

HAMPTON WICK AND SOUTH TEDDINGTON/TEDDINGTON

POLICE LIAISON GROUP

NOTES OF THE MEETING,

Bullen Hall, Hampton Wick, 25th June 2026

PRESENT: Robert Blakebrough (Chair), Helen Page (Secretary), PS Philip Ross Martyn, PC Lex Powell (Hampton Wick), PC Rebecca Ryan (Hampton Wick), PCSO Panduma Munetsi (Hampton Wick), Councillors Phil Giesler and Charlie Engel plus 15 local residents and interested parties.

Apologies from PCSO Kitya Silawan, (Teddington), PCSO Sukhbinder Saini (Teddington), PC Shaun Matthews (Teddington), PC Amanda Stonehouse (Teddington), PC Colin Wills, (Hampton Wick), Councillor Jim Millard

1. The Chair welcomed everyone and thanked them for participating.
2. Notes of the Meeting Thursday 5th March 2026 were approved.
3. Matters Arising.
 - (1) Councillor Richard Giesler gave an update about Lime bikes. They have been superseded by Forest, on the same basis. Parking behaviour and rates of cycle collection by the operator are being monitored. Sgt RossMartyn said that leaving a cycle on the carriageway or footpath is not a criminal offence. A comment was made about speeding delivery bikes, but there has only been one reported incident, unlike other boroughs, where bikes are regularly used for phone theft. Sgt RossMartyn aims to schedule 1 day per 5 weeks to monitor bike crime and usage. He will report back at the next meeting. He has footage which he will share with the Secretary. The Met is rolling out the use of drones to track offenders, which is effective and safer than giving chase. Councillor Giesler will ask the Council Leader to raise the subject at the next London Mayor's question time.
 - (2) The "Cuppa with a Copper" fortnightly meeting continues to be popular, so much so that the venues have been changed to cope. The venues are now:

Hampton Wick: Lion pub and the skate park

Teddington: Café Nero and Elleray Hall

The times and locations for these meetings are publicised in the venues themselves and on Met Engage and the Met Police website.
 - (3) Following the walk and talk in Crane Park aimed at raising awareness of violence against women and girls (VAWG), Cllr. Giesler is still planning to promote a similar walk in Bushy Park/Home Park with LBRuT Community Safety Officer
 - (4) The empty factory in Vicarage Road is being redeveloped into flats, which reduces the risk of anti-social behaviour. There is a second building next door which is also empty, but the police have not received any complaints about it.
 - (5) Problems at the junction at the West of Kingston Bridge are ongoing: there is confusion about pedestrian and cyclists' rights of way. The area will be included in the cycle usage monitoring exercises.

4. Police Matters and Briefing

- (1) Sgt. RossMartyn provided statistics, generated by AI, showing a positive decline in crime in the 2 wards over the last year and 10 years, (attached). This covers the basket of 10 crime categories, by which the ward is measured. Attendees were satisfied with the simple format, which was clear. When asked for the reason in improvement, Sgt RossMartyn replied that it was partly due to restructuring and deploying more staff away from desk bound work. He is proud of the dedication and hard work of the SNTs and one has been nominated for a Commander's award
- (2) Since the last meeting, 7 arrests have been made and 29 investigations are underway. Crime continues to reduce. An attendee asked if this is because people are reluctant to report crime. Sgt RossMartyn felt that MetEngage had increased public confidence which in turn increases the likelihood of reporting.
- (3) The use of decoy bicycles to track theft had been successful and has reduced bike crime, to the point where one decoy cycle, left outside in Teddington, was never stolen.
- (4) Although there is no longer a dedicated police presence at Teddington School, they carry out high visibility patrols at the end of the school day. Anti-social behaviour tends to be limited to a small number, already known to the police and who are actively managed. They work with Youth offending Teams to try and prevent any escalation.
- (5) Attendees were reminded to sign up to MetEngage, to receive update about crime matters and upcoming events.
- (6) Sgt. RossMartyn and the SNTs have some contact details for Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinaters in the two wards and they will work with The Secretary to add them to the circulation list for notice of the PLG Meetings.

5. Matters Raised by the Public

- (1) An update was requested on shoplifting from Sainsbury's, Hampton Wick. PC Lex Powell checks with the staff on a regular basis. The main problem is low-level shoplifting by schoolchildren. There is less of a problem than had been anticipated.
- (2) An attendee asked if there was any update on the break-ins at Mario's café in The Kings Field, Hampton Wick. This is ongoing, but local residents, whose property overlooks the park, have offered to install CCTV.
- (3) A deer was seen attacking a walker and his dog in the park. The Chair asked how the parks are policed. PC Rebecca Ryan, who previously worked for the Parks Police, replied that they do not have a dedicated Safer Neighbourhood Team. However, they drive through the park regularly and monitor behaviour. They also rely on volunteer rangers, who do not have any official powers themselves, but will report anything suspicious. The ward has expanded its duties to cover the work previously done by the Parks Police, including anti-social behaviour. It even extends to checking fishing licences.
- (4) A question was asked about any changes in the number of reported violent offences against young women and girls, with particular reference to local schools and in the hours 1500-1800hrs. Sgt RossMartyn had nothing specific to report except that cases of

domestic abuse are referred to specialist services. The numbers are low, helped by the good relationship with local schools.

- (5) A catalytic converter was stolen from a car some time back and a question was asked whether there had been any reoccurrences. PC Lex Powell confirmed there had been no further instances. Anyone who is concerned about theft of their catalytic convertor can get their convertor "tagged". Instances of theft of catalytic convertors have practically evaporated as a result of measures put in place by the Police and Authorities.
- (6) Teenagers' jumping off the bridge at Teddington Lock is a particular problem during hot weather. Despite a multi-agency approach over the last 10 years little has been achieved. The Police are not allowed to get physically involved in case someone falls in the water during an attempt to stop them jumping. Following a fatality at Tagg's Island there has been a campaign to increase awareness in schools. Jumping into the Thames is not a crime.
- (7) It was suggested that a short talk about the different departments of The Met e.g. uniformed vs non-uniformed staff, would be of interest. Sgt Ross Martyn agreed to look into this for a future meeting and would try and find a suitable speaker.

6. Targets remain the same for the next 3 months: burglary, shoplifting and ASB, including bike crime.

7. Next Meeting – Thursday 15th October, 7.30, at Elleray Hall, Teddington

N.B. Contact information

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