

Tower Hamlets Neighbourhood Watch Association

Trustees annual report for the period from 17. May 2021 to 31. March 2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name: Tower Hamlets Neighbourhood Watch Association

Also known as THNWA

Charity's registration no 1194477

Charity's address: The Glasshouse Community Centre
161 Old Ford Road
London E2 9QB

Name of charity trustees

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Madison Taylor	Enhanced disclosure	17/5/21 – 31/3/22	THNWA
2	Johanna Kaschke	Secretary, treasurer	17/5/21 – 31/3/22	THNWA
3	Alan Trench	Vice chair	17/5/21 – 31/3/22	THNWA
4	Martin Shortis	Chair, working with TRAs	17/5/21 – 31/3/22	THNWA
5	Avion Headley	Equal Opportunity Committee	23/10/21 – 31/3/22	THNWA
6	Oscar Luque Segovia	LGBT committee	23/10/21 – 31/3/22	THNWA

At present there are no custodian trustees, advisors or a chief executive

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the Charity's trusts

Tower Hamlets Neighbourhood Watch Association is governed with the constitution of a Charitable Incorporate Organisation CIO.

Trustee selection methods

Trustees are confirmed by the existing Trustees, after the new trustee candidate has completed the appropriate Trustee Eligibility Declaration.

Trustees undergo a verification and interview process to ascertain their motives for wanting to be involved with our charity. Existing Trustees vote on the admission or rejection of a new candidate.

Trustees can either be recruited from



Tower Hamlets Neighbourhood Watch Association

- Existing Neighbourhood Watch members
- Organisations who prescribe to our charity as corporate members
- Affiliate members

All prospective trustees must show strong support for Neighbourhood Watch in conjunction with the National Neighbourhood Watch Network and ideally are involved in a Tower Hamlets based Neighbourhood Watch group or use our membership services to promote Neighbourhood Watch within their organisation. The THNWA has provision for between 3 – 12 trustees, one third shall retire at each subsequent meeting after the first AGM but can be reappointed subject to clause 16 of our constitution.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

Once appointed, newly accepted trustees are invited to undergo a personal induction process.

Because all our committees must be led by an acting trustee, trustees have the responsibility of providing promotion of the charity to outside bodies and the wider community.

The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works

THNWA has a valid Memorandum of Understanding with the National Neighbourhood Watch Network (NNWN), which also pays for our annual Public Liability Insurance and Employer's Liability Insurance.

All members of THNWA are required to register with the Ourwatch website.

Initially anybody can register with Ourwatch without any proof of ID or address but verification is required for all main co-ordinators and deputies. We require this proof to process requests to run Watch groups and represent the THNWA in any capacity.

All published watch groups can be labelled as Volunteer approved or as Police approved or both. Non approved watch groups are no longer allowed to be created.

Through Ourwatch our members can join a Knowledge base for education and learning and also participate in sessions to advance Neighbourhood Watch in their area.

Local watch groups are street-based and larger watch groups are called cover-watches, which connect to social media groups and enable membership from a wider area. All watch groups are self-governed within the national and local Ourwatch Neighbourhood Watch framework.

Relationship with any related parties

THNWA also works with the Tower Hamlets Partnership, the Met Police Borough Command Unit. Tower Hamlets Police.

Working with the Tower Hamlets Safer Neighbourhood Board (SNB) is complicated and we struggle to get recognition. The issue is that SNB has appointed a Neighbourhood Watch representative who refuses to accept the National Neighbourhood Watch Network and does not attend meetings. SNB currently has a Neighbourhood Watch representative who is not a member of the Borough Association and SNB refuses to fund us. However, MOPAC and all other government and local government organisation legally accept our organisation.

Tower Hamlets Neighbourhood Watch Association

Tower Hamlets Police, part of the Metropolitan Police could subscribe to the use of Ourwatch instead of using OWL but this is a lengthy and complicated process and requires the support of MOPAC who currently promote the use of OWL. Neighbourhood Alert, which runs Ourwatch, must tender for the contract to supply Met Police with a communications platform.

OWL does not allow the creation of mapped watch groups, does not support group internal communications and does not translate their publications. OWL membership also does not provide volunteer care.

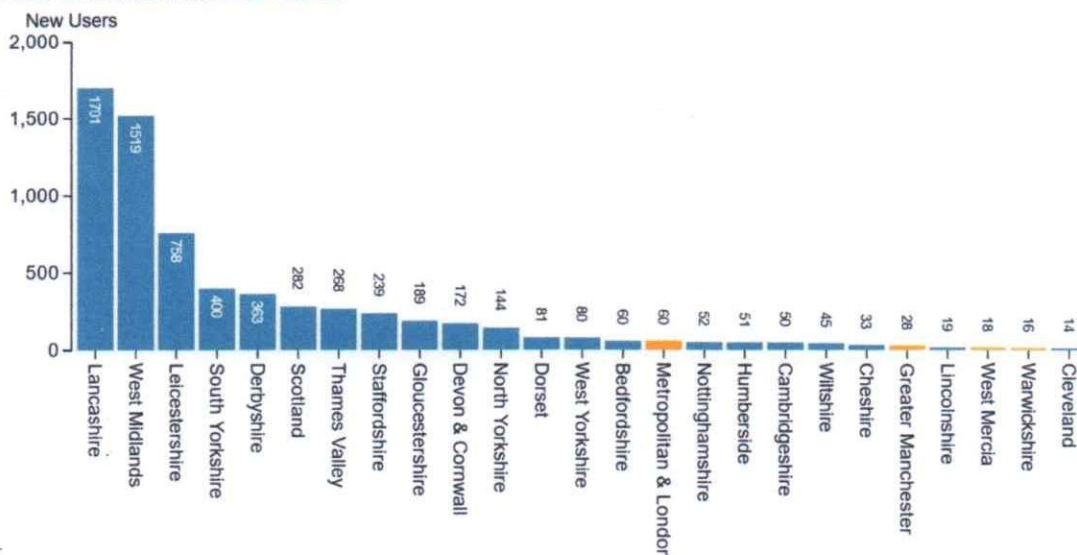
Ourwatch, our membership and watch creation platform is maintained by the Neighbourhood Alert who provide the majority of English police forces with the communications platform. There are currently around 12.000 English police officers as admins on the Alert/Ourwatch platform. Nationally there are in excess of 3 Million subscribers.

MONTHLY REGISTRATIONS BY AREA

For all users across the Neighbourhood Alert network (1-31 March 2022)

KEY

- Police force with Alert license
- Police force area without Alert license



The number of newly registered Users for the top 25 Neighbourhood Alert areas, excluding bulk imported Users.

VISAV Limited, Sherwood Business Centre,
616a - 618a Mansfield Road,
Nottingham, NG5 2GA
support@neighbourhoodalert.co.uk
0115 924 5517

Report Period: 1-31 March 2022

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It is clear from this graphic that nationally our partners work better where police forces are subscribed to use the platform and achieve a great amount of participation.



Tower Hamlets Neighbourhood Watch Association

Consideration of major risks

There is a risk of financial collapse if funding cannot be secured. The charity currently relies on event restricted funding and receives only small amounts of private funding. THNWA requires voluntary helpers to keep the membership system running and to promote the charity to the wider public.

The lack of an unrestricted funding stream currently prevents regular financial funding of local Watch groups in Tower Hamlets to practical support through supportive material and online content delivered free of charge to local groups.

The risk of Ourwatch registrants who are not who they say they are is mitigated by the verification process

The risk of members being suspects of crime investigation or who have unspent convictions can be alleviated by police verification and/or the production of the enhanced disclosure procedure.

There is a risk of political domination if members from one political party can dominate policies, areas and rule. We are therefore completely politically neutral and welcome all members from all legal political parties as members.

We reduce the risk of illegal infiltration by refusing membership to members of prohibited organisations.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the THNWA set out in the governing documents

- a) the promotion of good citizenship and the efficiency of the police across the London Borough of Tower Hamlets by:
- b) enabling public participation in the prevention and detection of crime;
- c) promoting public support for the work of the police service and other partners in the protection of people and property from, and the prevention of, crime.

Create and support Neighbourhood Watch Groups in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, who voluntarily form local Neighbourhood Groups and encourage residents to report ASB and crime to make neighbourhoods safer for children and adults.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

All our trustees are willing to act on behalf of the THNWA and to further the objectives and are eligible to act as trustees and have not been disqualified from doing so

Tower Hamlets Neighbourhood Watch members have regularly contributed to Home Office questionnaires and ascertained the need for more police officers to be deployed in Tower Hamlets.

THNWA has a



Tower Hamlets Neighbourhood Watch Association

- Community Safety Charter
- Diversity and Equality and Inclusion Statement
- Ethics and Standards of Behaviour

To guide local volunteers on expectations upon them, if they are Neighbourhood Watch volunteers

Also the totally non-political nature of Neighbourhood Watch gives rise to a broad spectrum of membership.

The Charity, provided public guidance and information on how to deal best with Anti-social behaviour and crime and report those issues to the Local Authority, social landlords and the police.

There were monthly meetings in person to provide new members and members of the public with guidance and advice on how to run a local Neighbourhood Watch group. Online guidance was provided via Zoom to advice on issues to do with Scams and fraud.

Partnerships were forged with Metropolitan Police Central East BCU.

A partnership with Tower Hamlets Council resulted in membership with Hatecrime Panels, Violence against Women and Girls groups, especially with the help of Avion Headley.

ASB concerns are dealt with in partnership with lead Councillor Sirajul Islam and Council coordinator John Fortune, who both support the THNWA.

There was a No Place for Hate meeting with the Jewish Neighbourhood Watch movement Shomrim, which discussed Neighbourhood Patrols.

One of the trustees, Oscar Luque Segovia works closely with the LGBT community.

A public event calendar provides easy to find publication on all community safety events in Tower Hamlets.

Neighbourhood Watch stickers, leaflets and advice booklets were distributed to warn against fraud and scams.

Other crime prevention advice was provided via the Ourwatch / Neighbourhood Alert.

Neighbourhood Watch membership was promoted via the Ourwatch online system, which also provides training, and knowledge base.

Police now promote Ourwatch on their SNT Ward newsletters as Neighbourhood Watch to encourage membership.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

We offer local Watch groups help with leaflets and advice to support them. If available, local groups can apply for small grants to run events. We did not receive any requests for financial help from local watch groups. However new groups were supplied with watch stickers, leaflets and online support on our website, which supplies profile pages for local watch groups.

Local groups can also apply directly to the THNWA for grants and can apply for direct funding from funding bodies. We assist when asked.



Tower Hamlets Neighbourhood Watch Association

Policy on grant making

- Continue to try and attract shopping based funding contributions.
- Try to attract corporate funders via our membership system.
- Apply for restricted funding for events
- Apply for funding from the Safer Neighbourhood Board

Then distribute funds to local watch groups if they apply for this but in any case continue online support via web based services and the administration of Ourwatch based groups.

Policy program related investment

Currently our funds are not big enough to discuss investment. This may change in the future and we would have to discuss such a policy with the trustees.

Contribution made by volunteers

Our volunteers are the heart and soul of our charity. All our equipment used is solely contributed by our volunteers who use their private equipment to help our charity.

We thank all our members, coordinators and supporters for supporting Neighbourhood Watch to enable better citizenship and stronger communities.

The Tower Hamlets Neighbourhood Watch Association was first active in 2012 and worked closely with the Police in creating watch groups. The procedure was different then but was funded directly by the police. As the 10-year crime statistic in section D shows, the crime rate lowered considerably between 2012 and 2015, when the THNWA was first created.

The crime rate then rose significantly from 2016 onwards when the THNWA was inactive due to circumstances beyond our control. During the period of inactivity, the remaining funds were left in a bank account, then closed by the bank and revived in 2021, when we re-constituted as unincorporated charitable organisation and later as a registered Charity.

It was difficult to retrieve the funding out of the closed bank account but once this was agreed with the bank, we could develop again. All efforts to retrieve funding were led by Johanna Kaschke with the help of Martin Shortis. All legal hurdles were cleared without specialised legal support.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements for THNWA during the year

We processed 17 anonymous crime reports and passed them onto police.

Additionally passed on various crime reports from members who asked our help to report and obtained crime reference numbers on their behalf.

We are raising awareness of the important correlation between lowering crime figures and community engagement with law enforcement and Neighbourhood Watch.



Tower Hamlets Neighbourhood Watch Association

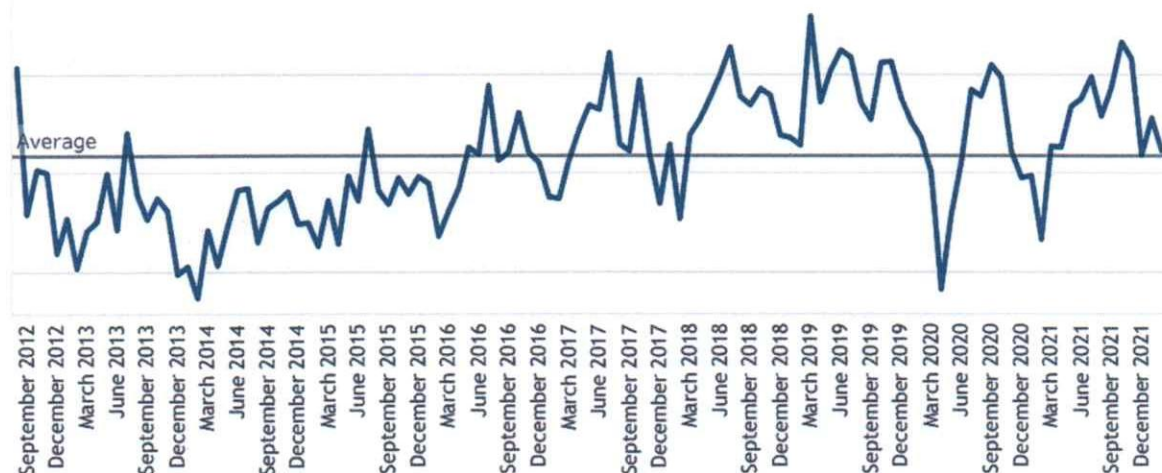
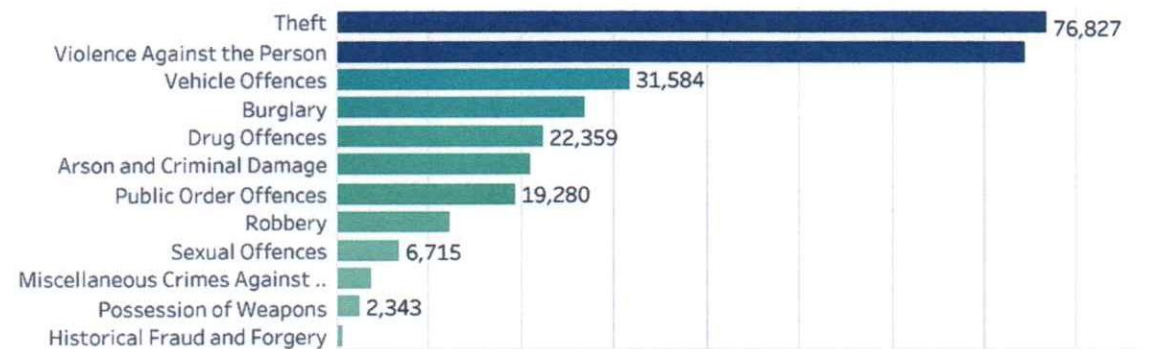
Start Date

August 2012

End Date

February 2022

	Crime Rate (per 1000 pop)	Crime Count
Totals	940.97	297,621



February 2022
compared to
previous month:

▼6.03%

12 months to February 2022
compared to
the previous 12 months

▲10.03%

If you have any questions
please email



Looking at the 10 year crime statistics it becomes quite clear that from 2012 – 2015, when the Tower Hamlets Neighbourhood Watch Association was first established, the crime rate in Tower Hamlets sank to its lowest level. That is when our volunteer worked intensely in partnership with the police.

There is an undisputable correlation between the crime rate and voluntary contributions made to crime reduction, by informing law enforcement about concerning issues. Neighbourhood Watch raises people's confidence to report and be less afraid of doing so.

THNWA supports everyone to take a stand and reject crime and Anti-social behaviour.

Our main aim must be now to achieve a wider spread of Neighbourhood Watch groups throughout the borough.



Tower Hamlets Neighbourhood Watch Association

As

Chair Martin Shortie has a keen interest in community involvement and development. Vice-chair Alan Trench works within the NHS and has great empathy for people's needs.

The number of trustees rose from four to six.

Membership in Neighbourhood Watch groups doubled from May 2021 to March 2022. Individual membership also rose and all who run watch groups also reach a wider population who are not yet registered.

We encourage all to register with Ourwatch in order to benefit from the free insurance and support available from the knowledge base for Neighbourhood Watch activities.

The charity verified and trained new co-ordinators. Each new coordinator had a one hour induction.

Co-ordinators and members were provided with training opportunities.

Funding support was achieved for local Neighbourhood Watch groups.

Policy for Neighbourhood Watch is in a constructive development phase due to negotiations with police partnership in the borough.

Some members were channelled into volunteering with Met Police. We currently also support the Police recruitment drive to employ more BAME, poor and female members of the hard to reach community.

THNWA works with members from all religious and political communities.

We support the No Place for Hate Champion development in partnership with Tower Hamlets Council.

One trustee, Johanna Kaschke is a champion for Scams, No place for hate, Communities that care, Violence against Women and Girls.

The charity dealt with a number of anonymous crime reports, passed onto Met Police.

Social Media accounts were established with Twitter, Facebook, NextDoor, Safeland and a WhatsApp group gives support when needed.

The charity sends crime prevention material to their mailing list and membership as well as the wider community and established good working relationships with local councillors.

The charity provides custom App for anti-terrorism police and training provision for Action against Terrorism.

Teaching members of the public how to report crime online and the benefit of joining local Safer Neighbourhood Police Ward Panels to ascertain policing priorities.

The charity was awarded funding to support one local Neighbourhood Watch group to organise and host a Queen's Diamond Jubilee Street Party.

The THNWA was short-listed for the purpose of providing support to Metropolitan Police for recruitment purposes. This process is still ongoing.

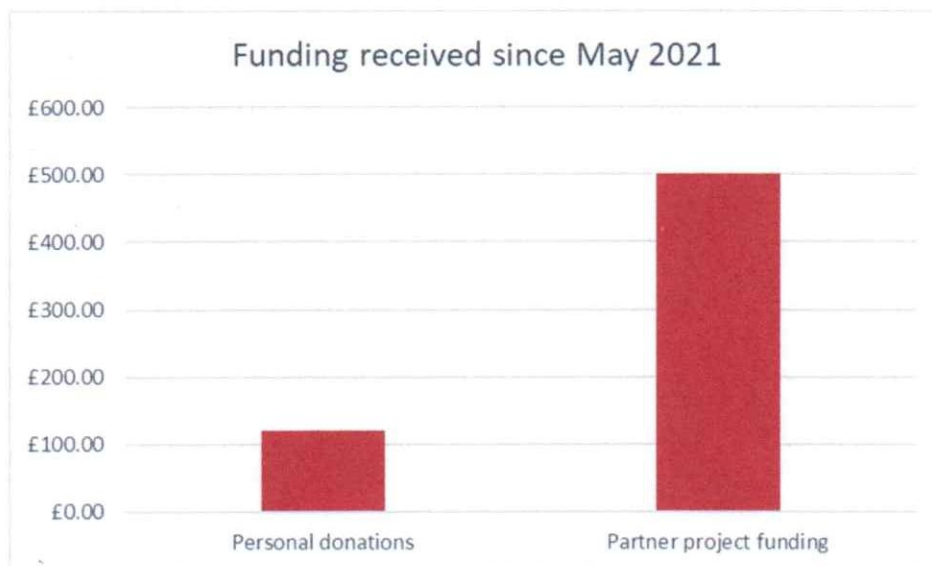
Section E Financial review

The THNWA aims to keep reserves of £2,000 for running costs. There are no deficits in funds or material possessions.

Further financial review details

A funding drive with the use of Amazon Smile and Give as you Live has so far not reached enough donations to achieve a pay out to us.

Personal funding via Paypal only provided small amounts.



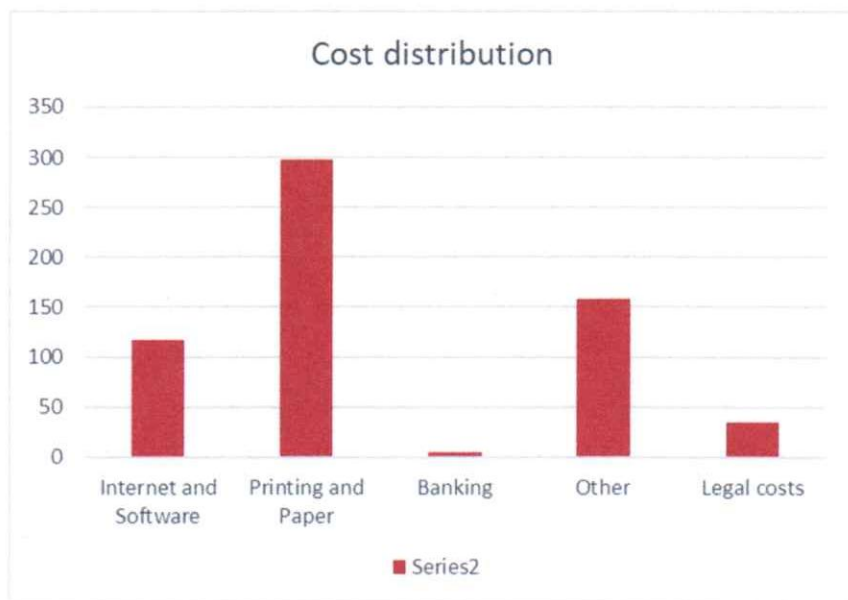
All our expenditure was directed into promoting the expansion and objectives of Neighbourhood Watch by creating local watch groups and helping the community they serve by using the funding for online recruitments campaigns and helping local watch groups to maintain local connections with event funding in their local area.

The charity has strict ethics and standards to follow a Carbon neutralising policy. We aim to reduce the use of paper gradually and do encourage the use of public transport to carry out our business.

We aim to work with service providers only who use ethical practises and carbon neutral production and distribution methods.

Johanna Kaschke works as Membership Administrator on the Ourwatch platform.

Tower Hamlets Neighbourhood Watch Association



Our costs are kept low by using skill and knowledge of how to make the most of small resources.

Receipts and payments account as at 31. March 2022

Section A Receipts and payments					
	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grant forward from THNWA Leys	3,898	800	-	4,698	-
Grants forward from THNWA Leys	150	-	-	150	-
Sub total/GROSS income for A1	4,048	800	-	4,848	-
A2 Asset and investment sales (see table)					
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	4,048	800	-	4,848	-
A3 Payments					
Printing and Paper	117	-	-	117	-
Banking Fees	5	-	-	5	-
Legal Costs	35	-	-	35	-
Other costs	158	-	-	158	-
Sub total	315	-	-	315	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases (see table)					
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	315	-	-	315	-
Net of receipts/payments	3,733	800	-	4,533	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year and Cash funds this year end	3,898	800	-	4,698	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period				
Categories	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	
B1 Cash funds				
Bank account	3,408	800	-	
Total cash funds	3,408	800	-	
B2 Other monetary assets				
B3 Investment assets				
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use				
B5 Liabilities				

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature: *[Signature]* Print Name: *PAULINE SHERIDAN* Date of approval: *21/04/2022*

Signature: *[Signature]* Print Name: *JOHN ASHCROFT* Date of approval: *21/04/2022*

The accounts show the skilful use of small funds for big projects. The balance of £3,898 was inherited from the unincorporated Association, which closed on 16. May 2021.



Tower Hamlets Neighbourhood Watch Association

Section F Other optional information

Metropolitan Police in Tower Hamlets have been funded by MOPAC to use OWL as mailing list and community engagement tool. Owl does not allow translations of messages sent and does not provide any training, insurance or care for volunteer other than the statutory entitlements all residents have in Britain.

The majority of police forces in Great Britain use Ourwatch / Neighbourhood Alert, with 12.000 officers and in excess of 3 Million members on the system nationwide.

Currently efforts are being pursued to get the funding for the police to use Ourwatch / Neighbourhood Alert, so that police can use the system in Tower Hamlets to then be able to police verify coordinators and watch groups. Currently the MSA Johanna Kaschke can only volunteer verify members.

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustee's report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Johanna Kaschke Martin Shortis

Full name(s)

JOHANNA KASCHKE MARTIN SHORTIS

Position e.g. secretary, chair etc.

SECRETARY CHAIR

Date

9 April 2022 9 April 2022