



Andrew Dismore AM
City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London
SE1 2AA

Holborn Police Station
10 Lamb's Conduit Street
London
WC1N 3NR

Telephone: 07785446169
Facsimile:
Email:
David.courcha@met.pnn.police.uk
www.met.police.uk

Your ref:
Our ref:
03/09/2019

Dear Sir

Thank you for your letter dated the 8th of August. I note the incidents you mention and particularly the tragic murder on the 12th of August. I am available to discuss the specific detail of these cases in person or a phone conversation if that would be helpful.

I will attempt to set out how we try to prevent such incidents as a priority and respond effectively when they do occur:

Every calendar month we hold a local tasking meeting, informed by an analytical review of crime types, hotspot areas and emerging issues. We task our local resources to those issues and challenges. This tasking meeting is attended by the community safety lead for both Camden and Islington local authorities and a single point of contact for the special constabulary (Volunteers from the community). This allows for both police and partners to be informed and contribute to the various initiatives together. If there is an issue that is beyond the capacity or specialism of local police, there is a mechanism in place to obtain support and assistance from Pan London resources.

Whilst it is essential to plan as described above, Incidents and issues can escalate very quickly in London. As such, there is also a provision in place to request such support when a spontaneous incident occurs or the circumstances known to police suggest such an incident may take place.

I can assure you we have used such additional support regularly in the past 12 months in Central North BCU and this continues up to the present time. This has been in both pre-planned and spontaneous circumstances. This is not an exhaustive list but has included:

- The Violent Crime Taskforce (additional uniform officers conducting intelligence led patrols, law enforcement operations and community reassurance/engagement work).
- Operation Venice – Uniformed mobile units trained in tactical contact with suspect vehicles. These units are complimented by a proactive problem solving team, targeting robbery offenders and Moped enabled criminality.
- Armed response vehicles – Armed officers who conduct mobile patrols and pre planned police enforcement operations.
- Territorial support group – Public order trained officers deployed to public order situations and other events requiring an escalated response.

I hope the above answers your enquiry. However, I should also point out that there is much activity taking place locally:

- A dedicated robbery project started in July this year. The project focuses on identifying and disrupting the most prolific robbery offenders operating within the BCU. There are 10 detectives and 18 uniform officers committed to this project.
- A drug related violence initiative focussing on law enforcement operations, community engagement and education.
- A dedicated Gangs unit who focus on disruption of gangs, reduction of gang violence/Knife crime and diversion initiatives.
- Additionally our neighbourhood policing teams are conducting weapon sweeps, patrols and engaging with the community on a continual basis.

If there is a specific ward or issue that you wish to discuss please let me know and I can arrange for a meeting with the relevant officers.

Yours Sincerely,

David Courcha

David Courcha
Detective Superintendent
Central North BCU (Camden and Islington)

