| **Meeting Minutes and Actions****Attendees: Alan Green, Leon Silver, Christine Hall, Rowena Loverance, Selma Piro, Ingrid Cruickshank, Mohammad Rahman, Jenny Hadgraft****Apologies: Jan McHarry, Daniel Range, Elspeth Paisley, Fiona Stewart-Darling**  |
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| **Location:** | Shadwell Fire Station, 290 Cable Street, E1 0BX |
| **Date:** | Monday 3 December |
| **Time** | 6pm – 8pm |

## **Hate crime analysis and regular report – Ingrid Cruickshank, MET Police**

DCI Cruickshank provided the latest hate crime figures update. The details are as follows:

**Data over 12 weeks:**

**Faith hate crime:** 462 across MPS (Metropolitan Police Service)

34 in TH (Tower Hamlets), with a sanction detection (SD) rate of 5.9% - which may seem low however the outcome is still pending for some cases.

**Islamaphobic hate crime:**  254 across MPS

28 in TH, with an SD rate of 7.1%, which Is higher than the rate of 5.9% across MPS

**Anti-Semitic hate crime:**  142 across MPS

2 in TH, with a 0% sanction detection rate compared to 3.5% in MPS, although no hard conclusions can be drawn about the data.

**Racist hate crime:** 3120 across MPS

127 in TH, with 10% SD rate, compared to MPS rate of 6.6%

**Data over 12 months:**

**Faith hate crime:**  1861 across MPS

801 in TH – making the borough the 4th highest figure in the MPS (similar to the figure last year). TH has an SD rate of 8%, compared to 4% MPS.

**Ismalophiobic hate crime:** 1108 across MPS

76 in TH, with an SD rate of 6.6% (an improvement but still more work to be done. Important to bear in mind that the data records both incidents and crimes – not all incidents end up being classed as crimes) MPS has an SD rate of 9.3%

**Anti-Semitic hate crime:** 471 across MPS

8 in TH with an SD rate of 25% compared to the MPS rate of 7%

**Racist hate crime**: 13409 across MPS

5785 in TH, with SD rate of 10.8% compared to the SD rate for MPS of 11%. Still a long way to go, but important to bear in mind that there are many reasons for this, e.g. Suspects not being identified, issues surrounding evidence or some victims not wanting to proceed.

## **An update on the merging of Tower Hamlets and Hackney policing boroughs – DCI Ingrid Cruickshank, MET Police**

The policing borough of Tower Hamlets merged in October with Hackney, to form the Central East Base Command Unit and has had a positive effect so far.

There are four main strands to the unit: Response, Neighborhood, Head Quarters and CID.

DCI Cruickshank is part of the Safeguarding team, which tackles hate crime, domestic abuse and exploitation, in addition to running multi agency safe guarding hubs that assist with any mental health issues that are linked to the cases.

To date, there has been no instances of a demonstrable impact to frontline services, due to the thorough planning of the merger and the way that it has opened up more coordination between the boroughs. This is hugely positive as Tower Hamlets and Hackney police teams can share best practice and systems that work well can be replicated. This should result in continuing improvements as time goes on.

If you do think that there has been an adverse effect due to the merge, you can let DCI Cruikshank know at Ingrid.Cruickshank@met.police.uk.

## **Inter Faith Week Event – Steering Group**

Reverend Alan Green provided a breakdown of the recent Inter Faith Week event held by THIFF. Here are the details:

There was good attendance at the event, 101 people registered to attend on Eventbrite, and an additional 12 people attended on the day. There were 65 people at the event. People of all different faiths registered to come along (2 Baha’i, 3 Bhuddist, 36 Christian, 37 Islam, 1 Hindu, 3 Judaism, 1 Pagan, 1 Multi faith and 21 no faith). There were a number of statutory organisations represented: MET Police, Tower Hamlets CCG, NHS East London, Tower Hamlets and Newham Councils.

There was plenty of good feedback provided, with many commenting on Dr Chris Hewers powerful speech – particularly how he talked about how his own faith in Christianity was challenged but grew by learning about other faiths.

The inter cultural dialogue workshops also proved popular – feedback on the conclusions reached by the discussion will be shared on the website when available.

## **General Information**

Some of attendees had interesting information that they shared with the forum.

**Carers Centre, Tower Hamlets**

Mohammad Rahman, from Tower Hamlets Carers Centre spoke about the excellent service that is offered to carers aged 16 and over. Many carers in the borough are suffering, due to lack of help and respite and the center provides much needed advice and activities (including respite) for them – all free of charge.

An adviser at the Carers Centre has an informal chat with the carer to work out how they can be helped, sometimes this ends up with the person being referred to another service, but very often the carer is looking for advice and support. The center offers advice on benefits (many carers do not claim benefits that they are entitled to), financial assistance (the center can refer a carer to a charity that can assist) or respite (many carers are in need of a night off from caring).

The Carers Centre also offers advice of powers of attorney (for free, unlike many solicitors that charge high fees). They also understand the pressures of carers that work as well as caring, so their opening hours now extend to Saturdays too.

Anyone in the borough can self-refer to the Carers Centre, this can be done on their website [here](http://ccth.org.uk/contact-2.html).

**Time Bank**

Selma Piro, shared her experience of being involved with Time Bank – a national volunteering charity. Time Bank is an umbrella website of a number of charities that believe volunteering can change the lives of both the volunteer and beneficiaries by building stronger inclusive communities. More details about the project can be found [here](https://timebank.org.uk/).

**The next forum meeting will be held on 28th January 2019, 6-8pm, venue tbc.**

**If you know anybody that is interested in being on the mailing list, please email** **info@faithintowerhamlets.org**