



HAVERING BARKING & DAGENHAM REDBRIDGE

NEWSLETTER

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CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT STUART BELL



An introduction to our new BCU Commander

I joined East Area as BCU Commander In April 2022. I am delighted to be given this opportunity and look forward to the next few years in post. My aim is to deliver the best possible policing services for all our communities.

I joined the Met police in 1996 and spent my first few years deployed to frontline roles in Bromley and Westminster. I spent 5 years as a Sergeant on the Territorial Support Group (TSG) before moving to Brixton as an Inspector.

I worked across Lambeth in a range of roles including emergency response, neighbourhood and town centre team before taking a role as partnership lead for the borough as Chief Inspector.

I moved to Lewisham in 2012 and Bexley on promotion to Superintendent in 2015 heading up all uniform and CID functions.

I took the role of Borough Commander in Bexley in 2016. I spent time working in the Commissioner's office before heading up the Mets public order command in 2019.



Outside of my core role I am one of the Met's accredited public order Commanders, taking additional responsibility managing large public order incidents, protests and sporting events across London and also preparing our response in the event of a terrorist attack.

More recently I have been involved in leading the MPS investment into neighbourhood policing, designing and implementing 19 new town centre teams and investing 150 extra officers into ward policing.

STUDENTS FROM ILFORD SCHOOL GRADUATE IN 'METGIRLZ' SCHEME

On Wednesday 20th April 2022, 18 girls from Oaks Park School in Ilford attended New Scotland Yard (NSY) to graduate from a project called MetGirlz - an initiative set up by officers in east London to help build trust and inspire young women to consider a career in policing. During their visit to NSY, the girls met senior police officers and shared their views on how to shape the Met.

The project, which lasted 10 weeks, saw the eighteen girls visit various Met units including the Mounted Branch (horses), dog unit and NPAS (National Police Air Service). This allowed the girls to gain an understanding of what police in London are trained to do, and how they apply this training. Throughout the project, officers have welcomed open and honest discussions around the issues affecting the young women the most, including law enforcement.

Part of the programme saw the young women discuss problems that Londoners their age are facing, brainstorm effective solutions, and present their ideas back to senior MPS officers including T/Superintendent Lisa Butterfield and Superintendent Matt Cox, who lead on neighbourhood policing operations across East London. Ideas presented by the girls as part of the course were amazing and outstanding.

The girls thoroughly enjoyed their ten week programme and their visit to New Scotland Yard. At the end of project, eight out of the eighteen young women expressed that they are keen to pursue a career in the Met.



PROACTIVE STOP AND SEARCH BY SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD OFFICERS

Whilst out on patrol on their ward, officers from Seven Kings Safer Neighbourhood team came across two males who made off when approached by police. Officers gave chase and both males were detained and searched, resulting in the finding of large Rambo style knives and a considerable amount of Class A and B drugs.

Both males were arrested for Possession of Offensive Weapons and Possession with intent to supply to supply Class A drugs. Investigation remains ongoing.



OP KADUNCE - RAMADAN PATROLS

Op Kadunce is a strategy that is a first of its kind in East Area Police. Officers have been patrolling mosques and venues used during the Ramadan period to offer support and visible reassurance to the Muslim community every night during the evening prayers in which thousands of Muslim worshippers across Havering, Barking & Dagenham and Redbridge take part.

Feedback from the venues have been positive, including from the chairman at Woodford Muslim Cultural Centre, who stated that he was happy with the way officers have conducted themselves.

In addition to the evening patrols, officers have also been attending four of the busier mosques during Friday afternoon prayers in partnership with Redbridge mobile hubs and setting up anti-hate crime stalls.



ROMFORD TOWN CENTRE TEAM DONATE FUNDS TOWARDS PURCHASE OF A BLEED KIT

Bleed kits are designed to prevent catastrophic blood loss following trauma or violence and to help control and stop severe bleeding while waiting for the paramedics to arrive.

The kits were introduced in Havering by Julie Taylor, grandmother of teenager Liam Taylor who was the victim of a fatal stabbing in January 2020.

Sergeant Collard from Havering's Safer Neighbourhood Team was approached by Julie to discuss potential locations to install the kits, one of which was McDonald's in Romford Town Centre.

Sergeant Wolfe, from Romford Town Centre Team and her team then contacted staff at the store who kindly agreed to have kits installed in their premises. Sergeant Wolfe and her team also pooled money together from their own pockets to donate towards the installation of a further kit.



BURGLAR WHO STOLE £8000 FROM CHADWELL HEATH CAR DEALERSHIP JAILED

On 5th April 2022, Wesley LINNEN, 44, of no fixed abode, was convicted of burglary at Snaresbrook Crown Court and sentenced to 30 months imprisonment.

In May 2021, Wesley was caught on CCTV gaining access to the office of a car dealership by slipping the lock of the front door. He was seen on CCTV conducting a search of the office and then helping himself to a cash sum of £8000.

Thanks to the excellent quality of the CCTV, Wesley was identified and later arrested for a string of burglaries.



DANGEROUS WEAPON TAKEN OFF STREETS BY RESPONSE TEAM OFFICERS AND OFFENDER JAILED

In March 2022, officers from Barking and Dagenham Emergency Response team were carrying out proactive patrols in Barking town centre when they spotted a group of males, who made off when they were approached by police.

Officers gave chase and detained a male by the name of Sidat Senghore who was then searched under S1 of PACE. During this search, officers found a large Zombie style knife concealed inside his trousers. Senghore was arrested, charged for Possession of an Offensive Weapon and remanded to appear at court.

On 21st April 2022, Sidat Senghore, aged 22 was convicted of carrying a Zombie knife at Barkingside Court and sentenced to 6 months imprisonment. He was also ordered to pay a surcharge to fund victim services.

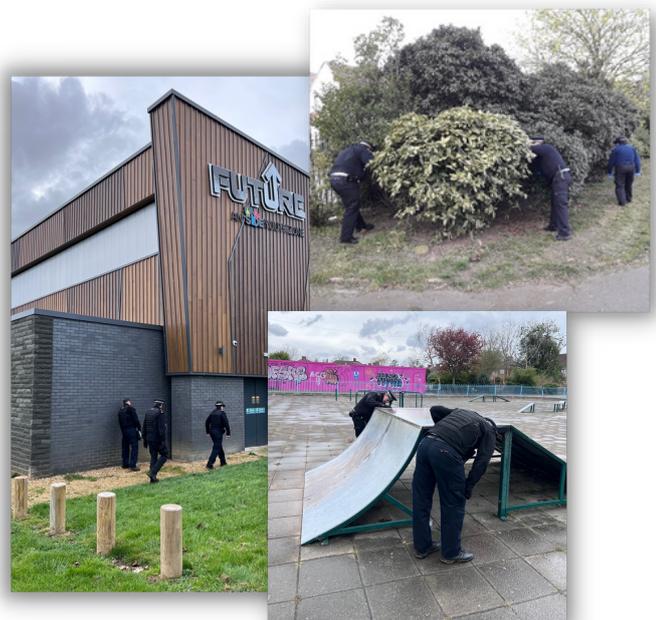


WEAPON SWEEPS IN BARKING & DAGENHAM

In addition to enhanced patrols, Safer Neighbourhood officers in Barking and Dagenham have been carrying out weapon sweeps in various locations across the borough in an effort to stop knife crime.

Our dedicated officers continue to work hard to keep young people in our community safe.

You can also help. Calling with information about knife crime may feel hard, but there are harder calls. Independent charity CrimestoppersUK is 100% anonymous and can be reached on 0800 555 111.



DAME CRESSIDA VISITS ROMFORD TOWN CENTRE

During her last week on duty as Commissioner of Metropolitan Police, Dame Cressida Dick went out on patrols with Romford Town Centre Safer Neighbourhood officers. Officers were very pleased to show our former Commissioner around the local area and honoured to host her on one of her final patrols in the Met.

Dame Cressida spent time speaking with local shoppers and business owners, who were delighted to meet her.



PROPERTY WORTH £5000 RECOVERED FOLLOWING COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

Response Team officers attended a call to reports of a commercial burglary in Havering.

As officers arrived on scene, a vehicle was seen leaving. This vehicle was stopped and searched, following which property worth around £5000 was recovered. Two males were arrested and the investigation continues.



JOIN US FOR A RIDE ALONG

Ride Along is a scheme which offers members of the public the chance to join our officers on patrol and experience daily policing first hand.

You'll get an insight into what it's like to be a police officer on shift and an opportunity to speak to police officers on a one-to-one basis, useful if you're considering policing as a career. It's also an opportunity to gain greater knowledge of how we police, including how stop and search powers are used.

To apply, please fill in our [online application form](#) via our website (met.police.uk). You will need to provide your contact details, date of birth, why you want to join the scheme and what you want to achieve during the day.



DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A POLICE OFFICER?

Join us on our mission to make life safer for over 9 million Londoners.

Met police officers play a vital role in keeping London safe for everyone. Whether they're out on the streets working face to face with the communities we serve, or behind the scenes delivering a range of specialist services and improving how we police the capital. It's not easy, but it is rewarding - packed with new and interesting experiences every day.

Be the change you want to see. [Apply now](#) via our website (met.police.uk)

