



**RICHMOND SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD BOARD AGM & MEETING**

**Thursday 26 March 2026 starting at 6.30pm**

**Salon Room, York House, Twickenham**

**MINUTES**

<b>SNB MEMBERS ATTENDING</b>	<b>REPRESENTING</b>
RM Roger Metcalfe	Chair SNB and Met CC lead
PF Pam Fleming	Vice Chair SNB
PBS Peter Burrows-Smith	PLG Chair / Hate Crime / Royal Parks Link
CA Carole Atkinson MBE	Hampton Hill Association and S&S CMG
WKP Wendy Kyrle-Pope	MPS Link Advisor & LCP2, IAG Richmond, IAG Frontline Policing
JM John Murray	NHW Hamptons/Met Volunteer/PLG Chair
AJ Anne Johnstone BEM	PLG Chair Mortlake & Barnes Common / Met Vol.
MA Mike Adams	SNB Treasurer
MS Martin Sands	SNB
Cllr L Pollesche	Community
Cllr N Crookdake	Mortlake & Barnes Common Ward
JT John Turner	SNB
ZC Zara Chambers	SNB
CB Claire Bethel	SNB Advisor
AC Avril Coelho	Business
Pam McMillen	Meeting Secretary

<b>POLICE ATTENDING</b>	<b>REPRESENTING</b>
CK Superintendent Craig Knight	Superintendent Richmond Neighbourhoods, SW BCU
CJ Inspector Chris Jackson	Inspector Richmond Neighbourhoods, SW BCU

<b>COUNCIL OFFICERS and COUNCILLORS ATTENDING</b>	<b>REPRESENTING</b>
LS Lee Spear	Community Safety Service, LBRUT

Cllr Paddy Griffith	Richmond South
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<b>ORGANISATIONS / PUBLIC</b>	<b>REPRESENTING</b>
JTE John T Evans	PLG Chair Whitton & Heathfield
RB Robert Blakebrough	PLG Chair Teddington
MM Maria Margiotta	PLG Chair St Margarets & N Twickenham

<b>APOLOGIES</b>	<b>REPRESENTING</b>
RA Ravi Arora	Multi-Cultural Richmond
JM Insp Jon McLoughlin	Inspector Richmond Neighbourhoods, SW BCU
John Dodds	PLG Chair N Richmond
Ray Williams	PLG Chair West & South Twickenham
Eric Owusu	Business / S&S
JL Jock Lennox	PLG Chair S Richmond
Garvin Snell	Re-NGAGE
Prof Maria Mellins	VAWG

### **1. Welcome and Apologies**

Roger Metcalfe welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the AGM and meeting. There are 5 prospective members up for election, everyone else on a 3 year term, so not up for election this time, but in 2 years' time. All 5 prospective members have signed up to the terms of election, and confirmed sharing of contact details.

RM invited the nominees to say a few words to the meeting.

RM thanked JT for his words and his experience as a Chair of the Kingston SNB. MS has been on the SNB since 2014 and described his experience gained through his roles over the years. RM talked about counter terrorism and Prevent, and will send his notes to MS.

PBS asked are the new nominees representing any particular area? RM no they will be general members, while Garvin Snell is working on Re-NGAGE.

WKP praised Eric Owusu for his input with S&S, and is happy he will be carrying on with this.

RM – Professor Maria Mellins has asked to change role and become an advisor, and RM is very happy that ZC will be able to help contribute on VAWG.

RM handed over the Chair to Lee Spear, who then chaired the voting process for the following 5 nominees:

Zara Chambers

Eric Owusu

Martin Sands

Garvin Snell

John Turner

**Vote was taken on voting papers by everyone and collected in and counted by Lee Spear. Results:**

**All nominees unanimously voted in**

Cllr NC – expressed vote of thanks for all the work done by the SNB over the years, she is standing down from the SNB, so meeting expressed its thanks to her.

### **SNB Meeting:**

#### **1. Apologies were noted**

#### **2. Minutes of the last meeting and Matters Arising (22.1.26)**

These were approved as being a true record and would be placed on the Council website. Proposed by JM; Seconded by AC.

There were no Matters Arising.

#### **3. Chairman's Update & Guidance:**

Chairman's Update including:

- Supporting the PLGs and Ward Panels
- Relationship with MPS SNT

Very important to meet SNT quarterly, thank you to the police.

- Governance of SNBs – changes
- PLG Handbook: Retitle to 'SNB Handbook Incorporating Guidance for PLGs' – Update

**Very important please review and read the draft SNB handbook** as it has several changes including changing the role of the SNB. RM has asked PLG Chairs to comment and provide feedback on it, what is missing, is it helpful etc, wants it to be an agile document.

RM there is a lot of uncertainty re MOPAC, who claim to be short of funds, there were several announcements re funding in December. RM and SNB had to look at how to support the SNB, we can carry on while new arrangements are put in place. SNB is

resilient, thank you to CB for help and advice. RM in last week, LCP2 have been lobbying with police and MOPAC and a year's grace has been established.

WKP – will update later re Scrutiny and Advice, had a meeting yesterday with MOPAC, Kenny Bower, which was productive.

RM plans to not overload SNB members with too many updates. Lots of exciting opportunities and events coming up.

PBS – at CSP mentioned that Davina Smith has moved to MOPAC.

#### **4. Projects update: MA**

(Please see the attached document for the Treasurer Report 2025/26)

Q: WKP asked if the police would be running a Met in the Park event this year as it is very popular. CK made a note to look into this.

PBS – now have to pay out all funds by 31 March, previously could have a commitment to spend.

LS – confirmed council will follow the previous system of fund release.

RM – thanks to MA, very big job to manage everything, would anyone like to assist and help MA? RM – Re-engage is a great project, would be good to have some people help with these projects, please let MA and RM know if you are interested.

MA – looking at expanding the council webpages with LS – would anyone like to help with the web pages?

RM – looking at doing more public facing events, proposal for a large public event on 8 October, looking at doing it with CSP and police. Again help will be needed with this.

#### **5. Police Performance Report Q4 (see MPS presentation slides with SNB slide deck)**

CK presented the figures.

Key points:

- Residential burglary risen by 1% during last 12 months, CK is writing a performance schedule to get this figure down.
- Total notifiable offences figures down by 4%
- ASB up by 9%
- Non-residential burglaries (shops, cafes) 73 offences past 3 months
- Decrease in personal robbery
- Theft of and from MV both down

- Commercial robbery (shops) risen in line with shoplifting offences down compared to last year – good news
- Decrease in shoplifting in last 3 months – to be a focus for police.
- Violence with injury decrease from winter figures.
- VAWG increase of 10%. Police Action: Weekly One Stop Shop, Uni Safe café every 2 weeks, extra patrols, Safe Space in Richmond. Getting better at understanding this, ward teams have access to new figures going back 10 years.
- CSE, Rape figures are up – police priority. Much improved.
- Personal robbery – down 25% compared to previous year. Home office funding for additional patrols of hotspots eg Richmond Town Centre.
- Knife crime is down.
- S&S – positive outcomes. Majority 18 yrs plus
- Possession of weapons 51 offences recorded increase of 24 % for 12 months.

## **6. Community Monitoring Group Update**

CA – Community S&S Chairs cancelled meeting in Sept due to lack of MOPAC support. Remit re community engagement, S&S etc but at the meeting this was disregarded. A new meeting is to be set up, to view body worn camera. Very few issues come up.

## **7. Police Trust and Confidence Report**

This was down slightly across all London Boroughs. Richmond is tracking London figures. Figures are influenced by use of resources, abstractions, news etc. CK target is 80% for Richmond, currently at 77%. CK looks at key local questions to see what change can be effected. Other surveys are used as well, eg victim surveys, biggest impact is how people are treated.

Q: RB – where does VAWG happen in Borough? CK happens all over the Borough, 3 types, in home, domestic, ie victims know each other, public spaces, managed spaces (eg train platforms, pubs etc). Most happens between 3-6pm, girls 13-18 travelling to school.

AC – will Wave training be refreshed? CK – needs to look into this.

RB – is success in reduction of shoplifting and MV theft, down to removing prolific offenders? CK – improved crime prevention for MV, re shoplifting more shops are taking measures and working with police, also police targeting prolific offenders.

RM – new technology is helping with this.

MS – Is Richmond part of the county lines drug issue? CK – yes it is an issue for Richmond, it affects every Borough. Need to protect and educate young people,

consider vulnerable people, consider the home and street based drug market that fuels this. Police work with agencies, aim not to criminalise young people.

MM – what are police doing about a series of commercial burglaries in St Margarets last year? CK classification of burglary has changed. Figures are low, focus on specific areas, take it seriously.

#### SW BCU Response

I calls, within 15 mins – Richmond response is improving

S calls, within an hour, figures are improving

### **8. Community Monitoring Group Update CA/WKP**

STOP AND SEARCH FIGURES FOR LB RICHMOND FEBRUARY 2025- FEBRUARY 2026

Between February 2025 and 2026 there were 774 searches. ( a very low number; most London boroughs conduct as many in a month)

Broken down by age:

10-13 36

14-17. 176. (22%)

18-24. 194 (25%)

25-29. 84

30-34. 56

35-39. 71

40-45. 71

45+. 79

And by ethnicity

White. 493 (65%)

Black 136 (18%)

Asian 81 (11%)

Not stated 35

Other 29

The London Borough of Richmond's demographic profile according to the 2021 Census are as follows:

White 80.5%

Black 1.97%

Asian 8.9%

Mixed 5.5%

Other 3.3%

Based on the above, at first site it does look as if stops and searches of black and Asian people are disproportionate.

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However, these figures relate to the resident population, without taking in account the street population, those who come into the borough for education, employment, business and pleasure. If we could measure this street population, the disproportionality would shrink.

The simplest ways to gauge the street population are as follows:

Ask the secondary schools, colleges and universities for a break down of the total number of pupils, their ethnicity and whether they live on the borough or outside

Ask any major employers for similar statistics (unlikely to work)

Or

Simply count the different ethnicities coming into the borough by rail or bus at the transport hubs. The most effective time is between 7.45 and 9.15 during term time.

Eric Owusu added:

On the street population point, a short, time-limited exercise could explore whether stop and search disproportionality differs when considering street population rather than resident data, using simple observational sampling at key entry points (e.g. Richmond and Twickenham stations and a bus hub) across a few time periods, and comparing this with MPS stop and search data and Census figures, if that would be of interest.

We have done this some years ago and it was very useful in assessing attitudes to S&S and also a good community engagement exercise. Eric has provided a list of questions for such a project

From the meeting:

WKP - PC Dean Smith is to be commended for his good work on this, professional and a pleasure to work with.

WKP explained how the Scrutiny team works. 194 stops this year, so WKP reviewed them in a random selection, 4 people were white men 42years. Will be doing a deep dive.

1<sup>st</sup> stop was a female, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> a homeless man, same person did have a disability lanyard, 4<sup>th</sup> stop go wisely was given, person refused to be searched, another car had to be called and situation deteriorated. S&S carried out correctly and with respect in all cases. See slide for demographic breakdown, Richmond is very low for S&S. Lots of youngsters stopped, as it is a safe borough and parents let children out. Highest age group 14-17. Question re demographic profile, WKP has used census data, but majority of people stopped are not from Borough.

WKP would like to do a count of residents and outsiders going to college and St Marys, and get new figures. Also can do a count at the station to measure people coming in, but need help to do this. Need people to join the S&S SNB team.

CA – in Richmond we stop 774, London Boroughs are stopping thousands a year.

## **The Future:**

CA had attended a Community Scrutiny Transformation Programme meeting for volunteers held by MOPAC. Scrutiny, one of the three police/community activities of scrutiny, advisory and engagement would come under a new structure. At this meeting it was announced that each borough would have a community scrutiny panel which would under a pan London scrutiny panel managed by an Executive. A Community Reference Group would keep an eye on this. The scrutiny would be locally driven but centrally owned. Scrutiny scope comprised Stop Search Community Monitoring Groups, Police Encounter Panels and Independent Custody Visitors. SNBs, SNPs, IAGs and some other activities were outside this arm. The implication of this is that SSCMGs will be subsumed into the borough Community Scrutiny Panels. The timescale for this is any time in the next two years with two years being the proposed deadline. A detailed programme of boroughs would be issued after the elections in May.

CA – asked when will happen – 2 years, in a particular order of Boroughs which will happen after the elections. What support and training will volunteers get?

WKP – new scrutiny boards will be independent of other organisations.

ZC – suggestion re talking to youth workers? WKP could go out and talk to youth workers, train them in S&S procedures, facial recog, tasers etc. CA to send a report to ZC.

Q: Is disproportionality tracking through to outcomes? CK go to the Met website and visit S&S webpages for full info.

Q: what number of S&S are of non-residents? CK – those figures are not available

PBS – East Sheen worst ward shown for S&S.

## **9. Borough Level Assessment, Review / Setting of Priorities**

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

Burglary

Anti Social Behaviour (ASB)

Commercial theft (added)

(Priorities kept the same as in January)

## **10. Crime Prevention including Scams & Frauds - John Murray**

### **SCAM STATEMENT FOR 26th MARCH 2026 SNB MEETING**

I usually start this statement by giving you the amounts lost in scams for the previous month but sadly these figures are no longer published. However if you estimated £800k

per month lost I don't think you would be far wrong, and this is just reported crime in Richmond.

Please keep thinking about what happens – always be suspicious. Fraudsters are getting cleverer and more sophisticated. This is not new but If you answer an unknown telephone number and engage with the caller your voice can be cloned and used by scammers to impersonate you with your bank, friends etc!

However the Met are recruiting more cyber champions and I have also been working with the Met's cybercrime unit who can come and talk to larger groups in the same way I do. Please ask me if you belong to a club, group, society or guild and would like a presentation! I always work with the ward team and the cybercrime unit where the latter is possible. Also with Trading Standards.

#### REPORT FROM CHRIS WALDEN FOR THE LAST YEAR TO MARCH 2026.

#### PRESENTED TO THE SNB MARCH MEETING BY JOHN MURRAY.

Home security surveys completed 40

Fairs attended 10

Talks to groups/meetings 11

Days putting up signs NHW 4

In addition I researched and compiled a report on Jamming of alarm systems, but whilst this caused widespread panic early in the year it soon faded to nothing.

So far this year we have had a spate of burglaries in Twickenham which is keeping me busy this month and probably into the next and I have a meeting scheduled with a very active Neighbourhood watch group next Saturday to give a talk on burglary prevention followed by organising at least 10 home surveys. In addition I have all the known fairs in my diary for this year.

Recently the Met were looking for 'cyber crime champions' and JM has signed up.

Please note, JM will come and do special talks to community groups re scams.

WKP is cyber crime the biggest crime? CK – yes 40%.

MS – banks are increasing what you can spend on cards without using the pin number, will increase fraud rates.

#### **11. Hate Crime Update and plan for Event 2026**

- With the Middle East conflict, the UK situation is getting confused as there are many strands of hate in the country.

- Originally mainly antisemitic, hate then developed recently into anti-Muslim and there are also now many strands of geo-political activity.
- World is more divisive, especially in politics.
- Situation in UK exacerbated by free speech, and demonstration, principles.
- The Met has a particularly difficult role balancing UK principles with operational realities, as evidenced by their request to ban the al-Quds march in London on 15 March.
- Incidents still light in Richmond, but could spark off at any time.

## **12. Any Other Business (including pre-submitted questions)**

### **Issues elevated to SNB by PLG Chairs**

South & West Twickenham PLG Chair had written in on behalf of a resident about bike riding on pavements by children and adults. The resident has requested the council put a piece in the council newsletter re a reminder to be considerate and respectful when cycling and remind people of the rules about riding on pavements. Can the council follow this up? Article in council newsletter / leaflets to give out to educate people caught riding on pavements?

CK said there can be a strategy re bike riding, design out riding on pavements etc

LS – to take this back to council comms team

**ACTION LS/CSP**

AC – what would happen if someone suffering with epilepsy was riding a bike on the pavement? CK it is a good defence. Officers usually advise when stopping people.

JM – Lime bikes contract coming to an end, Forest bikes are taking over the contract.

JTE – Chair for over 20 years of PLG, trust and confidence on his ward is highly valued and PCSOs are much appreciated.

ZC – what are police team doing re Adultification bias in S&S? CK – adultification bias is a real issue, takes place in basic training. ZC to share a project that is working on and a video being made with CK.

### **13. Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 9 July 2026 at 7pm, York House, Twickenham

### **14. Close of Meeting**

RM closed meeting at 9.00pm.

Please note the new e mail address for RM as Chair SNB: [richmondsnbchair@gmail.com](mailto:richmondsnbchair@gmail.com)