UKID UPPER KENILWORTH IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Winter 2026

NEWSLETTER

Dear Residents,

As winter fades and the warmer days arrive, we are delighted to bring you the **Spring 2026** edition of the **Upper Kenilworth Improvement District newsletter**. A very warm welcome to all the new residents who have moved into the area over the past few months. We are thrilled to have you and invite you to visit our website to familiarise yourself with who we are and what we do. If you have any questions, please reach out to our Executive Manager, Naiema, who will point you in the right direction (contact details on the last page). If you have new neighbours, please share this with them.

Spring is always a season of renewed energy across Kenilworth. You've likely noticed our dedicated Princeton cleaning team hard at work sweeping up the heavy winter fallout. The visible improvements, in our cleaner streets, are a constant reminder of what we can accomplish through active citizenship and pride in our environment.

Behind the scenes, our operations remain steady, disciplined, and transparent. Our safety and security teams, working in close collaboration with Princeton, SAPS, and our dedicated Law Enforcement officer, continue around-the-clock camera monitoring and patrols to keep our streets safe. Please read on for more details on what they have achieved.
Looking ahead to the final quarter of the year, we are also preparing for our Annual General Meeting (AGM) this November(details to be communicated over the next few weeks). The AGM is your primary platform to engage with the board, review our financial stewardship, and help shape the decisions that guide our community forward.

Maintaining a safe, clean, and connected neighbourhood relies entirely on active partnership. Whether it's logging service requests, reporting on our Crime Now group, or choosing Mi-Change vouchers over direct cash handouts, your daily involvement is what makes Upper Kenilworth such a special place to live.

We wish you and your family a healthy, safe, and pleasant season ahead.
Warm regards,
The Upper Kenilworth Improvement District Management Team

The UKID Board of Directors



Chris Bertie (Chairperson)



Estelle Cloete (Governance)



Andrew Cartwright



Duncan Houston (Security)



Dana Yerushalmy (Social Responsibility)



Neil Biggs (Finance)



Debbie Wall-Smith (Urban Management)



Toast Seagers (Communication)

Civic & Electoral Update: UKID Unification into Ward 59

Following the finalisation of the municipal ward boundary delimitation process by the Municipal Demarcation Board, the Upper Kenilworth Improvement District (UKID) footprint has been fully unified under **Ward 59**.

Previously, the UKID footprint spanned across both Ward 58 and Ward 59, requiring our management team and residents to coordinate municipal matters across two separate ward structures and councillors. This consolidation brings our entire community under a single municipal administration, represented by Ward **Councillor Mikhail Manuel**.

What This Means for UKID Residents

- This should greatly simplify our advocacy for urban planning, infrastructure upgrades, and municipal service escalations and eliminate split-boundary administrative delays.
- It allows discretionary ward allocation funds to be deployed cohesively for projects like traffic calming and greening. We hope to see more attention (and money) being spent in our area.
- C3 service requests route through one channel for faster tracking by Executive Manager Naiema Isaacs.
- Dedicated Ward 59 Law Enforcement officers and social relief teams now cover the complete UKID footprint alongside Princeton Security.

With these ward boundary alignments coming into effect from the 4th of November when we hold municipal elections, residents are strongly advised to check and verify your registered voting stations to ensure that your voter details are up to date and that you know where to vote.

Transition & Gratitude

We extend our sincere thanks to Councillor Richard Hill (Ward 58) for his dedication and support to the UKID community over the past 2 years. We look forward to deepening our working relationship with Councillor Mikhail Manuel.

Key Contact Information

Ward 59 Councillor

- Councillor: Mikhail Manuel
- Cell: 072 800 3013

Residents are reminded to continue logging municipal fault reports via the City of Cape Town app or online portal and forwarding the reference numbers to Naiema for tracking.

SAFETY & SECURITY

Safety Statistics

The following figures highlight the scale of our security operations over the last three months:

- **1,638,372 Total CCTV Alerts**: Our control room processed an immense volume of camera triggers. Through careful monitoring and vetting, 3,037 of these were escalated for immediate follow-up by ground teams.
- **5,179 Proactive Interviews**: Our Princeton security and Law Enforcement officers consistently engage with individuals on our streets. These routine interviews are our primary tool for disrupting suspicious behaviour and keeping the area unwelcoming to criminal elements.
- **1,559 Dispatches for Suspicious Activity**: Ground units were deployed rapidly to investigate potential threats, ensuring a highly visible and responsive security presence across the neighbourhood.
- **7 Positive Arrests**: Through coordinated efforts and rapid responses to active incidents, seven suspects were successfully apprehended and handed over to SAPS.

I know how sometimes it appears from the Crime Now group that all that our security personnel do is log service reports with Law Enforcement for public drinking, indecency, and harassment, but the sheer volume of behind-the-scenes work by our dedicated patrollers, combined with around-the-clock CCTV monitoring and close collaboration with our dedicated Ward 59 Law Enforcement officer and SAPS, has kept our streets stable. The numbers above reflect this disciplined approach, demonstrating how active foot patrols and constant camera vetting successfully deter opportunistic crime before it happens.

Your Reporting Makes a Difference

Our security network relies on your daily involvement. Please remember that opening a formal case with SAPS for any incident, no matter how minor, is vital for ensuring accurate crime statistics and keeping police resources allocated to our area.

If you spot anything out of the ordinary, please immediately contact the Control Room on 0860 222 820 or report it on the UKID Crime NOW WhatsApp group.

Notable Incidents & Community Interventions

Sharing these quarterly incidents helps keep our community informed and highlights key security trends. Upper Kenilworth remains stable, but opportunistic crime and urban challenges require ongoing vigilance and close cooperation between residents and our patrol network.

- **Swift Apprehension for Theft (Tennant Road):** Following a quick-thinking call for assistance when a pedestrian had her mobile phone snatched by occupants of a passing delivery vehicle, UKID patrollers and alert neighbours coordinated rapidly to block and intercept the vehicle. Both suspects were detained on scene, the stolen mobile phone was recovered, and Claremont SAPS arrested both individuals.

- **CCTV Interception of Cable Tampering (Wetton Road):** Control room operators monitoring our perimeter cameras detected two individuals tampering with a municipal service manhole in the early hours. Dedicated patrol units were on scene within minutes, securing the area and detaining the suspects until Wynberg SAPS arrived to process the arrest.

- **Theft Out of Motor Vehicle Apprehension (Harfield Road):** An opportunistic theft of tools from the rear of a parked bakkie was reported to control. Ground units quickly tracked a suspect matching the CCTV description along Main Road, where he was apprehended with the assistance of Claremont SAPS and taken into custody.

- **Safeguarding a Vulnerable Minor (Main Road):** Community safety extends well beyond fighting crime. During an early-morning patrol at 02h40, our security officer noticed an unaccompanied, distressed young boy walking along Main Road towards Wynberg. Officers safely held him in their care while control coordinated with emergency dispatch and SAPS, confirming he had been reported missing. He was safely handed over to Wynberg SAPS to be reunited with his family.

- **Rapid Response to Vehicle Fire (Main Road & Baker Street):** An electrical and fuel fault caused the underside of an engine to ignite on Main Road. UKID officers responded immediately, collaborating with the driver and nearby residents using local extinguishers to control the flames before Fire & Rescue arrived to make the scene safe.

- **Boundary & Property Vigilance (Tanglin Court & Indian Road):** Several opportunistic incidents this quarter highlight the importance of perimeter security. A bicycle was taken through an open driveway gate on Indian Road, while perimeter breaches along rear boundaries bordering the railway and sports fields were reported on Thomas Road. External copper fittings were also targeted. We urge residents to ensure driveway gates close fully, check rear boundary lighting and sensors, and consider replacing vulnerable external copper pipes with PVC.

- **Perimeter Interception and Stolen Property Recovered (Crescent Road):** Camera monitoring identified an opportunistic trespasser slipping through a driveway gate and taking footwear from outside a front door. Ground units converged on the address within minutes, detaining the suspect on the pavement with the stolen items intact. While the property was returned to the resident, this incident serves as a gentle reminder to ensure sliding and pedestrian gates close and latch fully behind you.

These are just a few of the major incidents that were attended to over the last three months.

We share these with you not to alarm you, but to keep you informed. The Upper Kenilworth area is still notably safer than many of our surrounding suburbs, but that does not mean we can drop our guard.

We urge residents to remain proactive. We cannot stress enough that opening a criminal case is the most vital step in ensuring a perpetrator is removed from our streets permanently. If you are a victim of a crime, UKID will support you through the process, but we need your statement to make the arrest stick.

How you can help:

- **Report all incidents** via the UKID Crime WhatsApp group.
- **Open a case with SAPS**, even for "minor" thefts; this helps build a profile on repeat offenders. We realise that this process can be daunting. If you require assistance in opening a case, please let us know, and we can support you through the process.

WHY YOU MUST OPEN A SAPS CASE

Even for a small theft of minor criminal incidents, reporting matters

Opening a formal case with the South African Police Service (SAPS) is a critical step in starting a police investigation. obtaining documentation for an insurance claim, and ensuring accurate crime statistics that influence local policing resources.

OFFICIAL DOCUMENTATION

A case number is legal proof that a crime took place. Without it, you may struggle to claim from insurance or replace important documents such as an ID book or driver's licence.

POLICE INVESTIGATION

SAPS cannot automatically investigate a crime. Opening a docket officially starts the criminal justice process, helps collect evidence, identify suspects, and prepare the matter for court.

RESOURCE ALLOCATION

Crime statistics help determine where police officers and patrol vehicles are deployed. If crimes in areas like Kenilworth are not reported, these areas can appear safer than they really are, leading to fewer resources being assigned.

IDENTIFYING CRIMINAL TRENDS

Even when stolen items are not recovered, reporting helps law enforcement identify patterns, establish modus operandi, and link incidents to repeat offenders.

VICTIM SUPPORT

Opening a case can give victims access to victim-friendly services and support, including trauma counselling and legal protection.

YOUR RIGHTS AS A COMPLAINANT

You may open a case at any police station, regardless of where the incident happened. SAPS cannot refuse to help because you do not know the suspect's name or because the crime occurred outside that station's precinct.

Every reported crime helps strengthen policing in our community

REPORT IT. OPEN A CASE. PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY.

Report all crimes:
SAPS Control Room: 10111
Wynberg Police Station: 021 799 1300
Claremont Police Station: 021 657 2250

Report all incidents, criminal or not:
naiema@ukid.co.za
ukid.co.za/ukid-incident-reporting/



PRINCETON GROUP

Navigating Safety, Law, and Compassion in Our Urban Village

Living in Upper Kenilworth means enjoying a vibrant, connected neighbourhood, but its open, urban nature means we also share our streets with complex social realities. Many residents have expressed understandable frustration regarding the continued visible presence of sex workers, public drinking, indecency and nakedness, and vulnerable individuals seeking shelter in our flowerbeds and on our pavements, and the seemingly lack of any way of dealing with it.

As a community, we are incredibly fortunate to live in a well-resourced and beautiful area. With this privilege comes a deep responsibility to ensure that everything we do as the UKID is ethical, caring, and in the best interests of everyone, including those who are less fortunate than ourselves. We cannot police our way out of poverty or systemic social issues. It's also important to draw a line between what is illegal and what is just uncomfortable.

While our community remains exceptionally safe, it is important to clarify the distinct legal boundaries and roles of Princeton Security, City Law Enforcement, and SAPS so we can manage these challenges effectively, lawfully, and with compassion.

The Role and Limits of Princeton Security
Our Princeton safety officers are an invaluable first line of defence, providing rapid response and high visibility. However, our UKID security officers opperate under the mandate of the UKID and are subject to Improvement District rules. They do not possess the statutory powers of peace officers.

- **No Power of Arrest for By-Laws:** UKID officers cannot legally arrest or detain individuals for municipal by-law contraventions such as public drinking, littering, loitering, or sleeping on pavements.
- **Observe and Report:** When residents report public indecency or drinking, UKID officers must observe, attempt to de-escalate, and formally open cases with City of Cape Town Law Enforcement or SAPS. These are the only authorities empowered to issue fines or make arrests for these infractions.
- **Moving People On:** Security can request individuals to leave an area, but without a specific criminal act, compliance cannot be physically forced.

The Complex Reality of Sex Work
The presence of sex workers is a historical challenge in the area, and addressing it requires a long-term legal strategy rather than quick, temporary fixes that simply displace vulnerable people.

The Complex Reality of Sex Work...continued

- **The High Court Judgment**: Under a 2009 Western Cape High Court ruling, SAPS and City Police are strictly interdicted from arresting sex workers merely as a form of intimidation or to temporarily remove them from the streets.
- **The Threshold for Prosecution:** Arrests can only be made if there is a documented, formal intent to prosecute the case through the National Prosecuting Authority, treating both the buyer and the seller equally under the law.
- **Focusing on Associated Crimes:** While the act of solicitation itself is subject to this legal deadlock, associated behaviours like public indecency, drinking in public, and public disturbance are actionable. We cannot continue to just log incidents with Law Enforcement (although this is vital). We need residents to open actual cases with SAPS when these incidents are witnessed. Princeton Security have loaned us a trailer which has been placed in the Kenilworth Station parking lot and, when we are able to man it, it is proving to be a good deterent.



Vagrancy and Public Spaces

It is deeply frustrating to see our carefully tended public spaces used as toilets or sleeping areas, but the legal framework governing these spaces is strict, and our response must remain caring and with a clear understanding of the context of many people's situations.

- **Constitutional Rights:** Being homeless or begging is not a crime in South Africa. All individuals have a constitutional right to exist in public spaces.
- **By-Law Enforcement:** Defecating, littering, and aggressive begging are contraventions of the City's Streets and Public Places By-law. Only Law Enforcement officers can issue fines or act on these specific transgressions.
- **Sustainable Solutions:** Simply chasing people away displaces the issue for a few minutes and does nothing to solve the root problem. We continue to advocate for the U-Turn Mi-Change voucher system, which connects people to a comprehensive support system rather than relying on endless, ineffective displacement.

A Reimagined Kenilworth Station
Kenilworth Station is one of those fantastic local assets just waiting to be explored. Local residents, spearheaded by the amazing Margareet, have already spent many hours planting, watering, and tending the flower beds around and parking lot. This month, there is a very special reason to visit.

A Magical New Chapter: Imagnary House Bookstore
We are thrilled to welcome the award-winning children's publisher, Imagnary House, to our neighbourhood. They are officially opening their first physical bookstore right at Kenilworth Station (in the former post office building) on **Sunday, 11 October 2026 at 10:00.**



This isn't just a shop; it is designed as a fully immersive experience for young minds.

- **A Storybook Setting**: The space features a life-sized indoor tree that children can actually climb into, alongside reading nooks and resident "faeries, gnomes, and mice."
- Coffee for the Parents: Their partner, Peo Bean, will be serving coffee and babyccinos to keep everyone refreshed while browsing.

Weekend Adventures: The Southern Line to Kalk Bay
The station isn't just a destination in itself; it is our gateway to the Southern Peninsula. Next time you are at a loss for something to do on the weekend, take a train South. It's safe, cheap, and a great way to get out without the hassles of parking and driving. The train stops right at the St.James beach so you can have a quick dip steps from the station. (check out CT Metro for times)

Explore our station, and let's give Imagnary House a warm Upper Kenilworth welcome!

SMARTER GIVING, SAFER STREETS

HELP, DON'T HINDER. YOUR HANDOUT CYCLE ENDS HERE.

Your direct gifts of cash and food provide only a moment's relief, but they lock people into dependence and chronic homelessness. Real help requires a different approach.

A HAND-UP, NOT A HANDOUT



DON'T: Hand out food or cash to anyone on the street. It seems kind, but often fuels addiction and dependence.

DO: Hand them a **Mi-Change** voucher. This is your most powerful tool for responsible giving.

A U-Turn voucher is a "hand-up," connecting individuals to a complete support system including warm meals, clothing, shelter, skills training, and full rehabilitation. Your decision to use vouchers supports a dignified pathway off the streets.

Purchase online at homeless.org.za or get complimentary UKID vouchers from Bootleggers, Vida, PnP,or Astron.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

City of Cape Town Emergency:	021 480 7700
toll free cellphone:	112
toll free landline:	107
SAPS Control Room:	10111
Crime Stop:	08600 10111
Ambulance Services:	10177
Wynberg Police Station:	021 799 1300
Wynberg SAPS van:	082 378 7747
Claremont Police Station:	021 657 2250
Princeton:	021 448 9030

UKID Executive Manager - Naiema Isaacs
082 407 8680
naiema@ukid.co.za

Ward Councillors

Ward 58
Richard HIll
083 455 6297
richard.hill@capetown.gov.za

Ward 59
Mikhail Manuel
072 800 3013
mikhail.manuel@capetown.gov.za

KEEP IN TOUCH

WhatsApp is currently the most convenient way for us to communicate quick announcements and updates to you. A UKID WhatsApp community exists for this purpose.

Keeping Our Communication Channels Clear

Our community WhatsApp groups are critical tools for maintaining vigilance and community safety, provided they are used correctly.

- **The Crime NOW Group:** This channel must be kept strictly for alerting first responders and our security teams to active incidents in progress. Keeping all general chatter out of this group ensures our teams can react immediately to genuine emergencies without missing critical updates.
- **The Residents' Group:** Please direct all questions, general observations, community discussions, and conversations around security expectations to the general residents' group.

Your active citizenship and empathy are the foundations of our success. Please continue to log all municipal service requests and by-law complaints via the City of Cape Town app to ensure they are tracked.

Download the City Of Cape Town app to keep informed and to easily submit service requests.

Download on the App Store GET IT ON Google Play

You can also submit service requests on the website (Click Here) or by calling 0860103089

Please forward reference numbers and an explanation of the service issue to the UKID Executive Manager at naiema@ukid.co.za so that they can be tracked and followed up on.

If you would like to report something directly related to the operation of the UKID or the behaviour of any of our contracted suppliers or their employees, please email complaints@ukid.co.za