this 'one size fits all' approach is not felt to be appropriate for this borough. You have suggested that if Haringey present a strong case then you will consider two 24/7 stations one in Wood Green as set out in your plan and the other in Tottenham. It is our view that it is vital for Tottenham and the East of the borough that we maintain a 24/7 police presence to tackle the demand relating to the levels of crime and to deliver our joint regeneration aspirations for Tottenham. A summary supporting this position is set out below:

Crime

- Tottenham High Road, including Bruce Grove and Tottenham Green, is one of two areas in Haringey borough, out of 21 areas across the MPS, identified as being high impact because of a high level of crime. The key offending types along the High Road is street crime, particularly robbery and theft person snatch. The current hot spot for personal robbery is the High Road at Bruce Grove.
- The Vulnerable Localities Index (VLI)¹ measures community cohesion, highlighting areas where social and economic conditions could lead to a breakdown in the community. Seven of the nine identified 'most vulnerable' areas identified in the borough, are located in the east of the borough, principally Tottenham Hale and Northumberland Park.
- Tottenham Hale (8%), Tottenham Green (8%) and Northumberland Park (7%) experience high proportions of violence contributing almost a quarter of all violence in the borough.
- Haringey has 11 identified gangs in the borough of which 5 gangs are based in the East of the borough; Northumberland Park Killers, Tottenham Turks, Tiverton PRU, Ida Road and Tottenham Mandem (based in Broadwater Farm). The areas that these gangs operate in are shown on the map below:

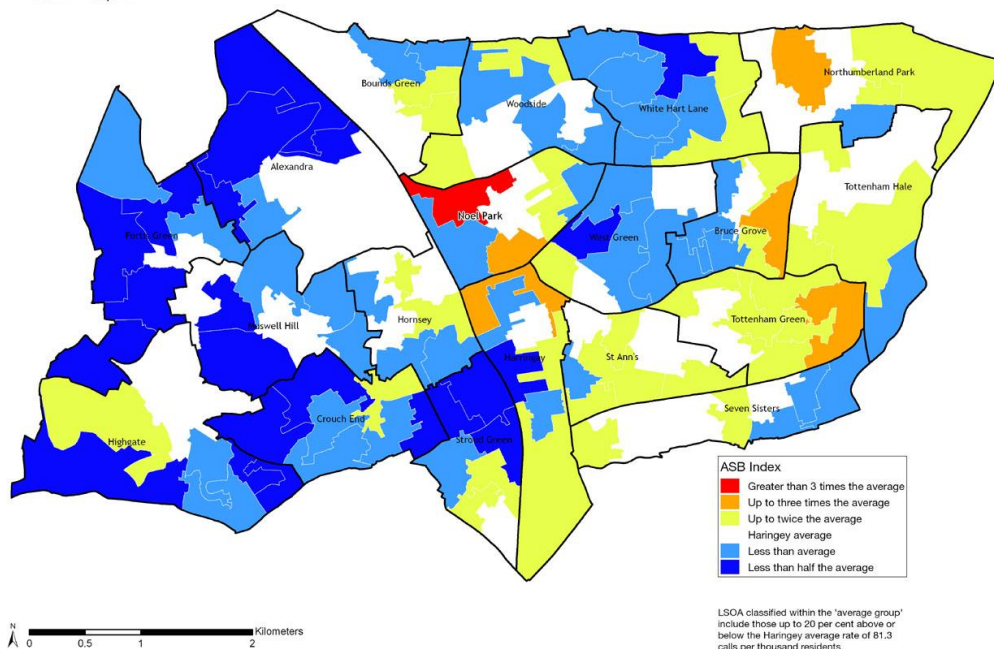
¹ The VLI was developed jointly by the Central Police Training and Development Authority (Centrex) and the [Jill Dando Institute for Crime Science](#), in response to the riots which occurred in 2001 in Oldham, Burnley, Bradford and Wrexham.





- Haringey had the 6th highest number of ASB incidents per 1,000 population in London in 2010/11 (73 incidents per 1,000 residents). This is above both the London and national rates of 54.8 and 57.2 respectively. The highest volume of calls in relation to ASB is located in two main areas; the east of the borough in Tottenham and Northumberland Park and in the centre of the borough between Wood Green and Turnpike Lane tube stations. The prominence of ASB is shown on the map below in orange (three times the borough average) and yellow (twice the borough average). The area in red (greater than three times) is Noel Park and is located near Wood Green tube station and the proposed 24/7 police station at Fishmongers Arms.

All ASB and envirocrime incident rates - 999 calls, ASBAT calls, waste dumps and noise calls by LSOA
Oct11 - Sep12

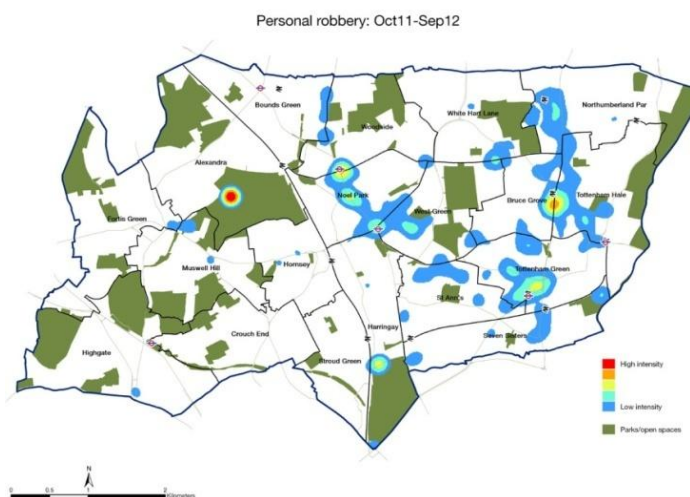


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- Haringey has high levels of problematic drug use with latest prevalence estimates suggesting that Haringey has higher than the London and England average rates of crack cocaine and heroin users. Over a third that enter into drug treatment via the criminal justice system and are more likely to reside in the more deprived areas in the East of the borough.
- There is a correlation between PPOs and arrestees located in areas of high deprivation (East of the borough).
- The following maps overleaf show the borough's main hotspots in relation to acquisitive crime and residential burglary. We think it is important to note that levels of serious acquisitive crime in Haringey remains above London levels (33.7 per 1,000 population compared to 24.7 in London):

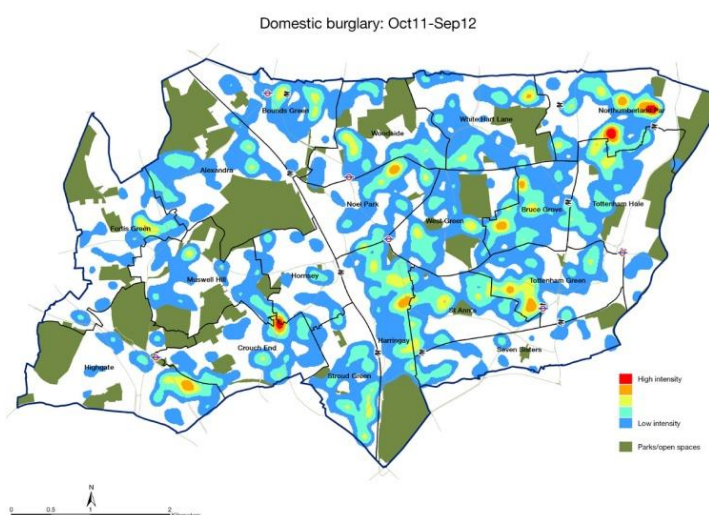
Acquisitive Crime

The number of personal robbery offences has reduced from 1,291 in 2010/11 to 1,181 in 2011/12. The maps clearly shows how both Tottenham High Road/Seven Sisters and Wood Green High Road (linked to transport hubs) are the focal points for acquisitive crime.



Residential Burglary

In total there were 2,714 offences in 2010/11, which increased to 2,825 in 2011/12 although high in the period under consideration; these figures have recently reduced in recent months. The map shows two main hotspots in the East of the borough in Northumberland Park and Tottenham Green wards. The hotspot area towards the West of the borough is Campsbourne Estate in Hornsey.



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Regeneration Aspirations

Haringey is committed to deliver the regeneration aspirations for Tottenham. Both the Council and the Mayor's office have secured a £40 million funding package to act as a stimulus for private sector funding of up to £1billion to provide up to 10,000 quality homes, 5,000 jobs, a new leisure destination in Northumberland Park (THFC new stadium), transport hub improvements at White Hart Lane, Northumberland Park and Tottenham Hale, public realm improvements to Tottenham High Road and a place for businesses to thrive. This will lead to increased housing and so population growth. The success of this transformation will in part be predicated by the successful delivery of the increased public confidence in policing. This will enable partners to build trust and confidence within our community, by ensuring that residents feel safe. We believe that it is vital that for the reasons above and many more that it is essential that a second 24/7 police station is sited within Tottenham.

Safer Neighbourhood Teams

The Safer Neighbourhood Model of policing is at the heart of your policing strategy. It is, therefore, important that your proposals do not undermine the essence of local policing where officers are accountable to their local community. Our main concerns are as follows:

- The Council welcomes the fact that the Borough Commander will have greater scope for deploying his staff as he sees fit. It is, however, noted that in real terms there will be an increase of just six staff. Considering the levels of crime highlighted above we would question whether the Borough has enough officers on the ground to have the required impact you are looking for, namely; a 20% reduction in crime and a 20% increase in public confidence.
- Your strategy is to reduce the level of senior officers and to reinvest part of the savings in providing more police constables on the frontline. Whilst we recognise the logic in your approach our concern is that for the remaining senior officers we need to retain knowledgeable and experienced staff that know the Borough and its complexities and have an understanding of its various communities. The leadership role for the remaining senior team cannot be understated.
- With the potential recruitment of new police constables we would encourage you to deploy officers that reflect the makeup of the community they serve and ensure that the induction of all new police officers is reflective of the community that they are to serve.
- We welcome the fact that there will be 24/7 policing and that there will be flexibility in terms of deployment of staff. However we are concerned about the reduced amount of time spent building public reassurance and confidence with the loss of the current SNT model. We are concerned that the current proposals will in fact reduce the available time for SNTs to engage with the community and will put at risk the current local network of Neighbourhood Watch, Safer Neighbourhood Panels



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and KIN groups. One impact of this would be a reduction in the ability of the police to measure community tension.

- Whilst the number of the officers in SNTs will increase by 86, the overall increase in police numbers for Haringey is only 6. Therefore it is clear that the role of the SNTs will change but what is unclear is what their new role will entail.
- For the current SNT proposals to have a chance of success it is imperative that officers assigned to each ward remain within that ward to clearly be identifiable and accountable to its local residents. Under the current SNT service a criticism has been that vacancies within teams remain for an extended period of time and that key officers are abstracted or moved from one team to another resulting in a lack of continuity and frustration for the local community. Your proposals will need to address these current concerns.

Safer Neighbourhood Panels

A concern highlighted by a number of residents at the public meeting you attended on 25th February in Haringey related to the demise of the CPCGs, the lack of interim measures and the uncertainty of the makeup of the proposed Safer Neighbourhood Boards and how they fit into the existing Safer Neighbourhood Ward Panels. Clarity is required on these matters as it is clear that these panels and proposed boards will play a pivotal role in supporting and holding the local policing teams to account.

In summary, whilst it is recognised that we are in a period of austerity this should not result in leaving our community feeling unsafe and vulnerable. The Council will continue to work in partnership to effectively pool resources through joint tasking with the police and consider new ways of working. We are, however, concerned that an increase in police numbers of only six extra staff and the closure of front counters will only lead to lack of public confidence and increased crime. We therefore urge you to rethink the number of front counters open in the borough at peak times of crime and in particular to consider keeping a 24/7 presence in Tottenham where crime is highest. It is envisaged that a police station will form part of the civic heart of Tottenham as part of our ambitious regeneration plans.

As Cabinet Member for Communities I look forward to hearing from you. I am happy to have any further discussions required to help strengthen our case for a 24/7 station in Tottenham.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Richard Watson
Cabinet Member for Communities

Cc: Cllr Kober, Leader
Nick Walkley, Chief Executive



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