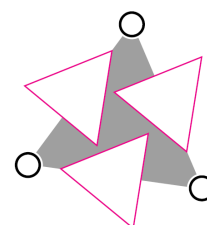


# LEWISHAM COMMUNITY POLICE CONSULTATIVE GROUP

Tuesday 26 June 2012 - from 7.00 pm  
Rooms 1 and 2, Civic Suite, Catford, London SE6 4RU



**L.C.P.C.G.**

## MINUTES

<b>MEMBERS</b>	
Jackie Addison	LBL Councillor
Ch Supt J Burton	MPS Lewisham, Boro Cmdr
Gordon Glean	Lewisham Shopping Centre Management
Bishop Owen Douce	Ransom Church of God
Christine Kibblewhite	Crofton Park Ward Panel
David Michael	Marsha Phoenix Memorial Trust
Dith Banbury	Lewisham College
Duwayne Brooks	LBL Councillor
Geeta Subramaniam	LBL Head of Crime Reduction Service
Gurbakhsh Garcha	Ackroyd Community Association
Harry Powell	Lewisham Sports Consortium
James Dobson	South East London Humanists
Janet Daby	LBL Cabinet Member for Community Safety
Mahad Abdullahi	Somali and Somaliland London Community
Naomi Allen	XLP
Obajimi Adefiranye	LBL Councillor
Phil Turner	Second Wave Youth Arts
Richard Holland	Downham Ward Panel
Rose Davidson	Lewisham Independent Custody Visitors
Royston John	NCBI
Ruhmal Sonson	Micah Community
Tayo Disu	The Tabernacle
Tom Mann	CURV
<b>DEPUTISING FOR MEMBERS</b>	
Conrad Grant	Goldsmiths Uni
Fola Afolabi	Office of Heidi Alexander MP
Matt Chorley	Office of Heidi Alexander MP
Michael Apata.	South London Counselling Service
Supt Mickey Gallagher	MPS Lewisham
Peter Bernier	L D Coalition
Stella Amogbokpa	Lewisham Pensioners Forum
<b>OTHERS PRESENT</b>	
Aaron Sonson	Stop and Search App developer (Speaker)
Shaun Willshire	Met Police (Speaker)
Simon Rotherham	Met Police (Speaker)
Daisy Cairns	LCPCG Coordinator (Minutes)
A Adams	LBL
A Forde	Resident
Alvan Wright	Youth Service
Anne Affiku	Forest Hill Councillor
Anthony Kalu	Ubuntu

Ashlea Smart	WS
B T Langridge	Resident
Bev Deans	Resident
D Daby	Resident
David Laurie	Met Police
Gill Lewis	Grove Park SNP
Hubert Levy	Resident
J Bish	LBL
J Naird	Resident
Joe Burchell	LPIA
Joshua Imuere	Resident
Laurence Holland	London Bikes Ltd
Michael Apatá	South London Counselling Service
Michael Mason-Mahon	Resident
Paul Newing	LLHS
R Smith	Resident
S Salmon	Resident
Sam Dias	LBL
T Hepburn-Smith	The Eye Ltd
T Peters	L Youth Service
Teddy Gruber	Conisborough College

1.	<b>Welcome and Introduction from Chair of the LCPCG</b>	<b><u>ACTIONS</u></b>
	<p>The Chair welcomed the audience and thanked them for attending. The subject of the meeting will be Stop and Search. She reminded the audience that the LCPCG had decided that it would not be appropriate to raise an issue relating to a specific person or incident at this meeting as it is a public forum. However, if anyone does have a concern or question about such an issue, the LCPCG has arranged that these questions will be answered by the police. Special forms have been produced, available at the side table, and you can request a public answer to be published on the internet, or a private written answer, or both.</p> <p>News from the group since the last meeting which was the AGM. The Strategy Group held a training day and revisited LCPCG's Terms of Reference.</p> <p>The re-elected Mayor of London has made a manifesto commitment to abolishing groups like the LCPCG. The proposal is to replace the police's Independent Advisory Group, the LCPCG, and the Independent Custody Visitors for each borough with a "Safer Neighbourhood Board". The Chair noted that these plans are of great concern to the LCPCG, as each of those organisations has a very different role. The Boards will have a number of responsibilities: a new duty to hear and monitor complaints from victims of crime; monitor crime performance and community confidence; monitor levels of complaints about local officers; undertake Independent Custody Visitor role and be closely involved in new Community Payback schemes. They will also have a duty to ensure that all SN Teams have an effective ward panel in place to set ward policing priorities. The Strategy Group also have concerns that the limited size of the board (eight individuals according to an Evening Standard article) was very small compared with the community representation provided by the LCPCG's 100 member organisations.</p> <p>Other news is that the Strategy Group have planned out the topics for the year's meeting, October will cover policing over the Olympic Period and coming changes to Local Policing, December – Youth Offending Service and Independent Custody Visitors. The LCPCG have also recently joined Voluntary Action Lewisham and are currently undertaking training in Business Planning. This should be helpful in dealing</p>	

	<p>with the changes which are coming.</p> <p><i>For further information see also</i>  <a href="http://www.standard.co.uk/news/mayor/boris-johnson-ill-give-residents-say-in-running-police-on-their-streets-7608395.html">http://www.standard.co.uk/news/mayor/boris-johnson-ill-give-residents-say-in-running-police-on-their-streets-7608395.html</a>  <a href="http://www.backboris2012.com/news-media/blog/2012-04-my-crime-manifesto">http://www.backboris2012.com/news-media/blog/2012-04-my-crime-manifesto</a></p>	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Apologies for absence</b>	
	<p><u>LCPCG members:</u>  Trevor Jones; Anthony Scully; Cllr Crada Onuegbu; Joanne Hall; Michael Taylor; Angela Hall; Cora Green; Joan Ruddock MP; Heidi Alexander MP; Nicholas Springman; Graham Gaskell;  <u>Others:</u>  Noreen Howard; Naomi Groves Lewisham College  S&amp;S group: Tanya Edwards LBL; Barbara Robinson-Perry; Sgt Dean Williamson TSG.</p>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes of 7 February LCPCG meeting</b>	
	<p>Dith Banbury from Lewisham College asked for her name to be added to the attendance record. All other aspects of the minutes were agreed as an accurate record and the chair noted that they would be useful reference for anyone needing to provide advice about sexual assault.</p>	Coordinator
<b>4</b>	<b>Borough Commander Jeremy Burton – Met Police, Lewisham</b>	
	<p>Mr Burton introduced himself and began by discussing the official end of year Annual Statistics. These are produced at the end of April, but publication was delayed by restrictions relating to the London Mayoral elections. Across the borough Violence, Robbery, Burglary, Vehicle Crime, Domestic Violence had all decreased since the previous year. Knife Crime and Gun Crime and Serious Acquisitive Crime are however all very challenging areas. Overall crime is down.</p> <p>The Met has set Burglary, robbery, personal robbery, vehicle crime and finally gang-related crime as priorities this year. The three main challenges for the borough this year are “performance targets” or crime rates and satisfaction/confidence rates, the upcoming police work around the Olympics, and finally the re-shaping of the Met to manage the 20% reduction in budget.</p> <p>Next he gave a presentation of 7 key crime figures which was displayed via the big screens. These showed weekly crime levels over the last year</p> <p>Personal Robbery – noted that the majority of victims are under 19 and we have a high level of residents in this age bracket;</p> <p>Residential Burglary - just over 1% on an increase, were not able to undercut a low number achieved last year;</p> <p>Motor Vehicle Crime Offences – 7% reduction slight increase in theft from, but significant reduction in theft of vehicles – Please take valuables out of your cars;</p> <p>Most Serious Violence – 16 incidents more than last year – covers a range of violent offences and we are doing a wide range of work to identify where the problem is so we can find the best way to deal with it;</p> <p>Knife Crime Offences – 71 offences fewer – which is a success, but needs attention – wants to encourage the message that carrying knives is not safe.</p> <p>Gun Enabled Offences – we do have loose gangs on the borough but majority of Gun Crime is not gang related. Many of you will know about the sad murder in Bellingham, the good news is that police have arrested and charged someone. We</p>	

	<p>are realigning resources within the borough, working closely with Trident and this calendar year have taken 8 guns off the street; Domestic Violence Offences –still reducing – 18 fewer sufferers than last year – praised the work done by the local council under Geeta Subramaniam.</p> <p><u>Questions from the Audience</u></p> <p><b>Michael Mason-Mahon</b> – Commended work of officers during recent operations. Would ask Mr Burton to get Lewisham officers to deal with use of mobile phones while driving. Over last 7 months there have been 3 incidents which we have spoken about, which let down the work of the borough. I am shocked and alarmed by the borough’s news about the future of the group.</p> <p><b>Naomi Allen – XLP</b> How do you know that the figures reflect an improvement in actual figures, rather than a reduction in reporting?</p> <p><b>Jeremy Burton (JB)</b> – We look at trends over time, we look at the British Crime Survey, and we look at confidence levels – a survey carried out independently phoning up members of the public. Over the last 2 years our confidence rating has doubled from a rather pathetic 32% to 61%. This does make me focus on the third that isn’t, but the plea is that – the benefits of this meeting is that you can help us reach out – if you feel that people are experiencing crime and not reporting, please help – there are third party reporting sites, and we have done work with the Chinese Community in Deptford recently on building trust.</p> <p><b>Tom Mann</b> - You mentioned a Met priority being burglary, I don’t remember burglary being on the list of Safer Lewisham Partnership priorities, which was developed with views of this group and many people across the borough. How do you reconcile the SLP priorities against your Met Priorities.</p> <p><b>JB</b> – ultimately we have a fundamental priority to reduce all crime. We have focussed on robbery, youth violence, knife crime which have all been local partnership priorities. However, burglary is increasing across London and we have a duty to reduce it. The impact on individuals is far reaching.</p> <p><b>Barry Langridge</b> - With regard to burglary – do you guarantee that an officer will attend burglaries. Is there a time frame of hours, a day, three days?</p> <p><b>JB</b> - We are committed across London to get an officer to the scene of a burglary within an hour, and we also have a commitment that a scene of the crime officer should attend within 4 hours, but this isn’t always convenient. Earlier someone referred to a big operation last week – this was a high profile operation targeting people who drive uninsured cars. What we find is that people who do this commit other crimes. Last week we carried out this, and were able to catch a burglar, and two who were related to a recent assault at Haberdashers school</p> <p>The Chair thanked Mr Burton and introduced the next speaker, who is part of the main agenda of the meeting and will be explaining what STOPIT is, and giving a London wide perspective.</p> <p><i>Mr Burton’s presentation is available online with the other papers for this meeting</i></p>	
5	<p><b>Inspector Simon Rotherham – Met Police</b></p>	
	<p>The new Commissioner of the Met, Bernard Hogan-Howe has stated that we need to change 3 key things about Stop and Search.</p> <p>1 We need to be more effective in how Stop and Searches are used – 20 % need to have a positive outcome. At the beginning of this initiative the London figure was</p>	

12.4% it is now up to 15.3% and is improving month by month. Brent have a figure of 25%.

2 Section 60 Authorisation. A controversial tool, which can be used if a senior officer feels there is risk of serious violence then they can decree that anyone in a certain area can be stopped and search. It has mostly been used in dealing with gang offence, and under the new Trident Gang initiative this has reduced by 92% so 19 thousand fewer people have been searched under that power. The Deputy Commissioner is having quarterly meetings with the Borough Commanders when they have to justify and explain their performance on Stop and Search.

3 Protect our community – if serious youth crime and knife crime is affecting our communities then policing needs to target that. We have a target to reduce the number of searches for drugs by 50%. We have reached about 35% but have more work to do.

Although drugs is important as a gateway to other crimes we need to target more.

4 Better outcomes – really all about the quality of the encounter. We are struggling to find out how we can get feedback on the quality of the encounter. We have done some training which all officers have completed – other work includes a local survey in Ealing, 2 Stop and Search questions added to the Confidence survey, in Tower Hamlets all those who are S&S'd are interviewed about how they found the encounter.

Stop and Search complaints are down overall by 8% which is why we need to set up the Stop and Search Community Monitoring Groups. My unit at the Yard is there to help spread good practice and help officers achieve better outcomes and communicate better. We appreciate we don't do it right and want to improve.

The Chair clarified that there has been a Stop and Search monitoring group in Lewisham for over a decade. As Inspector Rotherham won't be able to stay until the end of the meeting so will take questions now.

**Duwayne Brooks** – Please explain what “positive outcomes” are. **S Rotherham** - this is either arresting somebody or finding somebody with drugs.

**David Michael** – Please explain what the training involves? **S Rotherham** – there was a lot of input from the community – it is an interactive package and has people explaining how they felt when they were stopped and searched.

The Chair noted that the Lewisham S&S group have asked to view this training package.

**Member of Public** – Is the fact that the new Commissioner has made this new word “STOPIT” an acknowledgment that the previous system was a failure. **S Rotherham** – It is a matter of different people thinking different things are important. The Commissioner thinks it is important, and he speaks to the Mayor, and to MOPAC and Stephen Greenhalgh who also has a strong input. It is not an exact science, but we are doing our best and will try to replicate what does work.

**Conrad–Goldsmiths Uni** – you've said that S&S targets gangs and uninsured drivers have illegal things in their cars, but what kind of reasons are there for stop and searches. **S Rotherham** – Legally there are a number of powers, stop for drugs, for weapons, for stolen goods, also under Section 60 there doesn't need to be a reason.

**Ricardo Smith** – You say under S60 there doesn't need to be a reason – do you have to suspect them or can it be random? **S Rotherham** – It is quite controversial. Often

used when we have intelligence there is going to be a stabbing or reprisal so we fix the area and time of the S60 to the intelligence received.

**Tom Mann**– I’ve spent some time looking for an approximate breakdown of the split between an officer searching someone on specific information, and when it is based on professional intuition. Is it 50:50 is it 20:80? **S Rotherham** – No I don’t have that information and I wouldn’t be able to get that. This is deliberate because in the record this is a free text section and officers have to write in their reasons why – we don’t want it to become a tick box exercise. There were 500,000 stops in the Met last year and to search a free text section on those would be near impossible. Local Stop and Search groups can do dip sampling – where they look at a box of S&S slips, choose as many as they want and examine the grounds given.

**Tom Mann** – It is an important aspect – because as the Commissioner is trying to refocus from stopping for drugs to stopping for weapons. So officer could potentially have been posting a feeling that someone was a bit ropey when you would write down “drug” and now labelling it as a search for “weapons – so it would be quite easy to meet the target that way. But the problem is with the 85% of people where nothing was found and who don’t know why they were stopped. **S Rotherham** – if the quality of the encounter is good, then the person should understand why they were stopped and if not then they should complain. That’s what we want – if they are not giving you a good enough reason then we want to know.

**Royston John** – **NCBI** – I’ve heard from young people that the attitude of the officer pre-engagement is what drives the outcome. What difference will a powerpoint make to that. **SR** – Officers don’t go out deliberately to do a bad job, we have systems in different boroughs such as in Brent, where there is a mentoring system. **Mr Burton** – Second Wave in Deptford have been working with police officers and young people for about 7 years now working on the quality of stop and search encounters. I believe they are now piloting a qualification and also we have committed all the new probationer constables to work with them. On the borough this calendar year we have reduced the section 60s from one this year from 11 last year. The communication and legal aspects need to be right.

**Diane Salmon** –I have seen young school children being searched on buses – officers have made them remove their shoes. **S Rotherham** – Officer shouldn’t normally be removing people’s shoes, so you should ask them to explain themselves. **D Salmon** – Is it right that they can do that to a child under 16, if they were interviewed they would have an adult with them. **S Rotherham** – Children are searched under the same laws as adults and they have the same rights. Interviews are conducted under different laws **J Burton** – it is difficult for us to comment about particular incidents without knowing the details. There has been a noticeable rise in very young offenders. One night last year there were 3 burglars in the station aged between 11 and 14 years old.

**6 Gordon Glean – Stop and Search Group**

Sterling work has been done in Lewisham over a number of years. His predecessor was Asquith Gibbes, who was probably Lewisham’s greatest community advocates. Is Stop and Search our best friend or our worst enemy – this is an important question to ask ourselves. We have worked hard to develop something tangible and are in a great place now – My presentation tonight is a smaller version of what I spoke to the 32 London borough Commanders in February.

	<p>You as Community members need to ask yourself if Stop and Search is your best friend or your worst enemy. It is important that strategic assessments happen with partners involved - such as police, local business organisations, fire service, youth offending. What does the Scrutiny Group do? It is important for the group itself to look at what we do and ask if the things that we do are having any effect on the streets. Two things that Gordon would like to look at: In February when he first gave this presentation the borough's figures were 47.3% where drugs were given as the reason for the search. When I sat as Chair, we monitored disproportionality and use of Sections 60s and I am sure that we will continue to do both. Outreach work is also really really important.</p> <p>Communication is a key attribute – but there is a need to be careful how we communicate – there needs to be a process and we to engage at closed meetings with information that is not for public consumption, as well as good community engagement. If we don't layer the approach there will be chaos. Locally police have opened more doors in the last 5 years. Their willingness to engage in dip sampling, shadowing officers on patrols, involving local people in officer training, sharing specific information with the S&amp;S group – all of these were great leadership decisions. Despite what we may think in Lewisham the work that is done here looking at Stop and Search is the envy of other boroughs. One of the things we haven't been great at is communicating how our work with the police assists you in the community.</p> <p>Stop and Search, is it fair? The key is still people's perceptions and unfortunately there is no one right answer. Reactions to Stop and Search will always be subjective dependent on feelings and emotions. What do communities reasonably want from Stop and Search? Ask yourselves and get this back to us so we can communicate this to where it can make a difference. If there is going to be disproportionality it needs to be justifiable.</p> <p>One thing that police need to show through the data is that S&amp;S is carried out with respect, fairly, and without bias. We need to see more intelligence led, and to find are indicators for quality, not quantity. And I would like to see more accountability in the senior management team.</p> <p>I have a great deal of optimism regarding the new partnership team on the borough. I'd particularly commend the superintendent as I believe that his handling of events in August last summer prevented further trouble on the borough.</p> <p>While I think that the police's acceptance of constructive criticism is good, I am glad that they understand the importance of the community having trust and confidence in them. I do think they should also look at the reverse perspective – realistically, how much trust and confidence do they have in the communities they work with. Is Stop and Search the best friend or enemy for the police</p> <p><i>Gordon's Presentation is available online with the other papers for this meeting</i></p>	
<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>Chief Inspector Shaun Willshire – Met Police, Lewisham</b></p>	
	<p>The Chair announced that she was making a slight change to the order and Chief Inspector Shaun Willshire, (Partnership team at Lewisham Police) will speak next.</p> <p>CI Willshire noted that a year before STOPIT came in, Mr Burton volunteered Lewisham for a pilot with the National Policing Improvement Agency to improve Stop and Search. They looked at processes and made Stop and Search more focussed, more intelligence led and more productive. Also studied were how police task and brief officers and get them in the right place at the right time looking for the right people. Previously it would be fair to say that officer briefings had so much detail that they lost meaning. Working together we changed the slides – fewer slides, more</p>	

	<p>bespoke and direct, targeting known criminals and violent offenders. We have developed an Action Plan – looking at mentoring, supervision and monitoring. Each inspector is required to identify officers who are performing above and beyond – it is too early to evaluate yet.</p> <p>We have daily meetings chaired by the Superintendent, we review how many of the people featured in the slides were seen by officers, were spoken to, or where there were grounds for search. Individual officers need to have good grounds and be sure their stops are lawful and proportionate. We also review S&amp;S and arrest numbers. Monthly the performance of each team is discussed with Mr Burton, holding individual inspectors to account with individual officers on their teams.</p> <p>CI Willshire also thinks that complaints about Stop and Search complaints are about officers from other boroughs acting in the borough, although some, such as the Welsh police or Heddli, had a very warm reception last August.</p> <p>The training package challenges officers – Is it proportionate? Is the Search necessary? And to make the encounter positive, to explain rationale, to emphasise compliance and support and to ensure there is understanding at the end of the encounter.</p> <p>This is the way that the public want Stop and Search to be conducted. It is a valuable tool to reduce violent crime. The delay involving showing the training package to the Stop and Search group was that we were awaiting permission from the Met. I haven't had any feedback, but will now make the offer public. We also have a DVD provided by Brent which every officer is going to view.</p> <p>We have an Action Plan for the borough which includes Schools Officers explaining STOPIT, and improving performance. The Commissioners drive is to reduce negative drug searches, not drug searches – to amend what was said earlier. We have reduced these by 30% but the target is a 50% reduction.</p> <p>CI Willshire referred to the S&amp;S for weapons scenario suggested by Tom Mann earlier and hopes that this is not the case, at the moment the target is 20% and we are doing around 24.3% weapons searches. I'd personally like to thank Gordon for all the work he has done, but also welcome Emmanuel and Sadiki, and it is wonderful to have young people on the group.</p> <p>I had a concern about actions of officers visiting the borough which has been addressed and are now given clear guidance, they are given slides and shown maps. Using computers we now can see where officers are, and visiting officers are aware of this..</p>	
7	<p><b>Know Your Rights - Short Film</b></p>	
	<p>In autumn/winter 2011/12 the Stop and Search Group ran a competition to produce a short 3 minute film which showed what your rights are if you are stopped and searched.</p> <p>The winning entry was shown and is available online at <a href="http://vimeo.com/36087600">http://vimeo.com/36087600</a></p>	
9	<p><b>Aaron Sonson – Stop and Search App</b></p>	
	<p>With 2 friends I took part in a course called Apps for Good, which helped young people to produce apps for mobile phones which could tackle social problems and do some good.</p> <p>The app we developed does 3 things</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1- it explains what "your rights" are – it breaks them down in a user-friendly and clear way.</li> <li>2- It allows uses to "upload their experience". They can feedback on things like how much respect the officers showed you, how much respect you showed to</li> </ol>	



the officer. You record the officers badge number and it uses phones ability to geo-locate the signal and record where the encounter took place.

3- You can “view local stops” on a map with summary of the experiences uploaded in your area.

We developed the original version 2 years ago for use on Android Phones, and since then have worked on developing a version using Blackberry (BB) phones which are very popular with young people. The new BB version has had over 2 thousand downloads and we are working to promote it further. We have been featured in the Guardian and Independent newspapers and even on Al Jazeera.

The Met like it, and offered financial support but declined because we want to stay independent.

Currently we are working on some improvements for the BB version and soon will release iPhone versions, a new Android version and will produce a website where you can see the information as well.

Questions from the Audience

**Sadiki Harris** – How accurate is the geo-location – **Aaron Sonson** it would show whether you were inside this building or out on the street.

**Duwayne Brooks** – First I apologise, I know you have been trying to get hold of me. Why didn’t you take the money offered to you for the app? You could have had millions. **AS** – We didn’t want to jeopardise the neutral independent position. Where I’m from people would think that if the police put money into it then it would be tracking your phone, or something like that. We didn’t want to take the risk.

**Emmanuel Imuere** – What were the motivations for creating the app and what were your personal experiences of S&S? **Aaron S** - Section 44 was a big issue at the time. About 99% of people who were Stopped and Searched were innocent of anything. Me and friends all had bad experiences of S&S and of the police generally.

**Member of Public** – What is the name of the app and how are you marketing it – within schools? **Aaron S** - The name of the app is Stop and Search uk and you can download that from Blackberry App world. The version on this agenda link is out of date now and has been taken down. We are working on viral campaign using Facebook and Twitter, we have done radio interviews, and are being backed by an MP in Brent called Barry Gardiner who wrote to schools in his borough, and we think this led to a lot of downloads.

**Cllr Daby – Cabinet Member for Community Safety** – Congratulations. Is it a free app, and in terms of schools are you looking at schools in Lewisham? **Aaron S** - Thank you. It is free, and we are hoping to work with schools across all of London.

**Joanne Bish** – Congratulations. Do you think officers will allow young people to do this in the middle of a Stop and Search **Aaron S** – they don’t need to do it during, it is about doing it after the stop and search. **Joanne** – if they are taken into custody their phone will be taken away and they will already be very upset. **Aaron S** – When you get released you should be given a slip, which will have the information you need to upload your experience, so it wouldn’t be too late.

**Conrad Grant** – Again Congratulations. When will the iPhone version be coming out and what is the appropriate time to upload your experience? **Aaron S** – thank you – the iPhone version should be out in a couple of months. Once you download the app, look up your rights while you are on the bus etc, but if you are Stopped and Searched

	<p>wait until afterwards to upload your experience – you don't want to aggravate the situation more.</p> <p><b>Royston John</b> – Congratulations – we often hear about disproportionality and discrimination and it is really nice to hear about young British black men doing something positive.</p> <p><b>Member of the Public</b> – We are very proud of you, keep it going and God Bless.</p> <p><b>Royston John</b> – If the app is free, how do you get paid for doing this. AS – we are hoping to get sponsorship, from a suitable company, and maybe looking to have advertising on the app in future. It is important that we make it as accessible to as many people as possible and a lot of people can't pay.</p> <p><i>Further information and the app are available from</i>  <a href="http://www.stopandsearch.org">http://www.stopandsearch.org</a>                      <a href="http://appsforgood.org/about">http://appsforgood.org/about</a>  <a href="http://appworld.blackberry.com/webstore/content/94088/?lang=en">http://appworld.blackberry.com/webstore/content/94088/?lang=en</a></p> <p>The Chair then introduced the new chair, Emmanuel Imuere of the Stop and Search group to speak about his plans and where he will be taking the group in the future.</p>	
<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>Emmanuel Imuere– Stop and Search Group</b></p>	
	<p>Emmanuel congratulated Aaron on taking a proactive and positive approach. The question of how he gets paid – it is by all of us supporting him and helping promote and invest in the app. I was delighted to be approached about chairing the Stop and Search Scrutiny Group. I have lived in the borough for over 35 years, and have had both good and bad experiences of Stop and Search. I think we have to accept that it is hear and make the best of it. The vice-chair, Sadiki Harris, and myself are hoping to develop an approach which is specific to Lewisham. We would like to bring more education, particularly for young people, and also for police in relating to young people. One thing which I have noticed is that there is a problem with the complaints procedure. I don't think there is a feeling that if there is an unfair S&amp;S that anything will happen about it. Will young people feel able to make this kind of complaint – do we need as a community to look at how we support them – could we have a network of responsible adults who could support them? As a group we need to evidence and prove what we are doing a bit more.</p> <p>Finally we need to change our perception that it is us against the police. The police are here to protect us, to prevent crime and keep our communities safe and actually it is our duty to support that – we all have rights that need to be upheld, but no individuals are above the law. As Chair, if it comes to my attention that people are being discriminated against I will take that forward.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Emmanuel and all the speakers and opened the floor to questions and comments.</p> <p><b>Joshua Imere</b> (Emmanuel's brother) - What is Lewisham's response to that app. Can we adopt it and help value their work. <b>Jackie Addison, LCPCG Chair</b> – I'd like to sponsor the app, but we don't have a great deal of money – perhaps we could help them apply for some community grant or offer our endorsement in some other way. <b>Emmanuel</b> –we are looking at including Aaron <i>and</i> the app in our roadshows and education. It helps people to have something they can do if they have negative experience.</p>	

**Anthony** – Can a friend put in the details of your experience for you. **Aaron S** – Not at the moment, but we are working on how we can develop it in future.

**Member of Public**– Thank you for coming – it takes a village to raise children. I thought the video was a little stereotypical and in terms of the bravado, slang and attitude I think it could be misleading. It doesn't lead anything to young people who are courteous. I work with young people in care and young offenders. It seems that older officers are more experienced and do better searches. Also I have heard that there are problems with plain clothes officers. Congratulations to Aaron and Emmanuel.

**Member of Public** – Question for Shaun – how are you reducing negative drug searches. **Shaun Willshire** - it is all about intelligence we are trying to focus officers on people who we believe are dealers or are involved in some way.

**Gurbaksh Garcha**– I set up a youth club many years ago and I have seen the police force change from a blatantly racist force to a more community minded force that we have now. Stop and Search has been an issue that we have been tackling for 30 odd years and I'm concerned that we still have an ongoing problem with disproportionality. I am very glad that the younger generation are working with police in building trust.

**Sadiki Harris, vice chair of Stop and Search Group.** Regarding the competition, it ran for 6 months, but the response from young people was disappointing so on those grounds I don't want to criticise those young people who did make the effort and try to achieve something positive. Also, in terms of the money for the app. I don't think you should regret not taking the money. It is our responsibility as a community to make sure the app is a success and then you will find support.

**Duwayne Brooks** – I have the app on my phone and the Met have endorsed it, and I know that senior officers are always asking about it. I don't think that there has been enough recognition for Shaun's work in Lewisham over the riots, but because of Shaun and his team we avoided big problems. I also have questions about fingerprinting machines but I will ask those another time.

**Member of Public** – What is a warrant and what is a warrant card? **Shaun Willshire** – A warrant is an order from the court, or it could be a search warrant, it is a legal document giving police/courts authority to do something. A warrant card is a different thing – every police officer has to carry one on and off duty and it identifies them. It is strange that we have both a warrant and a warrant card – but they don't have the same meaning. Warrant cards have been around since 1839.

**Dith Banbury** – I am from Lewisham College – I will take back the constructive criticism to the students. Just to be clear the film was written directed and produced entirely by the students, not the staff. Congratulations to Aaron and don't forget colleges like us on your tour, lots of 16-18 year olds are at college.

**Sam Dias** – Congratulations – I'd like to meet with you afterwards and introduce you to some people and help you to network.

**Joanne Bish** – I laughed at the film - the message of the film does come across quite clearly, and it does deliver what young people need to know, but I didn't think that

	<p>the stereotyping was necessary. Question for Gordon – you talk about perception-how is this measured. Question for Shaun Willshire - How do you manage the supervision of officers re Stop and Search. <b>Shaun Willshire</b> – We look at all the data – disproportionality, who is stopped and searched, officers are spoken to individually. We challenge the inspectors because they are there – on shift with the officers. The police force has changed a lot, and we have a reporting wrongdoing policy. A recent survey showed that staff overwhelmingly thought that they would be supported by management if they reported wrong doing. We want to make sure that we are doing the right thing at the right time. <b>Gordon Glean</b> – Until we can change perceptions you will continue to believe what you think is happening. It isn't meant as an insult. What we haven't been particularly good at doing is explaining to you how the police have been transparent. We need to get those messages out to you in a more proficient way, again it is down to the police to measure that. <b>Emmanuel Imuere</b> – We were at a meeting in Central London of Stop and Search groups. What shocked me is that I was told that between Jan and April 2012, there were only 29 complaints in the community about poor Stop and Searches. It isn't just one person's responsibility. Nobody is going to dispute that stop and search taking knives off the streets is a good thing, however, police need to share good practice and stories, and complaints need to be made where they are due. From what I can sense in the room, we do need to work on getting confidence in the community. In any one week I hear around ten young people complaining about unfair Stop and Searches.</p> <p><b>Tom Mann</b> – Is filming a Stop and Search illegal or not? <b>Shaun Willshire</b> – it is definitely not an offence. The advice I give to officers is that it isn't an offence and they should let themselves be recorded – as they shouldn't have anything to hide. I would advise you not to stand close or otherwise interfere with the search though. Also to consider that the person being stopped may not want to be filmed.</p> <p><b>David Michael</b> – referring to something mentioned earlier on, it is the law which governs stop and search which doesn't differentiate the way children and young people are treated, or whether they are wearing school uniform. There was a time when a lot of children were having mobiles stolen and there are a lot of young people who misinform themselves that arming themselves with a knife will make them safer.</p>	
<b>11</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>	
	<p>The chair noted that it had been a very interesting evening, and asked the community to remember that it was through these public meetings that the police are held accountable so we need to keep them popular and interesting.</p> <p>The chair also noted that Geeta Subramaniam from the Council was here and welcomed her back from maternity leave.</p> <p>She thanked all the speakers and the audience for coming</p>	

**Dates of future LCPCG meetings:**

**Wed 14<sup>th</sup> November 2012** Special Meeting for Pensioners  
**Tuesday 4 December 2012**  
**Tuesday 5 February 2013**  
**Tuesday 27 March 2013** Annual General Meeting