

Brixton Town Centre - Neighbourhood Policing Newsletter

Issue: 1 - August 2025

Message from the Inspector

Hello Brixton. I'm Val, the Police Inspector for Brixton Town Centre. I'm very excited to bring you the very first edition of our bi-monthly Brixton Town Centre newsletter. This brand new newsletter is part of our ongoing commitment to improve communication with the community. Each edition will give you an overview of things your local policing team is focusing on including operations, upcoming community events, and ways you can contact the team. Brixton is full of energy, creativity, and resilience, and I want this to be a space where we share our progress, our challenges, and how we can work together to keep our town centre thriving.

Inspector Val Charles



Policing Uplift for Brixton Town Centre

On 31st July, the Metropolitan Police announced a boost in officers dedicated to town centres. Deputy Commissioner Matt Jukes joined our Brixton Town Centre team on patrol, meeting with local businesses and residents. For Brixton, this uplift means growing from our current strength of 1 Sergeant and 8 Constables to 4 Sergeants and 24 Constables. While it will take time to reach the full numbers, we're pleased to confirm that from September we will see an immediate increase of 1 Sergeant and 7 Constables.

Retail Crime Day of Action

On Friday 8th August, local police teamed up with partners to focus on retail crime within the Town Centre. Partners including Lambeth Council, Brixton BID and the Safer Business Network worked with us to patrol, reassure the public and arrest those suspected of retail crime. This resulted in 10 arrests. We were joined by senior officers and a Home Office official, allowing our officers and partners to discuss the challenges faced in the Town Centre.



Live Facial Recognition

On Tuesday 12th August, we held a Live Facial Recognition (LFR) in Brixton. This was the first time that the technology had been used in Brixton. The operation saw a total of 17 people arrested, all of whom were wanted either by the police or courts. This is one of the options available to us to keep Brixton safe.



Positive Policing Outcomes

Three of Brixton's most prolific shoplifters have recently been arrested, charged and remanded by local officers. These shoplifters were heavily targeting many shops within the Town Centre with Boots and Holland & Barrett being repeat targets. Working with store staff and the Brixton BID, we are now applying to the courts for Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs) for all three offenders.

Current Priorities and Initiatives

- **Safer Streets Summer Plan** - High visibility patrols across Brixton Town Centre with a focus on reducing ASB and violent crime.
- **Retail Crime Operations** – Dedicated patrols focusing on those offenders targeting businesses.
- **Problem-Solving Partnership Work** – Working with the Local Authority and local partners to address the sale of counterfeit and stolen goods.

Community Engagement & Upcoming Events

We are running the following drop in surgeries;

Brixton Recreation Centre - 8th September 1200-1300

Brixton Recreation Centre - 30th September 1500-1600

If you know of a venue that would be happy to have us host a drop in surgery, please contact the team (details below). We are committed to finding a range of venues to make these sessions as accessible as possible.

For details on upcoming ward panel meetings, please visit <https://www.met.police.uk/area/your-area/met/lambeth/brixton-windrush/about-us/top-reported-crimes-in-this-area>

Your Local Policing Team

Name	Role	Contact
Valerie Charles	Town Centre Inspector	Valerie.Charles@met.police.uk
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Steven Kernohan	Town Centre Sergeant –Team 2	Steven.Kernohan@met.police.uk
Martha Jacobs	Windrush Ward Sergeant	Martha.Jacobs@met.police.uk

Public Safety Advice

- Be aware of your surroundings and keep valuables secured in busy public spaces.
- Report any suspicious behaviour via 101 or online at www.met.police.uk
- In an emergency, always dial 999
- Feeling unsafe due to environmental issues? Report online at [StreetSafe | Police.uk](https://www.street-safe.co.uk/)
- Report anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111
- Keep up to date on X @LambethMPS

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