

HAMPTON WICK AND SOUTH TEDDINGTON/TEDDINGTON

POLICE LIAISON GROUP

NOTES OF THE MEETING,

Bullen Hall, Hampton Wick, Thursday 16th October 2025

PRESENT: Robert Blakebrough (Chair), Helen Page (Secretary), PS Philip Ross Martyn, PC Lex Powell (Hampton Wick), PCSO Sukhbinder Saini (Teddington), PC Rebecca Ryan (Hampton Wick), PCSO Kitya Silawan, (Teddington), PC Colin Wills (Hampton Wick), PCSO Panduma Munetsi (Hampton Wick), Councillor Richard Baker plus 18 local residents and interested parties.

Apologies from PC Shaun Matthews, PC Amanda Stonehouse, Councillors Robin Brown, Charlie Engel, Jim Millard & Phil Giesler, Mark Buckley, Carol Dukes, Martyn Kingsford.

1. The Chair welcomed everyone and thanked them for participating.
2. Notes of the Meeting Thursday 12th June 2025 were approved.
3. Matters Arising.
 - (1) The Chair asked if there was an update from LBRuT Transport Committee on the consultation process for residents to air their views about Lime bikes. Councillor Richard Baker had not heard anything, but would try and find out what the outcome was.
 - (2) No arrests were made following three linked burglaries/attempted burglaries in King Edward's Grove and Cromwell Road, though there had been no similar crime since. Sgt RossMartyn reminded attendees that those registered with MetEngage would receive updates on progress of crimes. Attendees were urged to close rear gates, especially as winter is approaching.
 - (3) Sgt RossMartyn informed that "Street Briefings" were now happening each month. There are 2 contact points for each ward. The venues are:

Hampton Wick: Amandine café and the skatepark

Teddington: Café Nero and Starbucks.

These are informal meetings where members of the public are encouraged to turn up and talk to the police. Details are on MetEngage and the website.

- (4) There has been success in reducing cycling on the footpath to the rear of Teddington station. New signage, (the words NO CYCLING painted on each of the three entrances to the footpath), has been installed. PC Matthews is vigilant about cycling and has already seized 3 illegal electric bikes. PCSO Saini continues to include the passageway on his beat.
4. Police Matters and Briefing
 - (1) Sgt RossMartyn introduced Panduma Munetsi, Kitya (kitty) Silawan and Rebecca Ryan to the Meeting and was pleased to report that there was now a full complement of 9 staff for the first time in 10 years. PC Matthews was unable to attend. PC Ryan has transferred from The Royal Parks, which is being disbanded. PCSO Silawan will be joining the Teddington ward in November. She was previously based in Shepherds Bush. PCSO Munetsi joined in July, transferring from Lewisham and Bexley. The policy is to have more front-line staff, though numbers for the Met, as

a whole, are shrinking. Although the teams are now larger, they are required to pick up more tasks, including the parks, licencing and anti-social behaviour.

- (2) 17 people have been arrested over the last 3 months for crimes such as drink driving, wanted on warrant and stolen goods. There have been 7 ASB orders, 1 closure order of an address in Teddington, 5 stop and search, and several bicycle/electric bike offences. There are 49 active investigations. There have been a lot of abstractions (where staff are sent to support another borough) especially for central London demonstrations and the Notting Hill Carnival.
- (3) 2 youths who had been disruptive around Teddington School have been given rehabilitation orders, due to their vulnerability. With this support they are doing well and there has been a reduction in drug-related crime.
- (4) Due to police being nearby, on the beat, a mugger with a knife was arrested at Hampton Wick station. This resulted in a conviction.
- (5) PS RossMartyn presented a graph (attached) showing the low level of shoplifting for Hampton Wick & South Teddington, compared with other wards, in particular S Richmond. He again thanked Peter van der Kooy, for his work in compiling and presenting the statistics.
- (6) The Chair referred to a letter from the MPS commissioner, Sir Mark Rowley, outlining the policy for future policing by the MPS for London (attached). There will be a public meeting on the proposed strategy on 15th December 2025, though the venue has not yet been advertised. Attendees were encouraged to attend to air views, particularly as the Assistant Commissioner is expected to be at the Meeting.
- (7) Sgt RossMartyn advised that MPS staff are as upset as the public about the closure of front desks in police stations. An article giving more information is available at

<https://news.met.police.uk/news/met-police-progress-in-closing-ps260m-funding-gap-502211>

It is titled **Met Police progress in closing £260m funding gap** and was issued 16th October.

In future, Kingston will be the nearest station open. Only 2 counters offering 24 hour service will remain in London – Charing Cross and Lewisham. The police prefer to be going out to meet people to discuss complaints rather than people coming to them. There is now a dedicated response car for making visits.

5. Matters Raised by the Public

- (1) Sgt RossMartyn was asked to summarise the staff and which ward they work in:

Hampton Wick & South Teddington: PC Colin Wills, PC Lex Powell, PC Rebecca Ryan, PCSO Panduma Munetsi

Teddington: PC Shaun Matthews, PC Amanda Stonehouse, PCSO Sukhbinder Saini, PCSO Kitiya Silawan

All staff start their shift at Twickenham, where they collect their equipment and are briefed. Sgt Ross Martyn asked if members would like to hear about how policing works in practice. There was agreement it would be interesting, so it may be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

- (2) With the loss of front desks, how will people be able to report crimes in person, especially if a phone has been stolen? One attendee had recently been to Kingston police station, where the

member of staff seemed overworked, there was a long queue and the place did not seem fit for purpose. There are still alternative ways of reporting crime. In addition, there are Safe Spaces, such as the one at Richmond station on Friday evenings. There is also the Ask for Angela scheme where those who feel unsafe, vulnerable or threatened, particularly in bars and pubs, can ask staff for help. More details on MPS website

- (3) Electric bikes, particularly delivery bikes, speed from Kingston through Hampton Wick. Unfortunately, many of these cyclists are under 18, so cannot be fined. Dealing with them is resource intensive, so they cannot be prioritised. Bikes, however, can be confiscated and destroyed. The shared cycle/pedestrian pavement on the Hampton Wick Side of Kingston Bridge is a hazard. Better signage would help. This will be referred to Councillor Millard/Councillor Ehman. Poor signage at the same roundabout causes cars to end up in the wrong lane, cutting others up and causing accidents.
- (4) A person was seen photographing all the houses in a street. The police were asked what they might do? Although not an emergency, it should still be reported, preferably via MetEngage. .
- (5) One person was concerned that local shops are reluctant to report crime and security staff do little. Sgt RossMartyn replied that staff are told not to put themselves in danger by confronting shoplifters, but to pass on any CCTV footage to the police. Although MPS Officers badger the shops for CCTV footage, they are not always successful. Local PCs and PCSOs are aware of frequent shoplifting offenders. It is not uncommon for shoplifting offenders to have other behaviour orders, so officers are able to track them down. There was a policy of not following up thefts under the value of £250, but this is being reviewed, particularly as some shops have lost faith in the police and judicial system. This needs rebuilding. If someone sees a crime being committed out of borough, they should still report. The local police will pass on to the relevant team.

6. Questions and Discussion

- (1) The suggestion to hold a PLG meeting on a Saturday has not yet happened as Elleray Hall is still under construction and St Mary with St Alban, Mina Hogan Room cannot accommodate a Saturday meeting. It would be best to pilot a Saturday, (morning ?), meeting in winter, when people are reluctant to go out on dark evenings, therefore the proposed Saturday meeting will be scheduled for the next winter meeting, which will be in 2026.

7. Priorities for next four months

The main priorities continue to be burglary, shoplifting, and anti-social behaviour, (ASB).

Date and time of Next meeting: 7:30 pm on Thursday 5th March 2026, St Mary and St Alban, Teddington

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