



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

KINGSTON POLICING BULLETIN

JANUARY 2021



KINGSTON NEIGHBOURHOODS

I am delighted to send you our first Kingston Policing Bulletin which, this month, covers our Neighbourhoods Policing Teams. I hope you will find it of interest.

It is my intention to send this bulletin out to you on a monthly basis, and in future editions we will also be covering other areas of policing in Kingston, including CID, Public Protection and Response. In the coming months we will be seeking your feedback so that we can ensure future versions are both interesting and relevant."

Regards,

*Roger Arditti MPhil PhD
Neighbourhoods Superintendent
South West BCU*



Your Neighbourhood team in Kingston has two clear but inter-related goals. The first is to engage effectively with our communities. The second is to work together with the public and our partners to tackle crime and keep people safe. Despite being in the midst of the current COVID 19 lockdown, our officers continue to deliver on these goals.

Within this report you will read about some fantastic Neighbourhood operations which tackle crime across the borough. This work has resulted in the arrest of a prolific burglar and weapons being taken off the streets. Your Neighbourhood officers have also met the challenges posed by COVID and have conducted a great deal of community engagement online.

One of our key ambitions for the year ahead is to build the public's trust and confidence in the police. A critical element of building confidence is for us to be listening to our communities. One new project I want to highlight in relation to this is called *Youth Views Matter*. This has involved pupils in secondary schools meeting with our Schools Officers to discuss issues that matter to them, and it has been hugely valuable to us to try and understand the concerns of our young people. You can watch a film about this here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NKh_JbRujnM

Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, I want to thank you for the ongoing support to keep Kingston safe. It is through us working together as partners that we will be able to most effectively tackle crime, and protect our communities, and I will continue to do all I can to drive this partnership forward.

Regards

Dan Whitten
Neighbourhoods Inspector, Kingston.

IN JANUARY 2021, SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAMS...

...CONDUCTED WEAPON SWEEPS



...SEIZED DRUGS



...MADE ARRESTS



...PATROLLED THEIR WARDS



...GAVE CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE



... REUNITED VICTIMS WITH THEIR PROPERTY

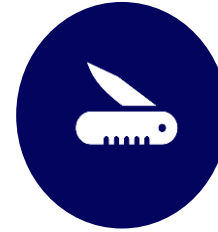


SW BCU SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS - ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON

January 2021



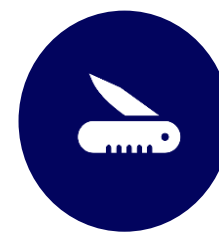
6 SEARCH
WARRANTS



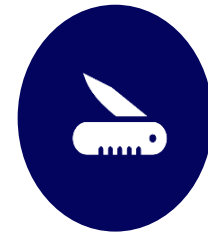
68 STOP &
SEARCHES



24 ARRESTS



0 KNIFE ARCH
OPERATIONS



68 WEAPONS
SWEEPS



8 CPN /
ASB EIS
WARNINGS



1 CBO



1 CLOSURE
ORDER

SW BCU SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS - ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON

ACTIVITY TACKLING CRIME

Your Neighbourhood Team covering the Royal Borough of Kingston has been focusing upon four key crime types: drug-related violence, burglary, robbery and motor vehicle theft.

This month has been challenging due to abstractions of Ward Officers, primarily due to COVID-19 and self-isolation. Despite these abstractions, we have still maintained a focus on tackling the borough's four priority crimes.

As you might expect, we continue to see a vastly reduced footfall in the Kingston town centre due to COVID restrictions. A consequence of that is that we saw a greatly reduced number of offences being recorded, including only two robberies. Our biggest area of focus last month was therefore drug related violence and we conducted a number of operations and warrants specifically targeting this issue. This included a three-day joint operation with British Transport Police (BTP) which resulted in ten arrests and one county line supplier being charged. In addition to this, a separate operation resulted in five arrests for drugs and violence offences. We have also been tackling drug-related violence through other tactics, particularly using warrants and other search powers. For example, Old Malden Ward Officers conducted a successful search warrant which resulted in one arrest and a number of weapons being seized.

We have also continued to focus on burglary. In particular we have been using predictive mapping technology to task our Ward Officers to patrol areas considered at higher risk of this invasive type of crime. Our Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) are also knocking on residents doors, offering crime prevention advice and offering Smart Water to help secure properties and deter crime. We are also pleased to report that we arrested a prolific burglar after he breached his Criminal Behaviour Order.

Lastly, in relation to motor vehicle theft, our actions have been focussed on deterrence and educating the public. We have used predictive mapping to guide high visibility patrols and we have issued crime prevention advice via social media to our local communities.



SW BCU SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS – ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engagement is an important part of the Ward Officer's role. However, due to the National lockdown, engagement with businesses and residents has been hampered due to the inability to have face to face conversations.

Instead, Ward Officers have moved their communications online. We are pleased to say that we were able to hold six virtual ward panels in January. We also held weekly contact sessions on the social media platform 'Nextdoor', but sadly these have had low attendance rates.

We hope that as lockdown eases, we will be able to provide better engagement opportunities to our communities.

OTHER NEWS

In November 2020 the South West Licensing Team applied to the Local Authority for a licence review of Laxmi Restaurant, of Tolworth Broadway. This was with the intent of a full revocation of their premises licence as they had continually breached conditions set for their venue.

Licensing officer PC Hopkins first became aware that the premises licence holder was not complying with his license in 2018. As a consequence, PC Hopkins worked closely with the venue and other responsible authorities to ensure they were aware of their obligations whilst operating as a restaurant. Unfortunately, after regular engagement, the premises licence holder continued to ignore the conditions set out on his licence, primarily the condition whereby alcohol was only permitted to be served with food. This activity resulted in anti-social behaviour in the immediate vicinity, causing disruption and inconvenience for the local residents.

As a result of a further complaint, a meeting was arranged for the 30th September 2020. PC Hopkins conducted a final visit with the local authority to ensure that the business was being run correctly. However, only 2 hours after the meeting, the Licensing Team received information that the venue was still trading as a bar and not a restaurant. CCTV was obtained, a breach established and a virtual hearing was arranged for the 6th January 2021.

The subcommittee considered evidence from the Police Licensing Team, the Local Authority and the premises licence holder, and decided that revoking the restaurant's license was proportionate, appropriate and the only option available considering the circumstances. Licensing Sergeant Richard Compton said *"Whilst we make every effort to engage and work with licensed premises to help them achieve the licensing objectives set out in the Licensing Act 2003, there comes a time when enforcement is the only option left to ensure such premises do not have an adverse effect on their local communities. Revoking the licence will lead to less ASB and disruption to local residents in the area"*



BEHIND THE BADGE PODCAST:

<https://soundcloud.com/thisisriverside/the-ripple-effect-presents-behind-the-badge-episode-1/s-WCXrPpmM03t>

VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=151709430098285>

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Kingston