

SAFER
NEIGHBOURHOODS
LOCAL POLICE, LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

Dear all,

Firstly I would like to express my condolences to the friends and family of two teenagers, Cameron Smith, and Demari Roye who both aged 16 were recently killed in Croydon in the last two weeks.

Cameron was killed in the early hours of Thursday, July 1st . Police were called to reports of a disturbance at a residential address on Bracken Avenue in Shrublands, Croydon. Officers attended and found Cameron inside the address suffering from stab wounds. Despite the efforts of officers and the London Ambulance Service, Cameron died at the scene. To date police have made four arrests in connection with his murder.

Demari suffered stab wounds whilst out walking in the Bensham Manor area on Friday 9th July. He later died in hospital on Sunday 11th July. Police have arrested and charged two males with his murder. Both boys attended schools within the same area however please be advised that investigators from the Murder Investigation Team have stated that neither incidents are linked.

With the European football championship coming to an end, as well as lockdown restrictions relaxing after the 19th, ward officers will be conducting a variety of activities i.e. executing warrants, patrols to provide reassurance and to reduce ASB in key areas as well as organising engagement activities and events.



Push on illegal use of E-Scooters

The use of E-Scooters are increasingly being linked directly to crime which includes drug dealing, theft of the E-Scooters as well as them aiding offenders in carrying out crime. A survey conducted in Croydon demonstrated that 75% of the public are concerned about the use of E-Scooters and 80% want police to take a more proactive approach in regards to enforcing regulations around them.

An E-Scooter is defined as a "motor vehicle" and therefore <u>may</u> be seized under Section 165A RTA 1988 where the relevant trigger offences have been committed.

We will issue the rider with a yellow notice which details the law around E-Scooters and what could happen if they are stopped again by the police. Those who have already been warned will have their E-Scooter seized.

Inspector Cathy Thomas

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The new number to call to contact your local police



Multiple Warrants executed & Arrests

Officers consistently conduct numerous warrants throughout their wards.

On Monday 12th July in an address in South Croydon, South Croydon SNT working with other wards found large quantities of cash and Class B drugs. A male was arrested for possession with intent to supply class B drugs.

New Addington SNT assisted UKBA in executing various warrants across multiple wards resulting in multiple arrests of individuals for immigration offences.

Sanderstead SNT were on routine patrols when they stopped a vehicle in West Hill. Due to the drivers behaviour he was detained and searched. A quantity of cannabis was found and he was subsequently issued with an out of court disposal.



Male sentenced to 5 years imprisonment



With the support of colleagues and his own determination PC Ethan Douglas persistence resulted in offender Luke Ballard, 25 (17/05/1996) of New Addington, Croydon pleading guilty at Croydon Crown Court on Tuesday, 29 June to one count of PWITS Class A, one count of PWITS Class B, one count of POCA and one count of Possession class A. As a result he was sentenced to **5 years imprisonment**.

During the course of the investigation, in appealing for bail, the defence introduced a second person of interest to the investigation who they stated was prepared to take responsibility for the drugs found. Officers worked extended hours and cancelled rest days at short notice to ensure this reasonable line of enquiry was addressed properly including re-submitting dockets for fingerprint analysis, interview plans and organising section 18 searches. It was important to all that this person would not become the fall guy for Ballard's criminal behaviour. Thankfully the evidence won in the end and following a discussion with the CPS, PC Douglas is now investigating separate charges in relation to this person which remains on-going.

Local Traffic Operations

In response to local residents raising concerns in relation to speeding vehicles in their neighbourhoods, local policing teams are conducting random speed operations in various locations within their wards. The last few months have seen such operations in Queen Elizabeth Drive, King Henry Drive , Arnham Drive , Mayfield Road and Onslow Gardens . These road traffic operations have been carried out across all South Croydon wards and numerous motorists have been dealt with relating to speeding and other traffic offences.



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Engagement & Events

Selsdon Vale and Forrestdale SNT attended Greenvale Primary School summer fete on Saturday 10th July. They took along a vehicle donated to the MET by Prince William County Police from Florida and enjoyed meeting the local residents.





Newly appointed Local Ward Councillor, for New Addington North, Kola Agboola met with officers from the team on Wayside. Officers discussed current issues past and present for the Wayside shops and flats. Applegarth car park was also visited in light of the ongoing anti-social behaviour.

Patrolling our Open Spaces

Patrols of our open spaces continues in our bid to combat ASB including issues relating to off road motor vehicles as well as reducing Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG).

Many wards have fantastic green spaces and those spaces are often frequented by dog walkers, families and the elderly.

During the Covid-19 Pandemic our Green Spaces have became even more important than ever and as such should be a safe space to enjoy! The New Addington North & South Croydon teams are targeting patrols in these areas. Officers are reviewing videos and photos sent in by members of the public and working with Croydon Council to stop those responsible.



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