

**Full Council
26th June 2006**

**Motion selected for debate by Councillor Bob Blackman,
Leader of the Conservative Group.**

Knives and other weapons

This Council expresses sympathy to the family of murdered Special Constable Nisha Patel-Nasri and expresses outrage that such attacks can take place.

This Council strongly supports all measures to remove knives and other weapons via amnesty or other means to reduce the potential for criminal attacks.

This Council also reiterates our support for the roll out of Safer Neighbourhood policing but believes that this should be additional resources and not replacing existing policing. This Council notes the increase in Council tax precept being levied at present justified by the additional police resources but also notes that Brent still does not have a full complement of six police officers for each Safer Neighbourhood police team. This Council notes that most of the Safer Neighbourhood police teams have been launched with either two or three police officers despite the hike in Council Tax for which residents are being forced to pay. Furthermore, most police teams will not reach the full complement of six police officers until next year.

This Council believes that a review of the resources currently being applied by Brent in relation to safer neighbourhood initiatives and anti social behaviour generally should be conducted as part of our Overview and Scrutiny process and that all options should be considered on applying more resources to fighting crime including:-

1. An examination of the current Safer Neighbourhood programme and the resources being applied.
2. Further measures to combat graffiti.
3. Controlled Drinking Zones to be examined as a way forward on particular parts of Brent.
4. An examination of options for additional Council-funded police resources.
5. Resources applied to parks and open spaces for security.

This Council therefore requests the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, once appointed, to set up a task group to examine the above details and report back in the Autumn.