

## REPORT FROM SGT. PETER LE SHIRLEY

Wallington South Safer Neighbourhood Team

OGRES AGM 2011

Dear Residents,

Thank you for the invitation to your annual meeting. As you know I am always very keen to attend these events but unfortunately I am currently on leave and can't make the meeting tonight.

Firstly can I update you on with regards to Wallington Police Station. All six local safer neighbourhood teams have now moved into Crosspoint House which is an office block at the rear of Sainsbury's in Stafford Road. The front reception desk is also now open at the same location. The entrance is on the side of the new building facing Sainsbury's car park. The opening times are 8am-8pm Mon-Fri and 10am-6pm Sat-Sun. The Met only occupy part of the first floor and do not have any parking facilities at the front of the building. I'm not entirely sure what the fate of the old building will be but I would imagine that at some stage it will be sold off.

I have been looking at our crime figures and the latest I have cover the first five months of this year. When compared to the first five months of last year we are currently showing a drop of 13.4% of crime reported on the ward which I think is a very good return. This figure is made up of all the different types of crime which have been reported.

Over the past year the team have been given a number of new responsibilities and we understand the need to take our share of the extra workload in the current climate. However our main focus will always be tackling the issues which you identify to us as being the most important to you. One of the new ideas which has now been put into practice is the new High Street Team.

At the moment this consists of two PCSO's who are dedicated to patrolling just the main retail area of the ward. To help them and the shops we have introduced a new "Shop Safe" radio system which allows the shops, who have signed up to the initiative, to communicate with the team, the police station and each other. This means that any would-be offenders can be spotted a lot earlier and give the team more time to react to deal with them. This is an extension of the very successful system currently running in Sutton High Street.

Over the past year the team have been very active. We have carried out numerous search warrants and made excellent arrests. We have also adopted a number of longer term problem solving initiatives .

These have included working closely with our partners in the local housing associations and at the council. This work has resulted in a number of people being evicted or being relocated away from Wallington South.

We have also tried to help local communities improve their environment. An example of which is all the new fencing which has been put up around Russell Court in Ross Road. The initial cost was too high for the housing association to cover alone so we applied for some assistance from the environment fund and managed obtain a third of the money needed. The remainder of the money was secured by A2 Dominion Housing and Sutton Council.

Our main business however remains tackling crime and bringing those responsible to account. Recently we have seen a small rise in motor vehicle crime around the Blenheim Gardens area. This has now been made a team priority and I would ask everyone just to make sure that they make sure their vehicles are secure and valuables not left inside. I am very keen to clamp down on this issue and I would ask everyone to remain vigilant and call the police if you see anything remotely suspicious.

That said crime on Sutton Borough remains very low and we still remain one of the safest boroughs in the London. Of course we have isolated issues but Wallington remains a very pleasant place to live. The work in the High Street is now complete and I think it is a vast improvement. There have been a few issues on the way, particularly with parking. An effort has been made to reduce this problem by making the first 30 minutes parking in the Shotfield car park free of charge.

As I always say please don't ever hesitate to call me or the team if you have any problems. Our number is 0208 721 2730. I hope you have a very productive meeting and I look forward to seeing you all again next year.

Best Regards

Peter