



# Safer Queensbridge

Your local policing and community safety newsletter



*The team on their regular patrol around the market*

## Breaking the cycle of crime

It's good news for cyclists visiting Broadway Market; cycle theft has been slashed by a simple, yet effective operation by the Queensbridge Safer Neighbourhoods Team. Sergeant Chris Scott explains: "In the past, cycle thefts have averaged about 30 per month. We have tried other things, but this time we designed a warning card to attach to the handlebars of cycles in our hotspots, such as the market." The cards not only warned criminals that the team are patrolling the area, but they also incorporated security advice for the owner. "We needed to let the public know their

Cycle theft fell sharply in the ward

bikes are at risk, people will then lock up more securely and won't take any chances." Thefts fell to 12 incidents in November 2008, and were down to just two cases by early February 2009. The achievements don't stop there, as crime on the whole is falling in Queensbridge, with notable reductions in Robbery, Drugs Offences and Criminal Damage. "Crime has been falling steadily in the borough over the past four years and it seems that the introduction of Safer Neighbourhoods teams and extra officers on the beat has had a big impact," says Sergeant Scott.

**What do you think?** Email [saferrcommunities@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:saferrcommunities@hackney.gov.uk). See back page for other ways to get in touch and enter our survey to win £50!

## Welcome

Welcome to the first issue of Safer Queensbridge. This newsletter is brought to you by the police and Hackney Council who are working together to make Hackney safer and cleaner, as well as improving the quality of life in the borough. Our regular newsletter will keep you



up-to-date about policing and community safety Hackney-wide, as well as telling you what's happening in your area. The good news is there is a lot to shout about. Crime is falling faster in Hackney than in nearly any other London borough; for example, gun crime was down by 35% last year. **Continued overleaf**

## How are things looking in Queensbridge?

(From Dec 07 to Dec 08)

|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| <b>Criminal damage</b>         | ▼ 8%  |
| <b>Robbery</b>                 | ▼ 12% |
| <b>Theft of motor vehicles</b> | ▼ 5%  |
| <b>Total crime</b>             | ▼ 2%  |

## News in brief

Every ward across Hackney has its own Community Action Panel (CAP). Chaired by residents, the panel works together with the police and Hackney Council to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in your area. CAPs also discuss issues such as environmental problems that contribute to crime, hate crime and neighbourhood nuisance. You can have your say by joining your local tenants' and residents' association. Recent CAP priorities set for the police in Queensbridge are:

- **Anti-social behaviour on various estates**
- **Theft of Pedal Cycles particularly around Broadway Market**
- **Engaging with hard to reach young people to prevent crime**

## Have your say

Interested? You can access the CAP and get support by getting in touch with your local residents' association. Call Hackney Homes on 020 8356 6600, or log on to [www.hackney.gov.uk](http://www.hackney.gov.uk) and search for the Community Directory.

### Continued from front page

There is still room for improvement. Unsafe streets, estates and public spaces are still a top concern for residents. You want to know what's being done and how to get in touch; our newsletter will bring you a clear idea of what we are doing to improve policing and community safety.



# Safer Neighbourhoods

Like all 19 wards in Hackney, Queensbridge has its own permanent Safer Neighbourhoods Team which is based at 220 Haggerston Road. Safer Neighbourhoods is about a return to a local policing style: local people working with local police and partners to make your neighbourhood safer.

Police officers are more visible than ever before and are trained to communicate with a wide range of people to solve

neighbourhood problems. Experience suggests these are most likely to be quality-of-life issues such as anti-social behaviour, criminal damage and graffiti.

The Safer Neighbourhoods Team has pledged to make Queensbridge a safer place to live. They aim to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and increase public confidence. They hope that the local community will continue to work with them to achieve their goals.



## Team Talk

**With Sergeant Chris Scott**  
Queensbridge Safer Neighbourhoods Team

Sergeant Chris

Scott is responsible for the Queensbridge Safer Neighbourhoods team, with two PCs and four PCSOs. "It's been a productive few months since I became Sergeant looking after the Queensbridge ward. I've got a great team who

have been working really hard to keep crime coming down in Queensbridge.

It's been great to meet local residents and find out what matters to you on your street. You have told us to focus on reducing anti-social behaviour, with our partners.

We hope that you will continue

to read Safer Queensbridge. Our priority is to make a positive impression on everyone we have contact with – the public is our most important partner. You can always call us, email or come to see us at the Haggerston Road office."

**Call 020 7161 9027**

## Cleaner means safer

**H**ackney Council have issued 170 fines worth £80 for dropping litter since November as part of a borough-wide blitz on litter, flyposting, graffiti and illegal dumping.



Officers also spent two days in January monitoring dog fouling in borough hotspots such as London Fields, and a series of action days against graffiti took place in February.

This year, over 100 buildings have been cleansed so far to remove graffiti and flyposting by working with businesses and property owners.

Utility company EDF has agreed to remove offensive or racist graffiti from its property within one working day, while Network Rail has given permission for the Council to cleanse six bridges and claim

back the costs.

In a crack down against illegal dumping, well-known hotspots were monitored daily over a two week period to see whether further enforcement is necessary.

To report graffiti, flyposting, illegal dumping, litter or dog-fouling contact 020 8356 4810.

## News in brief

### Did you know?

- Hackney has some of the best crime reduction figures in London
- Crime has dropped 32 per cent in the last four years
- Last year there were 8,000 fewer victims of crime than four years previously.

### Police Pledge

A "Policing Pledge" has been launched that sets out the standard of service you can expect from the Met as a resident of Hackney. In particular, police Safer Neighbourhoods teams have pledged to respond to every message directed to your local team within 24 hours. Find out more at [www.met.police.uk](http://www.met.police.uk)

## Caught on camera

**A** joint effort by Hackney Council CCTV operators and the police resulted in four arrests, the recovery of a large sum of stolen money and the detection of ten offences of armed robbery. From police information, CCTV operators found a vehicle driving around Hackney associated with armed robberies. They kept the vehicle under surveillance for 45 minutes over several miles, and then alerted police when enough evidence was gathered to swoop in and make the arrests. Roy Hitching is the CCTV and Emergency Planning Service Manager:

"There are over 180 CCTV cameras in the borough which are continuously monitored 24 hours a day. We also have access to a further 2,000 cameras owned by other organisations such as TfL and Hackney Homes. The systems and service are there for the safety of our residents and visitors. They contribute to crime reduction as CCTV operators and police work alongside each other to disrupt crime. Images captured provide evidence to assist in prosecuting offenders, or helping the



*The offenders were tracked on CCTV*

emergency services. We can tell the police if we see anything suspicious happening. If they are looking for someone in particular, we usually locate them." You can call the CCTV control room on 020 8356 2323, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

### Knife crime down

According to Met Police figures, knife crime is down 21 per cent this year. The police say Operation Blunt has contributed to this reduction by stopping and searching more people and catching out, along with the Trading Standards team, those shops who sell knives to underage children. The "It Doesn't Have to Happen" anti-knife campaign was also launched by local MP and Home Office Minister Meg Hillier in January. This will mean extra cash to help local community and charity groups in Hackney to run programmes to turn young people away from being tempted to use knives.

# Contacts

## Reporting crime

**Police Non Emergency** 0300 123 1212

**Police Emergency** 999

**Crimestoppers** 0800 555 111

**Police Safer Neighbourhoods Office, Queensbridge**

020 7161 9027 / 07748 703342,

email [Queensbridge.snt@met.police.uk](mailto:Queensbridge.snt@met.police.uk)

**Neighbourhood Wardens, Shoreditch**

020 8356 4474

## Spotlight

On Neighbourhood wardens



Kwami Agbo manages the wardens who patrol Queensbridge



**“We work with the police and Council to make the area safer and cleaner. As well as helping out the community, we do big clean-ups of litter, fly-tipping, graffiti or remove needles. We also report anti-social behaviour and keep an eye on vulnerable residents. You can call us on 020 8356 4474, or find out more at [www.hackney.gov.uk](http://www.hackney.gov.uk).”**

## Hackney Council Community Safety

**Co-ordinator Stephen Woodley**

020 8356 4473,

email [stephen.woodley@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.woodley@hackney.gov.uk)

**Hackney Council Community Safety Team**

020 8356 2174,

email [safercommunities@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:safercommunities@hackney.gov.uk)

## Helplines and Advice

**Hackney Council Domestic Violence and Hate Crime Helpline**

0800 056 0905

**Victim Support Hackney** 020 8533 5332

**Hackney Community Drug Service**

020 8985 3757

**City & Hackney Alcohol Service**

020 7613 1313

**24-hour CCTV Control Room Line**

020 8356 2323

## Hackney Council

**Hackney Service Centre** 020 8356 3000

**Hackney Homes, Estate Safety Teams:**

**General Phone Line** 020 8356 1911/1905

**Drugs Hotline** 020 8356 3333

**CrackDown Project** 020 8356 3333

**Noise Reporting** 020 8356 4455

**Hackney Wasteline** 020 8356 6688

## Local Queensbridge Councillors

**CLl Emma Plouviez**

Phone: 020 8356 3373

Email: [emma.plouviez@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:emma.plouviez@hackney.gov.uk)

**CLl Tom Price**

Phone: 020 8356 3373

Email: [tom.price@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:tom.price@hackney.gov.uk)

**CLl Patrick Vernon**

Phone: 020 8356 3373

Email: [patrick.vernon@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:patrick.vernon@hackney.gov.uk)



**Cabwise** Always use a licensed minicab, taxi, nightbus or the Tube to get home. Text HOME to 60835 to get the numbers of one taxi and two licensed minicab firms, in the area you are texting from.



## Why call Crimestoppers?

Crimestoppers is a charity which provides a unique service to help you. Tell them what you know, not who you are. They record no personal details about you. They simply pass on the information you have about crime whilst protecting your identity.

**To give information anonymously to Crimestoppers now, call 0800 555 111.**

[crimestoppers-uk.org](http://crimestoppers-uk.org)

## More information

### Useful sites for young people

[www.london.gov.uk/young-london](http://www.london.gov.uk/young-london)

(Website for young Londoners)

[www.thehype.info](http://www.thehype.info) (Hackney Youth Service)

[www.hackney.gov.uk](http://www.hackney.gov.uk) (For details on sports, leisure and cultural services in Hackney)

[www.socialspider.com](http://www.socialspider.com) (For Contrast magazine)

[www.catch-22.org.uk](http://www.catch-22.org.uk) (Youth Inclusion Project)

### Quick questions

**Does this newsletter help you know how to contact your safer neighbourhood team?**

**How helpful have you found this newsletter?**

**What else would you like to see in this newsletter, next time?**

Log on to [www.consultationfinder.com/hackney](http://www.consultationfinder.com/hackney) and give us your view on this publication, as well as how you think we can make Hackney safer. It only takes five minutes and you could win £50 worth of shopping vouchers.



Newsletter produced by Team Hackney, on behalf of The Metropolitan Police and Hackney Council.

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