



**CAMDENCONNECTED.COM**  
Camden Safer Neighbourhood Board



# **Annual Report**

**2018 - 2019**

Camden Safer Neighbourhood Board  
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## Roy Walker – Chair

**Over 2017 and into 2018 moped-enabled crime reached worryingly high levels. Communities were concerned with the brazen manner in which these young men carried out their robberies. They were also deeply worried about the escalation of the violence used, particularly the increase use of knives and corrosive substances. It had reached such a level that the Community Safety Partnership Board made moped-enabled crime a strategic priority.**

We themed our meeting held on Tuesday 12 June at Pax Lodge in Hampstead on this new priority. We heard from the Police and Council what actions they had been undertaking not only to halt the escalation, but to reduce the overall volume of such crimes. The Police dispelled the myth spread by the media that the Police did not pursue people on scooters when they removed their helmets. Residents were particularly supportive of the Police use of “Tactical Contact” when pursuing mopeds.

By the end of the year we were pleased to note that concerted Partnership operations led to significant month-on-month reductions in moped-enabled crime. By the beginning of 2019 it had reduced to a level that it was no longer a Partnership strategic priority.

With Camden being a central London Borough and home to a number of busy iconic locations, the threat of terrorism is ever present. On Thursday 6 September we held an event at Somers Town Community Centre where we heard from the Met about the likelihood of a terrorism attack, what to look out for and what to do in the event of an attack:

- **RUN:** Escape if you can. If there is a safe route, RUN, if not hide. Insist others go with you. Don't let them slow you down. Leave belongings behind.
- **HIDE:** If you can't run, HIDE. Find cover from gunfire. Be aware of your exits. Try not to get trapped.

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Be quiet, silence your phone.  
Lock/barricade yourself in. Move away from the door.

- **TELL:** Call 999 when you are safe. Location; where are the suspects? Direction; where did you last see the suspects? Descriptions – Numbers, features, weapons etc. Further information – Casualties, type of injury, building information, entrances, exits etc. Can you safely stop others from entering the area?

Throughout the year the CSNB Trustees and members continually raised concerns about young people getting involved in criminal gangs, particularly with regard to drug dealing and the associated use of violence. We were extremely pleased when Camden Council established the Youth Safety Taskforce headed by Councillor Abdul Hai and Sir Keir Starmer MP.

Following extensive community engagement and talking to people working with young people, in October 2018 the Taskforce published an in-depth report of their findings. The report contained 17 recommendations under the headings of Prevent, Identify, Disrupt, Support and Enforce. These findings were backed up with the Youth Safety Fund where schools and Community organisations could apply for two year funding totalling £500,000. Abdul Hai and Keir Starmer presented the report to the CSNB at our event held on Wednesday 28 November at the British Library.

The bedrock of the CSNB is our ward-based Safer Neighbourhoods Panels (SNPs). They hold invaluable knowledge regarding crime and antisocial behaviour in their areas. SNP members constitute the largest group of both our membership and Community Representative Trustees on the CSNB.

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The CSNB is keen to support the continued development of SNPs. To enable this we worked with Camden Police to organise a forum for sharing best practice. The twice-yearly event took place on Monday 14 January, and was open to all SNP Chairs and Vice Chairs. Our final public event of the year was held on Wednesday 27 March at Ort House in Camden Town. This event revisited a ‘Status Dogs’ meeting we held 10 years previous at a time when people were growing concerned about dogs being used as weapons. It was a lively event with over 65 people in attendance. We heard from Camden Dog Hub about their successes in promoting and supporting dog ownership through training, advice and behaviour modification programmes. At that event we were pleased to welcome back Chief Superintendent Raj Kohli as our new Borough Commander.

I would like to thank my fellow Trustees for the time they have invested into the Camden SNB with the aim of making Camden safer; Leon Ellenport, our Vice Chair and Treasurer for his work looking after our finances, plus his work as our Counter Terrorism lead and his work with the London-wide Met Command and Control; my other Vice Chair, Chris Fagg, for leading on the night-time economy and for attending the monthly ‘Partnership afternoons’; John Kilvington, for chairing the Stop and Search Monitoring Group and attending the London-wide Stop and Search Community Monitoring Network. Finally I would like to thank Miles Seaman for producing regular crime reports using the MOPAC dashboard. The simple to understand crime trends Miles produce provide a valuable insight into the direction of travel of crime in the Borough.

## Safer Neighbourhood Board functions

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|---|---|
| 1 Establish policing priorities in the borough;                                 | 6 Play a significant role in Community Payback, whereby young people with minor convictions mitigate their sentences by supervised work in the community; |
| 2 Monitor crime performance and community confidence;                           | 7 Ensure all wards have a ward panel;   |
| 3 Monitor complaints against borough officers;                                  | 8 Oversee the borough Independent Advisory Group;   |
| 4 Hear and monitor complaints from victims of crime                             | 9 Support Neighbourhood Watch;  |
| 5 Provide assurance that a system of independent custody visiting is delivered; | 10 Ensure the stop and search community monitoring function is delivered.   |

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**Leon Ellenport**  
Treasurer's Report 2018/19

**In 2018/19 the Camden Safer Neighbourhood Board received core funding of £5,200 from the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC). This funding contributed towards the day-to-day administrative support of the Camden Safer Neighbourhood Board (CSNB). The CSNB received a further £24,930 project funding from MOPAC giving at total grant £30,130. This was used to organise our programme of public events. Despite making representations to MOPAC about fairer funding for CSNB, they refused to fund the CSNB to the same level as Islington SNB, despite both SNBs coming under Central North Borough Command Unit. Over the past six years Islington SNB has received over £27,000 more than CSNB.**

The loss of £40,000 from Camden Council for 'Safety Views' our quarterly survey undertaken using

Residents from across the Borough had left a gap in our overall budget. Safety Views was an excellent project where residents told us of their crime and antisocial behaviour concerns. We passed the Residents' concerns on to the Police and Council. We then fed back to residents what the authorities had done to address the concerns raised. We were so concerned about the loss of this much appreciated service that our Chair Roy Walker, our Projects Manager Peter Ward and I held a meeting with senior officers from Camden Council in the hope of reinstating this funding. Unfortunately our pleas were unsuccessful. To make matters worse the Council also refused to fund our Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment Focus Groups that we had been running for many years. This was a further loss of £7,000 which meant we had to use £12,520 from our reserves.

We continued to receive £15,500 from the Community Safety Partnership for our Stop and Search work and on a positive note going forward, in 2019/20 the Council has provided £23,500 a year for two years from their Youth Violence Taskforce funding for our Youth Independent Advisors.

We finished 2018/19 with only £25,740 in our reserves. We have faced more challenging financial situations over the past 30 years and I believe we may have turned a corner.

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## Miles Seaman

### Trustee's Lead for Crime Data & Performance

**CSNB has continued to regularly review the statistical data that is available on activities relating to crime in within Camden. To do this the databases and analysis tools made available by MOPAC have been used. The data has comprised breakdown of information for the main categories of crime that have been reported on for the last 10 years and more.** This has been utilised by MOPAC to populate databases which can be analysed using a dynamic software tool called Tableau which enables presentation of the data utilising selected filters so that the data can be analysed on both a geographical and crime type basis. Hence on the occasions when CSNB has met, up to date crime data has been presented utilising the

MOPAC dashboards.

For each CSNB meeting the database has been utilised to present information on issues of significance with respect to public perception. Hence during this year some focus has been put on violent crime and in particular knife crime. The peak witnessed in the previous year and the significant decline was an evident feature of the figures in the database. Some decline in overall and specific Sanctioned Detection rate was also noted.

Some specific data on the volume of Fraud and Forgery in the borough (often the result of 'scams') became available from separate sources which illustrate the fact that this is becoming a major crime concern.

## Sanjoy Mukherjee-Richardson -

### Chair - Camden Independent Advisory Group

In Spring 2018, Camden Independent Advisory Group (IAG) was re-established after a couple of years' hiatus. Using members of the former IAG plus individuals who are representative of the population and communities of Camden we have set ourselves up, agreed a constitution and elected a Chair and two vice-Chairs.

Since then, we have been active in providing advice and guidance to the Police on a range of issues. These include drug dealing in the Camden Town area, hate crime, knife and violent crime and gangs. The advice provided has had a positive impact on the policing of Camden, helping improve public safety.

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## John Kilvington - Stop and Search Monitoring Group

The Monitoring Group has continued to hold the local Police to account for the powers given to them by legislation such as the Police and Criminal Evidence Act. We have looked at both the grounds given for searches and performance statistics around issues such as proportionality, arrest/positive outcome rates and the validity of section 60 notices. Leading on from this work, we have sought answers from senior managers to issues raised, as well as highlighting to them ways in which we believe performance can be improved.

Two principal changes during the year have been:

1. With the increase in searches undertaken over the Met as a whole, Camden has seen a rise from c400 a month to 650-950 a month. This has led to us only being able to assess a sample of grounds for searches.
2. Those who have been vetted by the Police were allowed to watch body-worn videos from searches undertaken in the previous month. The principal benefit from this was the ability to assess the interaction between the Police and subject.



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# Camden Safer Neighbourhood Board Membership

Membership of the CSNB is open to any constituted Camden organisation with a membership of 10 or more people. Groups interested in joining the CSNB can complete an application form on the CSNB website: [www.camdenconnected.com](http://www.camdenconnected.com).

- Age UK Camden
- Belsize Residents Association
- Belsize SNP
- Bengali Workers Association
- Black Disabled Peoples Association
- Bloomsbury SNP
- Buckingham Avenue & Marlborough Mansions NW
- Camden Association of Street Properties
- Camden Federation of Private Tenants
- Camden Independent Advisory Group
- Camden Independent Custody Visitors
- Forum Plus
- Camden People First
- Camden Town DMC
- Camden Town with Primrose Hill SNP
- Cantelowes SNP
- College Place Estate TRA
- Covent Garden Community Association
- Fortune Green SNP
- Frognal & Fitzjohns SNP
- Gospel Oak DMC
- Gospel Oak SNP
- Greater London Authority
- Hampstead DMC
- Hampstead SNP
- Haverstock SNP
- Highgate SNP
- Holborn & Covent Garden SNP
- Independent Federation of Genesis Residents
- Kentish Town DMC
- Kentish Town SNP
- Kilburn SNP
- Kings Cross SNP
- London Borough of Camden
- Queens Crescent Community Association
- Regents Park SNP
- Somali Youth Development Resource Centre
- South Hill Park Neighbourhood Watch
- St Pancras & Somers Town SNP
- Swiss Cottage SNP
- The Caraf Centre
- The Crown Estate Residents' Association
- Victim Support
- West Hampstead Gardens & Residents Association
- West Hampstead SNP

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