



Meeting Thursday 30th April 2026 at Hotel Una  
RSC and Adam Hays - Brighton & Hove Police Area Commander

1) Who ran the meeting

- Adam (new Brighton & Hove Area Commander, ~11 weeks in) with Caroline (PCSO). Adam's there to fact-find, listen, and push for multi-agency action (police + council).

2) Main community concerns raised

- Severe problems concentrated around Regency Square (especially 57 / 59 Moon's Lodge / Queensbury area): open-door hostels, poor management, heavy drug dealing, congregation on steps/staircases, antisocial behaviour, assaults, and fire/smoking risks.
- Impact on residents and businesses: noise, smells seeping into hotel rooms, thefts, people sleeping in stairwells, guests deterred, repeated break-ins, rising fear after the recent murder.
- Perceived failure of council licensing/enforcement (HMOs/hostels) and landlords changing company names to avoid action.
- Lack of coordinated support for people with addiction (treatment/diversion services), which fuels the problem.
- Reporting friction: Crime reporting forms/online/101 feel slow and bureaucratic; people want an easier way to share incidents and CCTV footage.

3) Short- and medium-term suggestions discussed

- Improve CCTV coverage and signage (including underpass) to deter and help investigation.
- Close or enforce against the worst premises (Moon's Lodge / Queensbury) via HMO/BS&B/licensing and antisocial behaviour powers—multi-agency action needed.
- Residents to collate incidents (dates/times/footage) and submit consolidated reports to police (101 / online / CrimeStoppers for non-urgent).
- Consider a resident WhatsApp or regular weekly collation to feed the police.
- Simple local deterrents: shut hostel doors, better door security for residential blocks, locked mailboxes, repaired entry doors.

4) What Adam agreed to / next steps

- Adam will speak to the council leader and chief executive (meeting scheduled for tomorrow) and raise the murder, concentration of HMOs/hostels, and enforcement powers.
- He'll push for council action on licensing/antisocial behaviour and discuss CCTV/signage with them.
- Adam will provide residents a sanitised readout of his conversations with the council/partners afterward.
- He offered to return (Monday) to meet residents who couldn't attend and to follow up—he's duty commander that day but will aim to attend or arrange a contact.
- Residents agreed to collate incident reports and footage to pass to police; there was talk of setting up/using a WhatsApp group to do this.

5) Useful practical points from the meeting

- For non-emergencies, use 101 or the online reporting routes (and CrimeStoppers if you want anonymity). Both non-emergency routes feed into the same triage system.
- Immediate threats/violence = 999.
- The police control room stopped a dedicated inbox some years ago because of triage/priority issues—so a single resident email directly to police is unlikely, but Adam will try to improve communication routes and share a sanitised update after his council meeting.
- Kenny said he'd email a contact number for the beat officer if Adam is delayed on Monday.

If you want, I can:

- Extract a short incident template (date/time/description/CCTV/phone/doorbell footage) residents can use to collate reports.
- Draft a short message you can post in the Regency Square WhatsApp to start the weekly incident log.