

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH IN ACTION

Dec 2025

NEWSLETTER OF
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CROYDON

Croydon Eye



Croydon Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators and guests came together for a full programme of informative speakers at Royal Russell School and we all had a **FREE Lunch!** **Crime Prevention Day - 11 October**



Opened by the Mayor of Croydon, Jason Perry, he has prioritised making our streets cleaner & safer, taking a zero-tolerance approach to fly-tippers.



Trish Burls from Trading Standards explained how they are targeting & prosecuting businesses who are trading illegally, selling illegal cigarettes & helping to stop doorstep crimes.



Ola Kolade, Chair of the Safer Croydon Partnership (SCP). Some of the priorities are Violence Against Women & Girls, and Bleed Kits, which will be located around the borough to be used by the public if someone is fatally wounded.



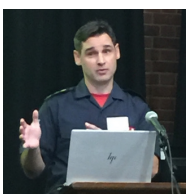
Renee Lord-Lindsay spoke about about Click Safe, Stay Strong campaign, which is designed to tackle the growing threats of online exploitation, cyberbullying & violence against women & girls.



We were lucky to welcome Luke Dillon, our new Police Superintendent. He provided us with an overview of the priorities he intends to address, i.e. & drugs in the West Croydon area, live facial recognition cameras & stop & search.



Chris Philp, Croydon South M.P. wants to have more, stop & search as this does take knives off the streets. Also wants to keep as many police as possible.



Robert Gourley, Fire Station Commander, gave us a harrowing account of unlicensed Lithium Batteries & chargers (more info enclosed).



Rowenna Davis, candidate for Croydon Mayor, says that crime is the most important issue if she becomes Mayor of Croydon. Furthermore, NHW members feel safer than non-NHW members.



Caspar Kennerdale from ClearCommunityWeb spoke about Cyber Crime & gave us tips on how to stay safe online. (see back page, Ask Silver & AI Granny).



Paul Voden, CBNWA Chairman, welcomed everyone & held the AGM meeting. He would also like to thank all our co-ordinators & members for their hard work throughout the year and wish you all season's greetings.



A BIG Thank you, to Royal Russell School for hosting the event, the girls at Barclays Bank, Caspar & Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT)



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UPDATE ON POLICING & IMPROVEMENT IN CROYDON



New front desk opening times **CROYDON**

Mon - Fri 10 am - 10 pm
& weekends 9 am - 7 pm

This expanded provision will enable them to make the £7million saving which has been made possible by redistributing the staffing resource and reducing the total number of 24/7 counters. This is in line with the feedback we have received.

This decision also protects our investment in neighbourhood policing, which we have made over the last few years by recruiting over 300 additional PCSOs for neighbourhood teams, toward a target of 500, as well as adding over 300 officers from Superintendents to Constables. If they do not deliver the tough choices, they would instead have to cut further officer-time. These changes will also free up 2,900 hours of officer time per month, enabling us to focus resources on addressing neighbourhood crime and serious violence.

**Lewisham & Charing Cross
will be manned 24/7**

Action taken on Drug dealing

OP Martello is a Home Office project to target violence and weapons in Croydon town centre. This has led to increased patrols by Fairfield and Town Centre Team officers and more stop and searches of individuals involved in the drugs trade.

150 searches have been conducted in the month of October.

Officers are using intelligence submitted by the public to target vehicles used by dealers and suspicious activity.

Church Road and Howley Road have been identified by residents as being used for dealing, and increased patrols will be made in this area.

Action taken on anti-social behaviour

There has been continual enforcement of the PSPO to address anti-social behaviour across the ward. This has led to multiple CPNW* and CPN* being issued to repeat offenders within the area.

There have been patrols in the area to address ASB across Fairfield ward. The team has been made aware of a suspect targeting windscreen wipers and has conducted late-night patrols. West Croydon has been raised as an area of concern for increased targeting due to street drinking.

*Community Protection Notice (Warning)

The document below outlines the narrative and reasons for some of the changes that are taking place within the Met. This is intended as a very high-level explanation of what they are doing and how they hope it will deliver better local policing.

Our Local Policing Model – Strategic Narrative

Our Vision: Working in collaboration to deliver precise community-crime fighting that responds to the needs of our local communities

OUR MISSION

Optimising our investigative capabilities to manage, reduce and prioritise demand – delivering victim-centred outcomes, enhanced targeting of offenders (particularly highest harm and predatory) and effective safeguarding

OUR INVESTMENT

- 300 additional PCSOs towards target of 500
- 20 additional Superintendents, equates to one Neighbourhood Supt per borough
- Over 500 recruits for specialist teams focused on Public Protection (ongoing)
- Met Engage: a new digital community engagement platform. 44k sign-ups in 2 weeks after launch, with 40k messages sent to date
- Remote Witness Statements (RWS) and Video Appointments for Response in all BCUs since December 2024 – over 15k Video Appointments have taken place

OUR FOCUS ON COMMUNITY CRIME FIGHTING

- Established Volume Crime Teams (VCTs) and Crime Management Units (CMUs)
- VCTs are dedicated units that handle volume crime investigations, for better coordination and increased accountability. Has led to an 11% rise in arrests
- CMUs support officers by prioritising investigations and managing caseloads more effectively. Has resulted in a 12.3% reduction in Officer caseload
- Clear, Hold, Build, the new operational framework has launched in eight BCUs, helping to improve the confidence, capability and visibility of Neighbourhood teams

OUR FOCUS ON THE VULNERABLE

- Establishment of Local Missing Hubs (LMH) and a range of initiatives aimed at improving the safety and well-being of at-risk populations
- Implemented a new model for handling Online Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (OCSAE)
- Led to a 11% increase in the number of victim identities uploaded onto the Child Abuse Image Database and a 47% increase in proactive disruption of child sexual exploitation

OUR BUDGET

- Focus on doing fewer things but doing them well, and focusing on core policing priorities
- Putting the right resources in the right places to benefit our work, our people and our communities in the long term
- Help the Met become more financially sustainable and frontline-focused, and deliver a more efficient local policing service

OUR NEW LOCAL POLICING MODEL

Neighbourhoods: Enhanced model that standardises neighbourhood teams that are more closely connected with the communities they serve. Adopting a problem-solving approach to prevent crime and ASB.

Response: Refocusing the model on core policing duties, ensuring timely response to calls for service from the public and quality of initial investigations.

BCU Operations Centre: Transforming the structure of our existing, reactive and administrative BCU HQ functions into new, proactive BCU Operations Centres (BOCs), that prioritise and allocate demand based on threat, harm and risk, enhance performance management and deliver a standardised service.

Crime Group: Breaking down siloed working across proactivity, local investigations and public protection. Moving away from crime type prioritisation to a threat/harm/risk-based model to target our highest harm offenders and protect the vulnerable.



Being a co-ordinator is a rewarding role.

join us



Help bring neighbours together to tackle local crime & issues.



Disabled badge holders only

Croydon Council Taskforce is cracking down on Blue badge fraud. Since May, they have enforced:

13 Court summons issued

59 Blue Badges confiscated

44 Fines issued

26 Cars towed



Croydon Police have been targeting prolific shoplifters, Knife crime & using LFR Van

Property marking in Co-op to monitor shoplifting

Prolific shoplifters have been arrested & received a Criminal Behaviour Order.

LFR Van was in operation for 3.5 hours, 7 people arrested & a further 3 spoken to.



Croydon Council is making the town centre, cleaner, safer & healthier for everyone

Have funded 7 extra radios for the BID Rangers Radio link scheme, enabling them to support businesses, staff & customers

Have a task force for clearing fly-tipping hotspots

Working on a new surface-level pedestrian crossing on Wellesley Road



Refurbished the front of Allders parade allowing for new shops & food outlets

You can fully immerse yourself or just deliver our leaflet twice a year!

What does a co-ordinator do throughout the year..

- Welcome, new residents who move into your street.
- Personally visit neighbours & tell them you are the point of call if they have an issue.
- Ask neighbours for their email address, so you can forward CBNWA information/events.
- Deliver CBNWA leaflet twice a year.
- Attend LCP events (LCP Local Community Partnership meetings)
- Arrange street parties
- Or anything you think would help reduce crime.

A co-ordinator is a volunteer who oversees their local NHW scheme or group

Act as point of contact with residents, local policing, & other co-ordinators.



Find out more or join visit: WWW.ourwatch.org.uk



Croydon Community Lottery

It's an exciting weekly lottery that not only can you win, but also raises money for good causes & local charities that will benefit Croydon & its residents.

Tickets cost £1 and each ticket has a 1 in 50 chance to win, top prize £25,000.

For every £1 ticket sold, 60p will go towards a good cause, please make sure you select CBNWA as your Good cause!

To find out more, visit the CBNWA Lottery page.

www.croydoncommunitylottery.co.uk/support/cbnwa



Kate Clark, the Committee secretary, needs assistance with some aspects of her role. Her Committee role is a voluntary one. She is looking for volunteers to attend the quarterly Local Community Partnerships meetings for Croydon Central West. These meetings are usually lively and interesting. You would pass on information about Neighbourhood Watch and feed information back to the Committee. Committee colleagues creating surveys and putting together bids for funding also need support.

If you are interested in helping out, on a regular or occasional basis, please email below. Thank you
nhw@cbnwa.com



www.cbnwa.com

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Crime Prevention

Tips & Advice



MARK YOUR TOOLS

Croydon Police have recovered over 500 tools, stolen from vans.

So please mark your tools either using SmartWater, which is a liquid that is only visible in UV light, or Immobilise.

www.shop.smartwater.com OR www.immobilise.com

Also, take photos of the item, including serial numbers, to ensure you get them back.

IMMOBILISE
THE UK NATIONAL PROPERTY REGISTER



Ask Silver

40% of all crime in the UK is represented by scams & fraud

Have you ever asked yourself, "Should I click on this?" "Could this be a scam?"

Some lovely guys have set up a FREE AI-powered checking tool, if you are unsure.

So, Not all AI is bad.... find out more, visit:-

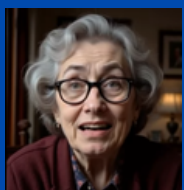
www.ask-silver.com

Danger of Lithium batteries

Fires caused by Lithium batteries are going up 150% year on year, it's important to charge batteries safely.

Top Tips:

- Follow the manufacturer's safety instructions and use the charger that came with the device.
- If you need a replacement charger, choose a genuine product from a supplier you can trust.
- Never cover a charging device or leave it overnight.
- Unplug your device when it's fully charged.
- Avoid covering the device when it's being charged.
- Don't try to tamper or modify a battery pack.
- Don't use a battery pack if it appears to be damaged or malfunctioning.



O2 has created human-like AI Granny to answer calls in real time & keep fraudsters on the phone & away from customers as long as possible.

O2 has today unveiled the newest member of its fraud prevention team, 'Daisy'. As 'Head of Scammer Relations', this state-of-the-art AI Granny's mission is to talk with fraudsters and waste as much of their time as possible with human-like rambling chat to keep them away from real people, while highlighting the need for consumers to stay vigilant as the UK faces a fraud epidemic.

With Daisy revealing how you're not always speaking to the person you think you are, O2 is urging customers to remain vigilant, leave 'scambaiting' to the AI experts and report suspected fraudulent calls and texts for free to 7726

Remain vigilant & help stop fraud, by forwarding any dodgy calls to 7726 for FREE.

STOP BANKING SCAMS

Hang up & Call 159
www.stopscamsuk.org.uk

BANK FRAUD

To subscribe to our mailing list and receive up-to-date communications OR if you wish to become a coordinator in your area, either speak to your local representative (see box below) or, if you require more information, please look at our website or the National NHW website
www.cbnwa.com www.ourwatch.org.uk



Your Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator's details:



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