

Barnes Police Liaison Group Meeting

Thursday 25th September 2025 at the Barnes Day Centre FISH, SW13.

Apologies: Chris Hines, Lynn McInnes (Chair), Cllr. Andy Hale, Cllr Millum, Rachel Skilbeck
Michael Doggart

Attending: PC Darren Meakins, PCSO Morbey, Sgt Hirsch, Tristan McGuinness (Chair/Minutes),
Ann Sullivan, Wendy Kyle-Pope, Grahame Marshall Cllr. Fiona Sacks, Rupert Pongelley.

1. Welcome by Tristan who was covering for the Chair, housekeeping and introduction.
2. Minutes of the last meeting from 12th June 2025 were accepted.
3. Police report, results from previous priorities and current crime figures – Sgt Hirsch.
 - Q - Could the police split the figures on violence to show what happened in the street and in the home? Q - Shoplifting figures are not accurate since they are under-reported.
 - Theft from MV seems to be more of a problem in North Barnes. Theft of MV often linked to burglary as car keys can be taken when home burgled. Lots of other things are going on in the centre of London so numbers wise the police have been affected and keeping police on the ward is a bit of a battle.
 - Burglary - this is the time of year when numbers can rise. Lots of activity on Hammersmith Bridge but these incidents are usually passed onto police in Hammersmith.
 - Cllr Hale did a walkabout with the police in north Barnes particular problem at the moment is at the bus stop next to the new cafe. People are sitting and there has been a bit of trouble and as a result the owner of the new cafe would like the bus stop moved. The cafe owner should be encouraged to report any incidents. There is going to be some work at the top of Merthyr Terrace but there will be no extra seating. The idea is to make improvements to the top of Castlenau.
 - ASB seems to be not as bad and this is possibly because there are cameras around and the police - tends to be neighbours and housing associations.

- There now is a camera in Church Road to deal with the parking scammers. There was also a bit of a problem with the cash machine at Sainsbury's. It has CCTV but this goes directly to the cash machine operator and not to the police.
- There have been reports of rough sleepers in the Leg of Mutton. Spear has an outreach programme, they have been and checked and there was no sign of anyone.

Q. Issues with the bridge - is it on the bridge or on either side?

A. Sgt Hirsch will check with the team in Hammersmith. Usually they email images etc to Barnes police. There are no security guards on the bridge but there are lots of cameras. The images go to Hammersmith police.

Crime Type (Including attempted)	June 2024	July 2024	August 2024	June 2025	July 2025	August 2025
Drugs	5	10	9	0	1	1
Burglary	3	5	2	6	5	4
Robbery	4	0	0	1	0	0
Shoplifting	3	0	0	2	1	1
Theft from Motor Vehicle	5	7	4	10	13	5
Theft of Motor Vehicle	1	4	3	0	1	6
Violence	5	3	7	5	9	4

Violence - Gender (Victim)	June 2025	July 2025	August 2025
Male	3	4	2
Female	2	5	2

(Statistics taken from Met Police Website and Police Connect System)

4. Questions/concerns from the floor.

Q- Safe havens - do we know how much they are being used. Do incidents get reported to the police? If there is no crime but the person feels unsafe then no. Are there stats?

A- It was designed initially for school children 3-6pm. It is making the community work with the community.

5. Ward priorities: Violent crime, suggested by the police. 2 local priorities, selected by the liaison Group. Current ward priorities: Violence, Anti Social Behaviour (ASB), Burglary. Still valid - yes.

6. Confidence questions: Do your residents, visitors and businesses feel safe on the streets of your ward/this borough? Yes but not at night. Did the SNT/Borough police address the concerns raised by the PLG and act on them? Yes. If there was a major incident. Yes.

7. AOB

- Richmond park police - wards that cover the park will be policing the park - Ham and South Richmond. Environmental crime and cyclists are the major problems. It is up to the parks to allocate wardens.
- Q Cllr Sacks - how are we doing in terms of crimes? A Sgt Hirsch we are one of the safest wards in Richmond. Shoplifting - some of the major players have been moved on. Plus the police have spent a lot of time talking to local shops. Some 'players' now have a CBO so they cannot enter Barnes.
- Q Theft from MV - is it visitors or residents? A The police think it seems to be a mixture of both. People are still leaving things on display. It is not a particular area of Barnes. Signage has helped a bit. Theft of MV - high end theft to order. Faraday boxes work to stop thieves from breaking into MV.
- Q There was a spate of people on bikes wearing balaclavas - but we are not seeing them as much atm. NWC letters regarding security - Lynn and SNT have met with them and although they have said they will share info with the police they haven't. Individual security personnel have to be registered with SIA licenced.
- The Laurel Rd/Glebe Rd large security camera has been removed because of residents complaining they were being filmed without their consent and the Council requested its removal.
- Sgt Hirsch, Met Engage is the new contact and it is very easy to sign up. Community Meeting on 16th October at Kew.

Date of next meeting: tbc