

**LONDON COMMUNITIES' CRIME CONCERNS
BRIEFING NOTE 4: January to June 2010**



Survey shows that London communities welcome the drop in recorded crime

- London's Community Police Engagement Groups (CPEGs) welcome the drop in recorded crime. They also stress the importance of street lighting in the fight against crime.

Those are the main messages from LCP2's latest analysis of what the CPEGs are talking about across London in the first half of 2010 compared with the second half of 2009.

LCP2 analyses the minutes of CPEG public meetings every six months, to identify trends in London communities' crime concerns. The latest research, published at the end of September 2010, shows that "decline in recorded crime" featured in 23 CPEG public meetings during January to June 2010, compared with only 10 meetings during the second half of 2009. While Groups warned against complacency, they were pleased to hear that recorded crime levels were down. "This is very good news and sets a standard for the police to stick to" said Elizabeth Beggs, Chair of LCP2.

Second only to the recorded crime figures in the rise up the popularity poll was the importance of street lighting. This featured in 12 public meetings from January to June 2010, twice as many as in the previous six months. Street lighting provides reassurance to the public, and cuts crime – two good reasons why CPEGs are stepping up the pressure on their local councils to keep street lighting in good repair.

Job done?

- Much less of an issue for the CPEGs now than last year are police contact phone numbers, seasonal crime, and keeping valued MPS officers.

Police contact phone numbers, seasonal crime, and keeping valued MPS officers are all much less of an issue for CPEGs than they used to be. In the period July to December 2009 these topics came up at 16, 15 and 11 meetings respectively, but only at 3, 4 and 3 meetings in the first half of 2010. Elizabeth Beggs, Chair of LCP2 commented "Let's hope that this dramatic decrease is because these are issues that have been dealt with, not issues that people have just given up on."

The work goes on

Meanwhile the core work of the CPEGs continues much as before with the most frequently discussed topics at their public meetings being community engagement, communication between police and public, working in partnership with other agencies, and anti social behaviour. The feeling about communication in particular is that despite some excellent individual initiatives, the Met as a whole still has a long way to go to meet public expectations on communication.

Attached: three charts showing in more detail what has risen up the public agenda, what has gone down, and the hot topics at CPEG meetings.

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