



**Lewisham Safer Neighbourhood Board
Minutes**

Tuesday 14th January 2020 – 7.00pm

Council Chambers

Tayo Prince- Chair	The Tabernacle
Gary Connors	London Borough of Lewisham
James Mitchell- Vice Chair	Independent Customer Visitor
Cllr Brenda Dacres	Cabinet Member for Community Safety
Funmi Ademilua	The Good Samaritan Foundation
Joe Burchell	Bromley and Lewisham Synagogue
Trinity Ashon	SLCS
Royston John	NCBI
Inspector Benn Pollard	Lewisham Police

8 members of the public were also in attendance.

	Item	Actions
1.	<p>Chair's Welcome: Tayo Prince</p> <p>Tayo welcomed those in attendance and thanked them for coming, especially because of the poor weather.</p>	
2.	<p>Apologies & Note of Absence</p> <p>Susan Hailes, Jackie Addison and Shalena Haughton-Peters.</p>	Information
3.	<p>Minutes of last meeting – September 2019</p> <p>No issues were mentioned and the minutes were agreed.</p>	

4.	<p>Community Safety Workshop</p> <p>Contributions from officers from Lewisham Council:</p> <p>Tayo and Gary introduced Caroline Dart and explained the work the council is carrying out in the community.</p> <p>Caroline spoke about Lewisham's public health approach to reducing violence.</p> <p>She spoke about the work the council is doing with an organisation called Mutual Gain, and explained about the work that is being done at the World Cafe.</p> <p>Caroline then spoke about the work that's been done since the showcase World Cafe event, and the work that is planned.</p> <p>Those in attendance then broke into two groups and were tasked with asking questions related to violence.</p> <p>The first topic asked those in attendance to write down what they thought about violence in Lewisham. The responses tended to focus on youth violence, with the word trauma being used by attendees too. It was also mentioned that there was a fear of violence, and that it has been heightened.</p> <p>The second topic asked the attendees why they thought they had violence in Lewisham. The responses included a lack of police presence on the streets and a lack of facilities for young people.</p> <p>A common response was the issue of low-income families. It was mentioned that this is because of a lack of opportunities, including opportunities at good schools and the opportunities for employment.</p> <p>It was also mentioned that an unemployed parent would usually mean a lack of intellectual stimulation for children and an employed (and busy) parent might also mean that children are being left alone after school.</p> <p>It was also mentioned that violent video games have a negative impact on children, who then grow up desensitised to violence.</p> <p>The next topic asked what the community could do to reduce violence.</p> <p>The responses included the use of mentoring for those at risk of being involved in violence. Another attendee</p>	
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	<p>mentioned involving those people that deal with the injuries related to violence.</p> <p>Another attendee mentioned the council's role within the business community, to promote jobs and opportunity in Lewisham.</p> <p>One other person said that the perpetrator should be made to think about the impact of their crime, possibly by being made to attend the funeral of the person they killed.</p> <p>Other responses also mentioned included the importance of teaching the media about bias reporting of ethnic minorities, and the importance of people respecting their area.</p> <p>Gary summarised the session by explaining that there will be additional sessions held across the Borough. He said that the sessions would be held until around the summer.</p> <p>One resident mentioned that he would be interested in Caroline coming to his organisation to run the workshop with their members.</p>	<p>Caroline agreed to make contact with the organisation so she can speak to their members.</p>
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<p>5.</p>	<p>Police Update</p> <p>Inspector Benn Pollard introduced a presentation relating to local policing.</p> <p>He explained that offences including violence with injury have increased, and spoke about potential causes for this.</p> <p>Benn explained that the police have issued 500 smart water kits by running a series of events throughout December. He said that the use of these kits have, in the past, reduced offences, so that should be the case moving forward.</p> <p>He then spoke about the Met’s Winter Nights operation, and the results from it, including the kinds of weapons seized including knuckle dusters and zombie knives.</p> <p>Benn then spoke about Operation Skywalker, which involves working with licenced premises to deal with drug issues and related anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>He then explained about Project Servator, which aims to deter, detect and disrupt a range of criminal activity. He said that these officers were trained to spot the signs of someone planning to commit a crime.</p> <p>Benn then spoke about Makepeace, which are sessions that take place at youth groups, schools and pupil referral units. One resident then asked about whether this could be extended to faith groups within Lewisham. Benn said there shouldn’t be a reason why this could not be extended to faith groups.</p> <p>For those interested in Makepeace, please visit https://www.met.police.uk/makepeace</p> <p>He also explained about a new communications platform, called Neo, that will be going live.</p> <p>One member of the public asked if Youth First has involvement in the Board, and it was noted that they usually attend these meetings and are involved in the Board.</p> <p>Another member of the public asked if there were any Smart Water kits. Benn said there were, and that he would, for future meetings, bring kits and other community prevention literature.</p> <p>A couple of residents raised the story about the cannabis factory, and Benn gave some information about this.</p>	<p>Benn Pollard agreed to send the details about Makepeace to Ben, so that a link could be added to these minutes.</p> <p>Benn also agreed to send the details of Neo to Ben so that it could be circulated once it has gone live.</p> <p>Benn agreed to bring smart water kits and literature to future meetings.</p>
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	James asked for more information about the results of the Winter Nights operation, and Benn explained.	
6.	<p>AOB</p> <p>Joe Burchell mentioned the next Lewisham Faith Walk, which will be held on Sunday 7th June.</p> <p>Tayo mentioned that the applications for MOPAC funding would be opened now. She said that anyone interested in applying, or being part of the bid panel, could email the Board to get involved.</p> <p>She also said that if anyone would like to apply for MOPAC funding, but needs support, that they should contact the Board and they will aim to organise a support session.</p> <p>It was mentioned that the date for the Public Meeting in June should be moved because of a potential conflict with the football championships. Tayo agreed to discuss this with board members.</p>	
7.	<p>Date of Next Meetings</p> <p>3rd March 16th June</p>	