



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

Central South BCU (Lambeth and Southwark) Partner Message – 25 June 2021

Dear all,

We've been busy over the past week since I last wrote to you, not just tackling crime but also ensuring we had an appropriate policing response to manage the challenges brought on by huge numbers of Euro football fans who came to the capital despite advice to stay away.

At the end of last week we also made an urgent call on London's communities to help us stop violence taking more young lives this summer and I'd like to reiterate that in today's message to you.

Serious violence offences have declined by 22% over the past year and overall the murder rate is down. However, very sadly and of deep concern, we have seen an increase in the murder of young people, with 17 teenagers having already lost their lives this year and 17 families traumatised by the loss of their loved one to senseless violence.

Every single murder is a tragedy, but they are not spread evenly either geographically or by age and ethnicity. Of these young victims, more than two thirds (12) are Black and 15 were killed with a knife. We are extremely concerned about this and are calling on every Londoner to play their part to prevent further needless killings.

We have a large scale, multi-layered operation over the summer to suppress violence as much as we can. The public can expect to see more officers on the streets and more police patrolling open spaces, parks, bars and clubs.

In addition to getting justice for victims, some of the proactive work includes:

- **Summer Nights-** Each of the local policing areas across London are producing bespoke plans to address local issues where officers will work to prevent violence and to encourage communities to take action.

- • Focused **robbery operations** across hotspot areas will use motorcycles to respond to incidents and target offenders using e-scooters and mopeds to cause violence.

- • **Surge activity** is overt policing visibility, reassurance and engagement in areas known for serious violence and gang activity. These teams consist of the Violence Crime Taskforce, Dogs Support Unit, Territorial Support Group, and Roads and Transport Policing Command.
- • **Operation Pandilla** is our Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) work with partners across the south east region to disrupt county lines and violence.
- • **Operation Gallion** - Intelligence led patrols at a local level with the aim to prevent gun crime discharges.
- • The introduction of the **Knife Crime Prevention Orders** pilot is intended to be preventative rather than punitive and will enable the police and partner agencies to intervene and prevent knife enabled violence.

- At the same time we are working in **schools** and with the Violence Reduction Unit to prevent crime

Whilst the police can bring offenders to justice, and in the majority of the teenage murder investigations we have charged individuals, we also engage in preventative work like taking drugs, money, guns and knives off the street. But that alone is not enough. There are great examples of communities and agencies coming together to tackle violence and we need to build on that collective effort.

Through lockdown there has been an incredible amount of work to take the wind out of the sails of people who drive violence. More than 400 guns have been recovered, thousands of knives and large quantities of drugs have been seized. A record £47 million in cash has been confiscated and high harm offenders have been taken off the streets.

However, detectives investigating serious violence often meet silence from people we know have information that could help prevent violence. We have seen it recently in the tragic

shooting of Sasha Johnson that took place last month.

We understand that some people may not trust police so we are working hard to build those relationships and show that we are only motivated by preventing violence. It is our number one priority.

I've previously shared with you the stories of five brave mothers who have lost their sons to knife crime and how they joined together to tell the world how they recognise that coming forward can be hard, but asked each of us all to compare that to the call they had to make when their sons were murdered. Two of the mums last week shared new powerful messages to the public, urging any who has information about knives, guns or violence, to call the independent and anonymous charity Crimestoppers. Explaining that it isn't snitching, this is about justice and about saving lives or preventing people ending up serving life in prison for murder.

Yvonne Lawson MBE, said: "We need to all come together and fight this epidemic as we are fighting Covid-19. The police alone don't have the cure, we urgently all need to work together, report what you know about violence and free young people from this terrible cycle."

Pastor Lorraine Jones, said: "As a mother who has lost her son through the senseless killings caused by youth violence, I plead with all communities, families, local authorities, social services, schools and faith groups to step up and engage more with our troubled youth before it results in violence. The police cannot solve this problem alone. The next child could be yours or someone you know. The wall of silence can only be broken by us.

"If it was not for the support of the police, I would truly be lost and so many other parents who have lost their children feel the same. Let us all step up and work

together as a matter of urgency."

The Met is devoting huge resources into doing everything within our power to minimise violence – as you've heard me say many times previously it is our priority and can affect anyone from any background.

But we simply cannot do this alone, everyone has a role to play. Community leaders, businesses, politicians, youth workers, parents and teachers – quite literally anybody and everybody. If you have networks that can help, please use them to get the message from these mothers across.

No piece of information about knife crime is insignificant or too small. Any information you give to [Crimestoppers](#) can make a difference in reducing knife crime and the harm it causes to families. They never ask your name and they cannot trace your call, your IP address or the device you use. Fill in their quick online form or call 0800 555 111. It could save a life.



If you are worried about someone you suspect may be carrying a knife or other weapon, advice and support is also available through organisations including Knife Free <https://www.knifefree.co.uk/get-help-support/> and Fearless: <https://www.fearless.org/en>

Protest activity during Saturday 26 June and Sunday 27 June

Throughout Saturday 26 June and Sunday 27 June, the Met is anticipating a number of demonstrations across London which are likely to attract a large number of people.

Officers are engaging with organisers of these events, as well as businesses and communities across those areas where demonstrations are likely to occur.

On Sunday 27 June, the Met is aware Extinction Rebellion are looking to take action against media organisations in relation to climate change.

In response, the Met is standing up a significant policing plan throughout the weekend to help facilitate a lawful protest. Officers will not tolerate any disorder or activity that disrupts communities, businesses or London's road network.

Specialist protest removal teams will be on standby across the weekend, ready to respond to any action by protesters to cause disruption.

Updates on the Met's policing response will be shared from the @MetPoliceEvents Twitter account, businesses and communities are encouraged to follow this account.

Results

I mentioned above the hard work of the homicide investigation teams and I wanted to share with you the progress made to target, arrest and bring to justice those involved in recent murders.

- • Following the murder of Jalan WOODS-BELL almost two weeks ago in Hayes, we charged and remanded Nathan HAMILTON with murder and possession of an offensive weapon the following morning.
- • The same weekend Jaden McGIBBON was arrested, charged and remanded in custody, following the investigation into the death of Taylor COX on 8 June.
- • Another four men were charged and remanded on Saturday 12 June for the murder of Denardo SAMUEL-BROOKS that happened on the 10 June.
- • Further to previous charges against three men for the murder of Nathaniel AGO on the 2 June, Ernesto ELLIOTT was also charged with aggravated burglary and murder on Sunday 13 June.
- • Following the murder of Ahmed BEKER, who was stabbed to death in Paddington Green in Feb this year, we arrested Omar AHMED last Thursday, charging him the next day. He is the second suspect to be charged with Ahmed BEKER's murder, and now awaiting trial later this year.
- • And finally, with regards to the shooting of Sasha JOHNSON last month, we have now charged and remanded three men with conspiracy to murder, after two outstanding suspects were arrested last week. Sasha sadly remains in hospital, still in a critical state.

Over the last couple of weeks good work has also resulted in a number of firearms seizures across London including:



- • The weekend before last, officers on patrol in SW8, spotted a suspect who was wanted for GBH. He immediately made off discarding a bag in the process. He was detained and arrested, and the bag was recovered, which contained a handgun loaded with a bullet in the chamber and several in the magazine. Early indication of the firearm is that it is a viable weapon.
- • Police were called to a flat in N19 after reports of guns having been found. Inside a cabinet were two handguns, both with

ammunition. One of the handguns was a revolver and the other a self-loading pistol. Also found was a loaded magazine with numerous rounds of shotgun cartridges and other ammunition.

- On Monday last week, police were called to a fight outside a funeral home in Hayes, of more than 100 people, some with machetes. Upon police arrival the groups dispersed and no one came forward. Intelligence showed these tensions were linked to a funeral the following day so officers from our Hillingdon Neighbourhood Tasking Team were deployed to high visibility reassurance patrols in Hayes. The team spotted a suspicious 4x4 car with four men stood beside it with the boot open along the route to the funeral home. As officers approached, they made off, jumping into a second vehicle nearby and driving off at a dangerous speed. In the boot of the now abandoned 4x4, they discovered a loaded shot gun and spare cartridges, along with a machete, three containers of petrol, balaclavas and screw drivers. Our dogs found a further two knives, placed nearby for easy access. It is quite clear that the instinct of the officers prevented a possible mass shooting/stabbing incident in Hayes that day and our Trident team have taken on the investigation.

Reducing violence through new scheme to improve security at youth clubs

A number of youth clubs in London have received security improvements through a new initiative aimed at creating safer places for young people.

Four youth clubs; one in Haringey, one in Westminster and two in Lambeth, have received physical improvements to their security features to help reduce violent crime in and around these facilities.

These improvements include the installation of heavy duty doors to mitigate against any violent attacks due to their strength, while allowing staff to remotely lock and unlock the doors to prevent passers-by entering the venue freely. As well as this, an air lock lobby will enable staff to clearly monitor who is coming in and out of the facility. As a result, these measures will help ensure staff feel more in control and equipped to protect the young people who attend.

In addition, ten youth clubs will imminently receive defibrillators along with the necessary training to use them in the event of a violent attack.

Colleagues from the London Fire Brigade also carried out inspections of the premises to identify and mitigate any fire hazards and

provide advice around fire evacuation plans.

For more on this story: [https://news.met.police.uk/news/reducing-violence-through-new-scheme-to-improve-security-](https://news.met.police.uk/news/reducing-violence-through-new-scheme-to-improve-security-at-youth-clubs-430194)

[at-youth-clubs-430194](https://news.met.police.uk/news/reducing-violence-through-new-scheme-to-improve-security-at-youth-clubs-430194)

For more news from The Met:

https://news.met.police.uk/latest_news

Finally

If you didn't get the chance to give us your views last week on our survey about your views of how we use Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) to detect, deter and disrupt

criminality at a local, force, regional and national level we'd really appreciate five minutes of your time. Please click here to let us know your views <https://londonvoice.org.uk/ANPR>.

Lastly, please see below the latest COVID key points for ease of reference as we move towards COVID restrictions being lifted.

Kind regards

Colin Wingrove

BCU Commander Central South (Lambeth and Southwark)

COVID-19 – Key Points

- Current restrictions mean groups of six or two households can socialise indoors. Likewise, pubs, restaurants and bars can also serve customers indoors. There is a controlled return of crowds to entertainment venues such as football stadiums, theatres and cinemas.
- We want Londoners to feel safe and have confidence to return to our city's hospitality sector and that's why we will be stepping up our patrols in those areas likely to be busier.

- • Travel abroad and holidays are now permitted, however we urge people to check the FCO travel advice before travelling and ensure they are complying with Government rules on re-entry.
- • We have patrols in partnership with London's local authorities to take enforcement action against business or license premises that flout the rules.
- • We are still in a critical phase of the pandemic and large indoor gathers such as dangerous unlicensed music events, remain illegal. Not only do these events risk undermining the efforts of everyone to drive down the infection rate, they can be breeding ground for trouble and violence.
- • Full details of the roadmap and current restrictions here:
<https://bit.ly/2SKE0hI>

Regards

Mike Tuppen

Chair Bishops Ward SNT Panel