Minutes of the Late Night Levy Board Meeting 7th April 2021 Google Hangouts

Attendance

Cllr Plouviez	Chair of the Licensing Committee	EP
Gerry McCarthy	Head of Community Safety, Business Regulation and Enforcement	GM
Samantha Mathys	Late Night Levy Manager	SM
Leon McCallister	Metropolitan Police	LM
Adam Popple	Hackney Central Pubwatch	APe
William Knowles-Mofford	Shoreditch Pubwatch	WKM
Jack Soilleux	Dalston Pubwatch	JL
Olga Vandenburgh	Economic Regeneration	OV
Maggie Ryan	Stoke Newington Pubwatch	MRy
Maurice Mason	Community Safety	MM
David Tuitt	Licensing Team Leader	DT
Cllr Fajana-Thomas	Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Policy and the Voluntary Sector	CS

		Actions
1.	Chairs introduction, round table introductions and apologies Apologies from Robert Gardner, Emma Wynne and Andy Port.	Noted
2.	Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising Minutes of February accepted as a true record.	Noted
3.	LNL Update and Hackney Nights Accreditation Scheme	Noted
	SM presented the Late Night Levy April Update.	
	The consultation timeline was presented in regard to the reduction on the late night levy for accredited venues. SM also presented an update on the portal and all the training packages available for the re-opening period and some of the future projects of the accreditation scheme. See attached papers.	Noted
	JS had a question in regards to the functioning of the training and a possible bug in the portal which was asking his staff members to log in in order to take a training.	SM to look into
	JS also asked if he could have more detailed information on the patrols and CCTV van for re-opening weekend and the routes they might be taking, areas they will visit, etc.	SM to share

SFT asked who within the council or which external bodies will be conducting the hate crime training and whether that is linking to the Noted council and wanted to also know more about the CT training. She also asked about our comms strategy and whether licensees had to use the portal specifically to access these trainings. SM answered that she is working with Stop Hate UK, who we have done Noted work with in the past and our new hate crime coordinator. In regards to the CT training, the MET has developed the online training and we will be linking with their Hackney CT officer. SM also added that they have a comms strategy in place for the portal and training. A lot of engagement work will be conducted via the Noted pubwatch groups, hackney business network and face to face visits as well. Police Update LM gave an update from the Police as follows: Noted Shoreditch is CE BCUs largest crime generator and Hackney boasts the most licensed premises in London (since 2015). There were significant Violent Disorder incidents pre Covid-19 and officer safety incidents.

Street Robbery – This is usually combined with the initial offer from the suspect to sell the victim drugs, commonly cocaine. The victim agrees to buy drugs, they are led to an ATM to withdraw cash. Whilst at the ATM, the victim's PIN is memorised by suspects, their payment card is taken then. Alternatively the victim is taken to a secluded area and robbed of items – this is often by a group of males.

Common Crime Types include Violence, Theft or "Snatches" and sexual assaults.

Drugs – Due to the nature of a NTE area drugs are particularly prevalent. This crime type can be closely linked to Street Robbery as explained above. It is not uncommon for individuals to be sold crushed 'lemsip' or paracetamol believing it to be Class A drugs.

Hackney Nights - Objectives are to reduce priority offences (Violence, Robbery, ASB), reduce high harm offences (Sexual offences, Violence, Drugs), Increase number of ASB, CPW and CPN's issued, and Increase business/licensed premises confidence in the MPS.

Policing Approach – 4E's - Engage, Explain, Encourage & Enforce irrationally. Arrest only as a last resort as the primary focus is on issuing ASB/CPW/CPNs.

Officers within the NTE should be targeting persistent offenders.

LM explained the staged enforcement process and the use of CPW's, CPN's and ASB warnings.

He explained the Police Resources:

Friday and Saturday 1800-0600hrs

1x Inspector

4x Sergeants

24 Constables

Mainly consist of high visibility patrols and also static posts at known flashpoints with focus on violence, ASB, drugs and sexual offences.

All units deployable across Hackney with focus on Broadway Market, Dalston and Shoreditch as the largest crime generators.

Plain clothed officers targeting drug dealing and robbery.

Additional resources from British Transport Police focusing on transport hubs, Roads Transport Policing team focusing on Taxi touts.

Addition officers from Robbery Task Force launching a robbery operation from the 12th April.

No reliance on TSG officers although they will be available for large scale disorder.

Licensing Officer liaising with LBH and Licensees

(MMV) Multi Media Vehicle to be used in the Shoreditch which has the highest footfall to provide safety advice and helpful information.

WKM asked about Rivington Street being closed to vehicles.

LM said they have been looking into this but the stumbling block seems to be the financial cost.

WKM asked if there are other streets being considered for closure in Shoreditch?

LM has no plans for other streets to be closed.

MM added that he tried to get funding via the CT route for Rivington Street with the Home Office and the cost for vehicle mitigation is between £15K-£25K.

JS raised some issues that operators have with the Police and Sentencing Bill and there are concerns around that. He also wanted to know about the recent announcements that were made about plain Noted

Noted

	closed officers to be stationed in nightclubs.	
	LM confirmed that it is in a proposal phase but there are no plans at the moment. He added that the licensing team are looking at door security protocols and other safety work at the current time.	
	JS asked if operators were to be made aware.	
	SFT added that it would be important that a consultation be performed ahead of the placement of plain clothes officers in night time spaces. She also asked what the consensus of operators would be.	Noted
	JS answered that the approach which might make sense for larger venues, wouldn't necessarily be well received within the community venues, such as LGBTQ spaces. Some customers are very apprehensive about Police in general and members have questioned what type of training these officers would have. Most members feel like with their experience they are best placed to take care of their customers' welfare whilst inside their venue.	Noted
	EP asked if there was a consistent enforcement strategy across Police and Enforcement officers.	
	MM added that we have partnership tasking where we discuss strategy and tactics in order to streamline activities between enforcement and Police including the use of CPNs and CPWs.	Noted
	GM added that everytime a CPN is issued the Police are made aware right away. He added that we are operating under the same system.	Noted
5.	Pubwatch Representatives options and observations	
	Dalston JS raised the Police and Crime Bill as discussed previously in the meeting. Most venues will be reopening on the 12th, risk assessments are being created and digesting how to operate under these new guidelines. The mood is generally excited, members are pleased with the Police and all the free Hackney Nights training provided.	Noted
	Stoke Newington MRY weren't angry about Covid-19, but mostly large groups causing ASB. They wanted a better response from the Police. They do not want to have to close pubs when these instances occur.	Noted
	MM added that he chaired a meeting internally about these issues. Robert Gardner will be in charge of providing updates to the pubwatch. The actions to be taken circle around 3 things - Prevention, Response, Collation of evidence.	

	SM added that a full update would be provided at the next board meeting.	SM to prepare
	Hackney Central AP raised that he is not getting too much engagement with his group. He also added that SM and himself will be doing joint visits.	Noted
	He added that he welcomes the approach of doing a consultation before having plain clothed officers in clubs.	
6.	Any other business	
0.	GM added that we would look into the HVM around rivington street and come to the next board meeting with some suggestions and clarification. JS added that he would like to receive more info	GM to look into
	Date of next meeting	
	June 16th at 1pm	Noted