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## Community safety update

March 2015

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We won't let crime and anti-social behaviour blight the lives of local people and working with the police and the community, we'll take decisive action to make Islington safer for everyone.

Cllr Paul Convery  
Executive Member for Crime and Community Safety

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### **2015 Crime and Safety Summit**

Over 150 residents attended this year's crime and safety summit which focused on youth crime in Islington. There were presentations from the borough commander, the leader of the council, Cllr Paul Convery, George Kinsella, a forensic psychologist and youth members of Islington Unites, Muslim Welfare House and Choices London, Trade Unique and Thinkin' Clouds voluntary organisations. The summit saw the borough unite against knife and youth crime and ASB. The event was chaired by Dominic Fenton of the Safer Neighbourhood Board which is made up of representatives from local businesses, Victim Support, faith groups, student unions, the independent custody visitor's panel, the Stop and Search Monitoring Group and the community network. To get involved visit:

[www.islington.gov.uk/snb](http://www.islington.gov.uk/snb)

### **Operation Makesafe - child sexual exploitation (CSE)**

In partnership with Islington Borough Police we have launched a joint initiative which calls on the assistance of the local business community to help identify potential victims of child sexual exploitation (CSE). Operation Makesafe will seek to raise awareness within the hospitality, transport and licensed premises trades around the possible warning signs to look out for when coming into contact with young people they believe may be at risk of sexual exploitation. Taxi drivers, hoteliers and those working in licensed premises will be provided with bespoke CSE-awareness training by specially trained officers, allowing them not only to recognise those scenarios which should raise concerns; but also what action should be taken if they suspect a child is at risk.

### **Problem premises finally closed down by the Council and Police**

Arda 2, a café at 156A Seven Sisters Road, was reviewed by the Police after a large quantity of Class A drugs were found in the residential accommodation above it. The flat was owned by the licence holder and the occupants all worked at the cafe. In addition the licensee has been operating in breach of his licence and had also been prosecuted by the Council licensing team for a number of licensing offences. The premises had been open and trading pending an appeal against the Council's Licensing Sub Committee decision to revoke the licence. Following extensive joint investigative work by the Council and Police licensing teams, the licence holder abandoned the appeal and closed permanently on 16 February 2015.

### **Clean up events**

Throughout March there will be special clean-up activities taking place in four areas of the borough – Nag's Head, Finsbury Park, Archway and Caledonian Road. These areas will be getting a deep clean, and special events will be taking place throughout the month. Rubbish will be cleared, there will be free bulky waste collections, pavements will be deep cleaned, graffiti will be removed, new bins will be installed in some areas, and much more. There will also be special activities taking place in the four areas, and residents are invited to come along and join in with the big clean up. Check the website for some of the highlights [www.islington.gov.uk/CleanUp](http://www.islington.gov.uk/CleanUp).

### **Clean Streets app**

Islington Council has launched a new app that allows staff and residents to report environmental issues such as dog fouling, fly-posting, fly-tipping, graffiti, overflowing bins and more, all via your mobile phone or tablet. Once we receive your report, we will get someone down to deal with the problem as soon as possible, and we'll keep the app updated with our progress. We'll even add a photo to show the issue has been resolved. The app is available for free for iPhone, Android and Windows Phone via app stores. Find out more at [www.islington.gov.uk/CleanIslington](http://www.islington.gov.uk/CleanIslington)

### **Crack down on virtual offices**

Trading Standards have had a successful prosecution against one of Islington's Virtual Offices, N1 Mail Box Ltd of 275 New North Road. On 2 February 2015 N1 Mail Box Ltd and their manager Francis Strutt pleaded guilty to offences under the London Local Authorities Act 2007 for failing to take identification from clients when running a mail forwarding business. The company was fined £500 with £250 costs and Mr Strutt was fined £100 with £100 costs. Islington has several virtual offices and some addresses have been used by less than scrupulous traders to hide their true location. This makes it hard for consumers to complain. Knowingly, or otherwise, the virtual office sector has also facilitated fraud. Without identification records the people behind scams can become very difficult to trace.

### **Bankrupt Stock Shop closure**

On 3 March 2015 the manager of the now closed Bankrupt Stock Shop at 157 Holloway Road, was found guilty of several offences under the Trade Marks Act 1994. Islington Trading Standards found large quantities of counterfeit clothing and Persil washing powder at the store. Sentencing of Mr Brook will take place in mid-April.

### **Ten new CitySafe Havens open in Newington Green**

CitySafe Havens is a part of City Safe which was designed and created by young people to tackle the issue of knife crime on the streets of London. Last month, 10 new premises signed up to being part of CitySafe Havens in and around Newington Green. The Safe Havens are a way for young people to work together with shopkeepers, the police and local authorities to reclaim the streets and to reconnect and build relationships across the community. Islington Town Hall, the council building in Newington Barrow Way and all ten libraries are also part of the scheme. To find out where all of the Safe Havens in Islington are please visit City Safe Havens Islington:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?msa=0&mid=zF4kS6K1GRzw.kTBBWSN7hNvc> .

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### **Community safety contacts**

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### **Reporting anti-social behaviour to the Islington ASB team:**

Telephone: 020 7527 7272 Online: [www.islington.gov.uk/reportasb](http://www.islington.gov.uk/reportasb)

We will respond to your report as soon as possible, certainly within 24 hours. Our officers can make visits between 4pm and 2am Sunday to Thursday, and 5pm to 4am Friday and Saturday. During office hours, Council tenants and leaseholders should report ASB to the ASB team at their Area Housing Office, on the phone or in person, and Housing Association tenants should report ASB to their landlord. Out of office hours, all residents should report ASB on 020 7527 7272.

**Your local Safer Neighbourhoods Team (police):** Contact details for your local team and dates of local meetings at [http://content.met.police.uk/Page/TeamFinder?scope\\_id=1257246764070](http://content.met.police.uk/Page/TeamFinder?scope_id=1257246764070)

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