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**Committee Agenda** 



# **City of Westminster**

Environment, Highways and Public Protection Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Rooms 18.01 - 18.03 - 18th Floor, 64 Victoria Street, London,

Meeting Date:

Time:

Title:

7.00 pm

Venue:

Members:

### **Councillors:**

SW1E 6QP

Barbara Arzymanow Antonia Cox Paul Dimoldenberg Tony Devenish (Chairman)

Monday 16th March, 2020

Peter Freeman Aicha Less Pancho Lewis Ian Rowley

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting and listen to the discussion Part 1 of the Agenda



Admission to the public gallery is by ticket, issued from the ground floor reception. If you have a disability and require any special assistance please contact the Committee Officer (details listed below) in advance of the meeting.



An Induction loop operates to enhance sound for anyone wearing a hearing aid or using a transmitter. If you require any further information, please contact the Committee Officer, Kisi Smith-Charlemagne.

Email: kscharlemagne@westminster.gov.uk; Tel No: 07817054613 Corporate Website: <u>www.westminster.gov.uk</u> **Note for Members:** Members are reminded that Officer contacts are shown at the end of each report and Members are welcome to raise questions in advance of the meeting. With regard to item 2, guidance on declarations of interests is included in the Code of Governance; if Members and Officers have any particular questions they should contact the Head of Committee and Governance Services in advance of the meeting please.

# AGENDA

PART 1 (IN PUBLIC)				
1.	MEMBERSHIP			
2.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST			
3.	MINUTES	(Pages 5 - 14)		
	To approve the minutes of the City Management and Public Protection Policy and Scrutiny Committee held on 10 September 2019.			
4.	CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS MANAGEMENT - PORTFOLIO UPDATE REPORT			
	Councillor Andrew Smith (Cabinet Member for Environment and Highways) to update the Committee on current and forthcoming issues of the portfolio. (Report to follow)			
5.	CABINET MEMBER FOR PUBLIC PROTECTION AND LICENSING - PORTFOLIO UPDATE REPORT	(Pages 15 - 32)		
	Councillor Heather Acton (Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Licensing) to update the Committee on current and forthcoming issues of the portfolio.			
6.	THE SAFER WESTMINSTER PARTNERSHIP	(Pages 33 - 38)		
	The report provides an overview of the Safer Westminster Partnership, key findings from the annual strategic assessment and highlighting some examples of best practice and the challenges faced.			
7.	CENTRAL WEST BASIC COMMAND UNIT UPDATE	(Pages 39 - 50)		
	The report provides and update on the Basic Command Unit's progress to date.			
8.	WORK PROGRAMME REPORT	(Pages 51 - 56)		
	The Committee to receive a report on the progress of the work programme, 2019/20 work programme and action tracker.			

Stuart Love Chief Executive 6 March 2020 This page is intentionally left blank





### **City Management and Public Protection Policy & Scrutiny Committee**

### MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of a meeting of the **City Management and Public Protection Policy & Scrutiny Committee** held on **Tuesday 10 September 2019** in Room 18.2 and 18.3, 64 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6QP

**Members Present**: Councillors Tony Devenish (Chairman), Barbara Arzymanow, Margot Bright, Paul Dimoldenberg, Matthew Green, Aicha Less, Pancho Lewis, Mark Shearer and Shamim Talukder

**Also Present**: Councillor Ian Adams, Member for Licensing and Public Protection, Sara Sutton (Executive Director of Environment, City Management and Communities), Aaron Hardy (Policy and Scrutiny Manager) and Tristan Fieldsend (Senior Governance and Committee Officer)

Expert Witnesses: Julia Mayer (St Mary's Team Leader) Redthread

#### 1. **MEMBERSHIP**

- 1.1 The Chairman sought any absences, apologies or substitutions to the committee's membership.
- 1.2 There was one change to the membership of the Committee, Councillor Pancho Lewis replaced Councillor Shamim Talukder.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 2.1 The Chairman sought any personal or prejudicial interests in respect of the items to be discussed from members and officers, in addition to the standing declarations previously made.
- 2.2 There were no declarations made.

### 3. MINUTES

- 3.1 Councillor Less queried a typo on page 10, paragraph 6.9, regarding Church Street, it was confirmed that Councillor Less made the comments and not Councillor Arzymanow. Councillor Green queried page 7, advising that the cost for the Extinction Rebellion had not been provided to date.
- 3.2 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the City Management and Public Protection Policy and Scrutiny Committee held on 12 June 2019 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record of proceedings.

# 4. CABINET MEMBER FOR LICENSING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

- 4.1 Councillor Ian Adams updated the committee on the Environment and City Management portfolio. He advised the committee that the Council had a very successful Notting Hill Carnival, with regard to noise in Bayswater and street cleansing. Councillor Adams advised that there had been positive developments in the provision of Markets and street traders, he informed the committee that the uplift in fees allowed the council to provide further support which had led to some good outcomes. Councillor Adams mention the letter published in the Times newspaper regarding short-term lettings, he emphasised that the council was not against short-term lettings, however wished to strike the right balance. Councillor Adams advised the committee that he would be meeting with the Leader and colleagues about what to do regarding short-term lettings and would report back to the committee.
- 4.2 Councillor Adams advised the committee that with regards to the BCU, he visited the newly opened Charring Cross Police Station, which was very impressive. He advised the committee that it had a new custody suite for greater engagement with drug users to assist with interventions. Councillor Adams informed the committee that rough sleeping was still a big challenge and a recent poll of 400 rough sleepers showed that that two-thirds were neither non-UK or Irish nationals. Councillor Lewis queried why rough sleeping was in Councillor Adams portfolio and not in Councillor Andrew Smith who deals with Housing. He also felt that the council were treating rough sleeping as a criminal element not as a housing issue. Councillor Adams advised the committee that the council does not treat rough sleeping as crime, he explained that his remit is public protection which is linked to enforcement; he informed the committee that rough sleeping is an enforcement issue. Councillor Adams advised the committee that residents welcomed the interventions and engagement work, he explained to the committee that cabinet members have broad and complex portfolios and he worked closely with Councillor Smith to provide a package of support.
- 4.3 Councillor Dimoldenberg questioned whether the council had thought of bespoke approaches and suggested giving a higher profile to good initiatives. Councillor Adams advised the committee that the council focus was on outreach, he

informed the committee that 8/10 new arrivals to the city do not spend a second night on the streets, because of the councils and its partners great engagement work. Councillor Adams stated that the council is trying a more sophisticated approach based on need, looking and the different types of rough sleepers, working with the Business Improvement District (BIDs), using new technology and shining a light on the hidden heroes who work hard. Council Adams mentioned the wide spread of human trafficking which was another serious issue linked to rough sleeping.

- 4.4 Councillor Less commented on the rough sleepers' tents on Park Lane and the litter that is left as a result. Councillor Adams advised that there was a number of operations with TFL, Police and the council's Integrated street team to clear hidden encampments. He advised that they were limited to how much they could do and needed to lobby the Government for more powers. Sara Sutton informed the committee that there were concerns regarding barriers to engage as the council wants to put support in place before any action is taken. Councillor Less made enquiries regarding gun crime stats and was informed by Ms Sutton that this would be provided. Councillor Shearer queried why there had been a 14% increase in EU nationals' rough sleepers. Councillor Adams responded to the query and advised that this could be linked to human trafficking. Councillor Shearer mentioned Whitley's and other development sites where noise and noise monitoring had been an issue, he asked if officers could provide clear learnings for the future.
- 4.5 Councillor Green thanked the Street outreach teams that had helped a vulnerable person in his ward. He commented on rubbish and the stats of commercial flytipping, he advised that he was surprised at the low number of fixed penalties notices for bad presentation of waste in his ward. Councillor Green stated that the presentation of rubbish in his ward was awful and there needed to be an education and if necessary, penalty notices issues to the commercial premises on Edgeware Road, he gueried what the council could do to address this issue. Responding to Councillor Green's query, Ms Sutton advised the committee that council was trialling a new approach with Heart London Business Alliance, which had been successful and will be rolled out across the City. Councillor Green also raises a query regarding the failed CCTV in Bayswater unable to capture vehicle registration numbers and the next steps for the Big Black Bin site. Ms Sutton advised the committee that they were looking at different options including new bin designs, understanding the different approaches and then evaluating each in turn, she confirmed that the next step will be to work with Ward Councillors.
- 4.6 Councillor Bright made a comment on noise from the Whitley's development site, referring to the report where it mentioned the hours of work were being reduced, she felt that Whitley's were being accommodating. She also raised a question regarding short term lettings, suggesting greater synergy between leaseholders and disposal short term tenants waste. With regard to the Whitley's development, Councillor Adams advised they hours have been changed, but had not been

reduced, he felt that the residents really want the developers to get on with the demolition which is schedule to finish in November and he will continue to support community engagement. Ms Sutton advised the committee that with regards to short-term lettings and Westminster Housing provision, her team viewed the subject as a cross portfolio issue and was working with Councillor Smith. Ms Sutton advised that to her knowledge short term-lettings were not permitted and the WCC housing team do investigate, build cases and take action, she referred to the successful case regarding a tenant. Ms Sutton briefly outlined some areas that would be looked at when dealing with short-term lettings involving lease holders.

4.7 Councillor Arzymanow informed the committee that she was approached regarding the locations for the new door step recycling posters which are intended for Airbnb. She advised the committee that she had requested a number of the posters to be placed on Big Black Bins. Councillor Arzymanow raised a query regarding Noise SMS and circumstances where individuals did not have access to a mobile phone. Councillor Adams advised that issues can be reported via the council website or by phone, he informed the committee that Noise SMS text allows customers the ability to update the council on the complaint, by responding to the SMS text, if the noise is continuing or has stopped. Councillor Adams informed the committee that the SMS service reduced officer interactions with cases by an average of 40% per month.

**RESOLVED:** The committee noted the report.

### 5. CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CITY MANAGEMENT PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

- 5.1 Councillor Tim Mitchell provided a report of the Environment and City Management Member's portfolio. Members of the committee were invited by the Chairman to submit questions regarding the report to Policy and Scrutiny Officer by email after the meeting.
- 5.2 Councillor Less raised a query regarding an Active Streets event that took place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August in her ward. She advised that photographs were taken of children that were not from the ward and requested further information on who these children were. Councillor Lewis raised a query regarding climate emergency and whether ClIr Mitchell will consider setting up a committee for reducing emissions across the borough. Councillor Lewis requested an update on food waste recycling and noted a case against the deregulation of waste collection.

**RESOLVED:** The committee noted the report.

### 6. KNIFE CRIME REPORT

- 6.1 Council Adams advised the committee that the report highlights trends, key drivers and who is primarily involved in knife crime. Paying particular attention to robbery, Councillor Adams informed the committee that robbery was a key driver to knife crime and tackling robbery was a significant priority for WCC. He advised that the council would be working closely with the police to make sure resources are directed accordingly. Council Adams advised the committee that Public Health had adopted violence as a key priority and would be working more closely with health services. Ms Sutton advised the committee that violence is a multiagency priority going forward and as such all agencies are accountable in combating knife crime.
- 6.2 Ms Sutton advised the committee that WCC had a disproportionate level of knife crime which had increased by 56% and robbery had also increased by 60%, she also informed the committee that 37% of offences were linked to possession. Ms Sutton noted that The Serious Youth Violence Task Group continued to provide the council's focus on working together across Council departments, the MPS and with partner agencies to adapt to the changing nature of violence in Westminster. Ms Sutton explained to the committee that The Task Group looked at how we could better understand the drivers behind serious violence in the borough, in order to provide appropriate strategic and tactical responses, as well as empowering our communities to help reduce serious youth violence. Ms Sutton advised the committee that The Task Group is leading on a number of initiatives, one in Church Street which include a tool kit for parents, supporting young people in education, public health violence workshops and community engagement.
- 6.3 Ms Sutton informed the committee that a number of options were being developed including the Integrated Gangs and Exploitation Unit (IGXU) which is a multiagency team funded by Community Safety, Family Services, MOPAC and the Home Office, consisting of partners and professionals. Ms Sutton advised the committee that the IGXU identify and work with vulnerable and exploited young people aged between 10 and 24 who are involved in group violence or on the periphery of gangs to improve their life choices, social integration, reduce associations with gangs and reduce incidences of serious youth violence. She noted that the IGXT had also widened its focus beyond just gangs to deal with criminal exploitation (e.g. County Lines). Ms Sutton advised the committee that there was a focus on a community response providing a framework to respond to families and the wider community. She informed the committee that there is likely to be a report commissioned to better understand how we meet needs of these young people. Ms Sutton advised the committee that this was a complete integrated approach, brining in health partners and robust interventions.
- 6.4 Ms Sutton informed the committee on the PAN London actives taking place including the MOPAC Violence Reduction Unit, she advised that the VRU will share information about what works in spotting the early signs of what might lead

to criminal behaviour and focusing attention and resources on what makes a difference. Ms Sutton advised the committee that the council is working closely with the police and highlighted a few key areas, such as council officers and the Police operating regular community weapons sweeps, regular meetings with Members, the Leader of the opposition and MPs. Ms Sutton handed committee members a briefing note with some of the outcomes from the work of the Serious Violence Task Group and the Knife Crime action plan. Ms Sutton reminded the committee that the police now had S60 authorities to safeguard communities in geographical areas where violence is believed to be likely or has occurred, allowing officers to search without grounds specific areas. She added that the S60 was subsequently in place this evening across North Westminster.

- 6.5 Councillor Arzymanow made further inquires regarding the S60 and stop and search powers, asking if it was possible to quantify the benefits of stop and search vs controversy, ultimately quantify the impact. Councillor Margo Bright queried what facilities were in place to deter young people from knife crime. Councillor Adams explained that the council was about to spend £500,000 on youth club provisions across the city and will support the broader community. Councillor Green raised the point of test purchase operations to restrict the sale of knives, he queried what the WCC trading standards team was doing to test sales specifically with smaller retailers. Councillor Adams informed the committee that he took part a Knife Crime Action Day in June, where test purchases were carried out, he advised that the main message that came from that day was storing knives in the back or well out of easy reach, he noted that ongoing education continued.
- 6.6 Ms Sutton further explained that Trading Standards had a regular programme of visit and test purchases which was carried out across the borough, she explained that a major problem was online retailers and the team collected stats on the illegal ordering and selling of knives, which Ms Sutton agreed to share with the committee. Councillor Shearer queried what the council intended to do to clear up Cambridge Circus area as it experienced high levels of knife crime. Responding to the query raised, Councillor Adams explained that there had been some improvements and the MPS were cracking down on robberies, however crime continued to persist and there was more work to do in this area. Councillor Shearer raised a further query regarding a reduction in detection rates and sought further information on the time scales on recruitment for the integrated team.
- 6.7 Councillor Less noted the surge of robberies involving older people during the day time, commenting on an incident in Church Street. Ms Sutton advised that there is usually an organised element to this and there is a focus to crack down on this type of crime and provide care to victims. Councillor Dimoldenberg commented on further communication required inform members on how the funding for youth provisions would be allocated. He advised officers that her would like to know the current status of how the money is being spent. Ms Sutton advised the committee that she was meeting with provider and would report back to the committee. How Councillor Lewis agreed that Cambridge Circus had a lot of problems and queried

how much communication was had with perpetrators to understand their motives for committing knife crime. Ms Sutton informed the committee that lots of work had been done with perpetrator and victims, she explained that there was a focus on contextual safeguarding and how to better support people. She advised that the IGXT had had good success as they are focused on engagement with young people.

6.8 **Expert Witnesses** Julia Mayer (St Mary's Team Leader) from Redthread, address the committee and provided and overview of Redthread and what they do at St Mary's Hospital. Ms Mayer advised the committee that the service was embedded in the hospital and provided intense support to young people at the earliest opportunity, engaging with young people and offering help, then continuing to engage when that young person has left hospital and is back in the community Ms Mayer informed the committee that the engagement levels were high and that her team build strong relationships, she confirmed that her team worked very closely with the IGXT.

RESOLVED: The committee noted the report.

## 7. EVENING AND NIGHT TIME ECONOMY TASK GROUP REPORT

- 7.1 Councillor Green addressed the committee asking that they approve the recommendations presented in the report. Councillor Green provided an overview of the report, advising the committee that the task group was established following a number of allegations made about discrimination and lack of inclusivity in late night premises in Westminster. He explained that the task group's aims were to investigate people's experiences from the perspective of visitors, residents and the industry. Councillor Green explained that to provide focus, the task group concentrated its investigation on nightclubs as they were the subject of the original complaints. The task group also limited the investigation to discrimination based on the protected characteristics defined in the Equality Act 2010.
- 7.2 Councillor Green advised the committee that a number of solutions were discussed during the course of the task group's work and these largely focus on three themes. He explained the first theme was establishing best practice across the industry and a standard to which venues can be held accountable. Councillor Green informed the committee that the second theme was avoiding situations where decisions can be misunderstood as being discriminatory and ensuring that there is contemporaneous evidence to help establish ether way. Councillor Green advised the committee that the final theme was ensuring that there are proper procedures for clubgoers to bring complaints of discrimination which also allow venues to present their side. Councillor Green concluded by advising the committee the task group proposed a number of recommendations with the main

recommendation being the Code of conduct, he noted other recommendations which included transparency, training, technology and encourage inclusivity.

7.3 Councillor Bright raised a query regarding Stonewall and the reference point for the figures stated in the report (1 in 6 LBGT and 1 in 5 Disabled) people had been discriminated and required the context for the figures. In response to the query raised Councillor Green advised the committee that Stonewall had been invited to give evidence to the Committee, they chose not to and instead provided the written evidence provided in the report. Aaron Hady, Policy and Scrutiny Manager advised the committee that Stonewall had provided a reference point and this would be included in the final report.

RESOLVED: The committee approved the report.

### 8. COMMITTEE TRACKER AND WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

- 8.1 Aaron Hardy (Policy & Scrutiny Manager) presented an updated report on the current version of the work programme for 2019/2020 and also provided an update on the action tracker.
- 8.2 Mr Hardy advised that there had been a slip in time scale regarding the Energy Strategy and report could not be available for the next meeting. Mr Hardy advised the committee members to e-mail him if there were any suggestions for items for the next meeting.
- 8.3 RESOLVED: The committee noted the report.

### 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Councillor Less queried if the police would be attending the next meeting. Councillor Adams agreed that the committee's questions would be forwarded to the police with written responses received before the next meeting. Councillor Less also requested feedback on how Autumn Nights was received.

### 10. FUTURE DATES

Wednesday 20 November 2019 at 7.00pm Wednesday 29 January 2020 at 7.00pm

The Meeting ended at 8:47 pm.

CHAIRMAN:\_\_\_\_\_

DATE:\_\_\_\_\_

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# Agenda Item 5



# Environment, Highways and Public Protection Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Date:	Monday 16 March 2020
Report Of:	Councillor Heather Acton
Portfolio:	Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Licensing
Report Author and Contact Details:	Chloe Baker <u>cbaker@westminster.gov.uk</u> Ph: 07890 380122

# 1 Rough Sleeping

- **1.1** We are proud of the work we have achieved across our services in supporting some of the country's most vulnerable people this year, but there is more to do.
- **1.2** We conducted a full street count on January the 30<sup>th</sup> 2020 and are pleased to confirm a 37% reduction in numbers, down from 333 in November 2019 to 244 in January.
- **1.3** This drop in number demonstrates the success of our winter programme in which the Council has opened an additional 42 bed spaces. Nonetheless, We are also aware that January regularly sees a drop in people bedding down during the cold months, and also before migratory groups return to the UK.
- **1.4** Our winter programme of night shelters began in December 2019 and continues to support 42 individuals every night. The Council has won a bid for £380,000 funding from both the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government and the Greater London Authority and is working with charity and faith based partners in Westminster. The aim is to provide support to rough sleepers to find more sustainable accommodation, including making sure those who are either in work or work ready to have a safe place to stay and to save for a private rent deposit.
- **1.5** The Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government announced £112 million of funding for the Rough Sleeping Initiative at the end of January; Westminster was also successful in bidding for £2.3m of this fund. This will help fund across thirteen services in Westminster, including an emergency night shelter for women experiencing domestic abuse, our successful assessment centres, additional outreach workers and two Housing First projects, one of which is for women.

- **1.6** The Hidden Network Campaign has been initiated- more detail can be found at <u>www.westminster.gov.uk/rough-sleeping</u>. The new campaign seeks to shine a much-needed spotlight on the network of hidden heroes working day in, day out to support the rough sleeping community. We are now asking businesses across Westminster to host a donation unit and provide the general public with the opportunity to donate to services instead of giving directly to people on the street. Councillor Adams made a keynote speech at a joint Victoria and Northbank Bid Breakfast event on the Hidden Network on 13 January 2020, referencing the Campaign as well as the council's recent work to address on rough sleeping.
- **1.7** Given the particularly stormy weather experienced during February, the Council activated the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) based on the risk to life for rough sleepers posed by significant wind and rain for rough sleepers. Outreach workers targeted our most vulnerable rough sleepers, and we had spaces for an additional 120 individuals. We have since agreed that Amber alerts from the Met office (risk to life) will trigger SWEP and this has been built into our operational procedures.
- **1.8** Passage House Assessment Centre is continuing to deliver amazing results for shorter term and returning rough sleepers to Westminster, achieving a total of 59 moves to more sustainable accommodation for those people accessing their service over the last two quarters. Their model has been sustaining similar levels of success since its inception in 2017; as a result, the Council has been working with St Mungo's to adapt Harrow Road Hostel into a second 40 bed assessment centre, also with a focus on supporting complex rough sleepers. This can be to areas outside Westminster, where they are entitled to more suitable support. St Mungo's has recruited expert staff from similar services in London and the service has started well.

### Integrated Street Engagement Unit (ISEU)

- **1.9** The ISEU operates across Westminster and continues to deploy across the City utilising multi-agency led approach in dealing with the challenges associated with Westminster's 'street population'. This group is not solely rough sleepers, but also include people who live elsewhere and travel to Westminster daily to spend significant amount of time on our streets. The associated issues includes drugtaking, begging, street-fouling and other anti-social behaviour.
- **1.10** The unit continues to identify and target problematic areas and has undertaken numerous coordinated operations to improve living conditions for all in the city. The organisations that make up the unit work together to provide social care, health and addiction support with the goal of helping some of the most vulnerable to turn their lives around. The team provide the following services:

- Listening to and helping those on the street Our unit is working with and providing support to our daytime street population every day to find out what help they need to turn their lives around.
- Substance abuse support Our resident support workers with specialist skills are providing practical support for those with mental illness and/or those addicted to alcohol or drugs. These specialists are speaking directly to people on the street, supported by the back-up provided by more traditional building-based services. Turning Point attend joint deployments with WCC and conduct an on-site assessment.
- Social care and housing support With charity outreach workers and council officials working together in the unit, those on the street are given advice about accommodation options and what council services or public funds they can access.
- **1.11** ISEU's objective is to manage people into appropriate support services, providing a sustainable way to deal with the issue rather than simply shifting problems around.
- **1.12** The unit has a Senior City Inspector and 6 City Inspectors in its set up covering between 0700 and 2200 on a two-shift rotational shift pattern. ISEU has now also acquired a dedicated Police team consisting of a Sergeant and 5 constables.
- **1.13** In the 3rd quarter (October-December 2019), the ISEU issued 48 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN)s whilst taking part in premeditated operations focussing on rough sleeping and related ASB and criminal activities including begging. In this period, the ISEU team with social care partners and Police spoke 374 times to people on the street and registered 36 referrals to various support services out of 374 on street engagements. The remaining individuals were already known or cooperating with services.
- 1.14 Also, in this period, the ISEU served 33 Community Protection Warning Notices (CPNs) for various ASB and criminal activities including begging. In addition to serving CPNs, ISEU issued 17 section149 notices to tents/structures unlawfully erected on the public highway and removed or disrupted 43 tents.
- **1.15** Last month, the unit engaged with 99 rough sleepers and referred 6 people to outreach support services. The unit encountered and disrupted 28 counts of begging and issued 13 CPN warning notices. The police team made 55 arrests for various breaches from 571 stop and searches. The ISEU City Inspectors served 11 fixed penalty notices to businesses for leaving waste outside of collection time and 4 waste transfer notices to ascertain if a business has a registered waste carrier.
- **1.16** The unit has enhanced its network portfolio by including Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) and British Transport Police to join deployments. This has been effective especially in Victoria. The team conducts a daily sweep of Victoria Street and environs including station entrances, disrupting any street population from loitering. The response from local stakeholders and residents has been positive.

## 2 Improving Neighbourhood Coordination

- 2.1 As of May 2019, a new neighbourhood coordination structure was implemented across Westminster. The intention is to promote a more collaborative approach to problem solving with our partners, including helping the police tackle the more serious cases at ward level. The new structure gives ward Councillors the opportunity to take part in local problem solving through monthly Neighbourhood Coordination meetings with Council officers and key stakeholders.
- 2.2 A new tasking and co-ordination process is now operating across the neighbourhood teams, to address local priorities in a timely and co-ordinated manner. The process also ensures that the Council is more efficient in deploying its available resources to the issues that have been highlighted as being a priority for each area.
- **2.3** Each Neighbourhood holds a Head of Service Area Management Meeting, attended by partners including local police leadership. These meetings review and determine area priorities, assess progress against problem solving plans and community triggers and address matters affecting the area.

# 3 Emergency Planning and Business Continuity

- **3.1** The implementation of the first phase of a pan-London project called EP2020 that seeks to standardise the approach taken by all councils in how they respond to emergency and major incidents has been completed. The Council continues to seek new volunteers from across the Council to support our emergency operations. Staff are then given training to fulfil a range of different roles. The next stage of EP2020 considers Humanitarian Assistance arrangements.
- **3.2** Planning has begun for the annual Exercise Safer London which is being held in March 2020. This is a pan-London exercise designed to test the council's emergency response to major incidents or emergencies. All aspects of the new approach implemented during 2019 in line with the standardisation programme, will be tested during the exercise to ensure that our emergency planning procedures remain fit for purpose.
- **3.3** The council's emergency response was tested in February 2020 following the discovery of two unexploded WW2 bombs in a construction site in Soho. The response was swift, coordinated and concluded within a relatively short timescale, ensuring that disruption to the immediate areas was kept to a minimum.
- **3.4** The council is taking steps to ensure preparedness in light of the growing threat of a pandemic as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak. Emergency plans, including the Pandemic Local Response Plan, have been reviewed and refreshed, a

command structure is in place and all council departments are reviewing their business continuity plans. The operational responsibility is led by Public Health who are responsible for requesting the activation of the council's Pandemic Local Response Plan, on advice from Public Health England.

# 4 Serious Violence and Knife Crime

### Serious Youth Violence Task Force

- **4.1** The Home Office has signalled its intention to enact a statutory duty for Local Authorities to cooperate with its partners in tackling issues of youth violence. The Council has a number of governance structures in place that would fulfil the requirements of the statutory duty although some work will take place by the task force to ensure we have the most appropriate representation at each board, with the Safer Westminster Partnership taking overall leadership. The task force also considered an invitation to Physical Activity, Leisure and Sports (PALS) from Steel Warriors to provide a new outdoor calisthenics gym in Westminster, made out of seized and surrendered knives from London Streets. The Integrated Gangs and Exploitation Unit (IGXU) and Westminster Housing Services will provide data to help determine the site.
- **4.2** In September, the Mayor's Violence Reduction Unit announced additional funding to support efforts against knife crime and violence. Supported projects were required to address the following three criteria;
  - Addressing the drug related drivers of violence;
  - Supporting young offenders and reducing violent recidivism;
  - Minimising school exclusions and supporting young people back into education, employment and training.
- **4.3** The Council made a successful bid and Westminster has been allocated, as a Tier 1 borough, an additional £200,000 in 2019/20 and £200,000 in 2020/21. This funding will be used to support projects in the following areas;
  - Additional resources within the IGXU;
  - Support for the Church Street pilot supporting a violence reduction programme for Year 5 and 6 school children;
  - Expanding the current preventing exclusions project in Westminster Schools.

### Knife Crime

- **4.4** The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) published its Anti-Knife Crime Strategy in 2017. The strategy has six key themes:
  - Governance
  - Targeting lawbreakers
  - Keeping weapons off our streets
  - Protecting and educating young people
  - Standing with communities, neighbourhoods and families against knife crime

- Supporting victims of knife crime and offering ways out of crime
- **4.5** The Westminster Knife Crime Action Plan was refreshed in May 2019 in consultation with the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) and the Mayor's Violence Reduction Unit. The plan is overseen by Community Safety and has been updated and agreed within the Youth Crime Prevention Partnership, which sits within the broader Safer Westminster Partnership. Work is underway to widen this action plan and become the Westminster Violence Reduction Action Plan.
- **4.6** The latest refresh reflects the shift within the IGXU to include exploitation, such as the new Gangs Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (GMACE) meeting which takes place every six weeks. The purpose of GMACE is to identify, monitor and disrupt high risk gang members and identify young people at risk of exploitation in order to identify the links and to develop common themes in order to provide an adequate partnership response. The plan also reflects the changes in responsibilities following the BCU merger.
- **4.6** In October 2019, the Council joined with the MPS and British Transport Police (BTP) to run a second Operation Poniard. This was a day of action to tackle knife crime and to promote social responsibility amongst retail premises selling knives; reducing opportunities to steal knives and reduce the availability of knives and fireworks to young people. During the operation, Westminster Housing received 22 reports of youths ASB related to fireworks, mainly in the South area Churchill Estate, Lupus Street and Church Street (the analysts are currently compiling a final report in relation to calls made to the emergency services, London Fire Brigade (LFB) and the MPS. The increased police presence as well as implementation of dispersal and stop and search powers contained the disorder within short period. This resulted in a minimal impact on the local communities and positive feedback from the usual hot-spot locations.

# 5 Basic Command Unit (BCU) Update

- **5.1** Following the tri-borough merger of the MPS BCU in February 2019, the Council has maintained regular touch with the MPS to ensure that Westminster remains safe.
- **5.2** The BCU has launched a Priority Crime Team (PCT) that consists of forty-six Detectives and Uniformed Officers working to a Detective Inspector in response to significant increases in robbery offences. The team has now launched a threemonth operation against robbery under Operation Fahrenheit which is being fully supported by the Council.
- **5.3** Overall, the response time for 999 calls requiring an immediate response has remained stable, showing only a slight decrease since the implementation of the BCU.
- **5.4** The Council continues to lobby for more Police Officers in Westminster, particularly to cover community roles and the evening and night time economy in the West End. The Council has raised these issues with the new Policing

Minister upon his appointment in July 2019. It is expected that approximately 3,400 additional Police Officers will be deployed in London following the Prime Minister's commitment to provide an additional 20,000 Officers nationwide. The Council is lobbying to press that Westminster must be treated as priority and receive early deployments of any additional officers.

## 6 Private Sector Housing

### **Building Safety Programme**

- 6.1 Following Grenfell and in response to Central Government's Building Safety Programme, work has been undertaken to inspect and assess privately-owned residential high-rise buildings with unsafe ACM (Aluminum Composite Material) cladding across Westminster. Since identification of affected buildings, officers have liaised with relevant parties, including building owners and leaseholders, to correct this. The work has included building inspections and obtaining certain information regarding building construction and fire risk assessment.
- **6.2** This work has identified 13 high-rise, privately-owned buildings providing residential accommodation in Westminster which have hazardous cladding. It is important to note that interim fire safety measures which meet LFB approval are in place in these buildings pending full remediation. So far one building has been fully remediated, and there has been substantial remediation of three further buildings with completion expected shortly.
- **6.3** Following consultation with LFB and our Building Control department, enforcement action has now commenced under the Housing Act 2004 through the service of Hazard Awareness Notices on other building owners. These notices have provided building owners with a 3-month window in which to provide details of how any hazardous cladding is to be removed and replaced.
- **6.4** Pre-enforcement notification letters were sent to affected leaseholders two weeks prior to this, which provided them with a range of advice and support on this issue. This included a new section on the Council's website to provide further information and a dedicated mailbox to answer any specific queries. This exercise has proved successful in answering queries from affected parties.
- **6.5** Responses by building owners to the Hazard Awareness Notices will be reviewed and consideration will be given to the need for any escalation of enforcement action with the expiry of the Hazard Awareness Notices this month.
- **6.6** Officers have encouraged building owners to apply to the Government's Private Sector Remediation Fund to assist with funding necessary works. This has resulted in all bar one of the owners of buildings with hazardous cladding submitting applications for funding. The remaining building has received confirmation that remedial works will be funded through insurance arrangements.
- **6.7** In addition, MHCLG issued a request to local authorities across the country to undertake a data collection exercise regarding high rise residential buildings in their area towards the end of 2019. Westminster contains one of the highest

numbers of such buildings nationally, and work has commenced to collect the data. This work has attracted funding from the MHCLG in accordance with New Burdens rules

### Housing Standards Task Force (HST)

- **6.8** The Housing Standards Taskforce continues to enforce against rogue landlords and agents. In the current financial year, we have issued 20 Civil Penalty notices and have collected £79,500 in penalty charges. In a recent First Tier Tribunal hearing concerning an unlicensed House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) the appellant accepted culpability and agreed to pay a fine of £10,000. Furthermore, the Company will be placed on the London Rogue Land and Agent checker.
- **6.9** Not all cases are prosecuted and where the landlord is cooperative the Council, at its discretion, may decide to take less formal action. In one case in Third Avenue, a student house was found to be unlicensed and following intervention by the HST, the owner (who was not a portfolio landlord) quickly licensed the property, installed a new fire alarm and had the electrics overhauled. Taskforce action has resulted in the discovery of 20 unknown and unlicensed HMOs in the current year.
- **6.10** The Metastreet report into HMOs (compiled with data from the HST analysts) has now been finalised and shows clear correlation between HMOs and housing hazards, particularly those relating to fire safety and excess cold hazards. The results of this analysis will form part of the background documentation for consideration of an Additional HMO licensing scheme, which will come before members shortly.
- **6.11** Officers from the Taskforce have recently been tackling their most difficult case. This involved an HMO where persons acting for the Landlord deliberately sabotaged the electrical supply in a 6 storey house. This resulted in the tenants being left without light, heat, power, a working fire alarm or emergency lighting. The situation was compounded by the UK power networks disconnecting the power supply to the property. Faced with the difficult decision as to if it was safe for the tenants to remain the Council concluded that an Emergency Prohibition Order was necessary to protect those tenants by preventing them from living in the property. Further prosecution of the landlord is being considered. The tenants were advised on their Housing rights and signposted to the Passage and Homelessness services. At least two of the tenants have been found temporary accommodation.

### Short Term Lets (STL)

**6.12** A meeting held with the CEO of AirBnB and the STAA (Short Term Accommodation Association) to discuss how the sector could be better regulated, the proposal from the company being a voluntary registration system that could be implemented locally. This was followed up with STAA on the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020 to discuss a trial in Westminster in an identified residential block.

The City Council continues to push for a statutory registration scheme and this was made clear at the APPG meeting convened by Karen Buck MP.

- **6.13** AirBnB would like us to consider a joint communications campaign to provide information for hosts, and to work together to develop case studies to inform a proposed AirBnB white paper to Government. That work is ongoing.
- **6.14** Since 2015, there have been 2037 STL cases, and there are currently 1455 active cases. To date, 503 of those cases have resulted in service of Planning Contravention Notices and 24 enforcement notices. There have been 171 cases relating to noise, 18 related to anti-social behaviour, and 213 cases for waste-related STL.

# 7 Street Entertainment

7.1 Approval to go out for consultation on the new Busking and Street Entertainment Policy was granted by the Licensing Committee following over 18 months of engagement with residents, businesses and buskers. Westminster's policy seeks to balance the interests of buskers and street entertainers with those who live, work and visit here. It takes a targeted approach to address the unique situation in each of our key busking hotspots.

### **Key Policy Proposals**

- **7.2** There will be no change to busking rules across most of Westminster. However, our policy will promote a voluntary Code of Conduct and encourage performers to join our Busking and Street Entertainment Forum. Other measures include:
  - Supporting self-regulation by performers. Covent Garden has a Performers Association (SPA) which all performers should join before they work there. In Trafalgar Square, self-regulation with the newly created SPA in this area will be used.
  - Implementation and evaluation of a light touch licensing scheme in Oxford Street, Piccadilly Circus, Chinatown and Leicester Square. Performers will need to apply for a licence to perform here, keep to designated pitches, and abide by specific conditions.
- 7.3 The consultation period lasted for six weeks, from the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020. During this time all stakeholders were encouraged to respond to the proposals and designated/licensed streets. The Council encouraged all relevant stakeholders to take up the opportunity to give their views with flyers, face to face engagement, postcards sent out to residents and businesses in our policy areas and emails to our key stakeholder list.
- **7.4** Once collated, the analysis along with feedback through Policy and Scrutiny will result in a set of recommendations for Licensing Committee. Representations may be heard.

# 8 Whiteleys Development Queensway

- 8.1 The latest Community Liaison Group meeting for the Whiteleys development took place on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January. Attendees included, Resident Associations, residents, representatives from the developer, Ward Councillor and officers from WCC. It was decided to reduce the frequency of meetings to every other month, although this will be reviewed should there be issues to discuss.
- **8.2** Some pile extraction work commenced before Christmas and is ongoing, this was subject to Best Practical Means methods to minimise any impact.
- **8.3** A Section 61 has been issued for the ground works phase at Whiteleys. Some existing walls and slab have been discovered in the South Western part of the site that require removing and breaking will be taking place over approximately 3 weeks.
- 8.4 Carbon monoxide alarms had been going off in several flats. All the occupants of the affected block in Kensington Garden Square are owner occupiers and therefore the Council would not normally be involved. However, an officer visited resident but found no deficiencies that might cause the hazard. The owner occupiers were advised to carry out their own investigations.
- 8.5 A Cadent engineer visited a block in Kensington Gardens Square and discovered a boiler flue emitting carbon monoxide into a building's light well. This was then rising into flats above, going into their windows and activating their alarms. The boiler was shut down, a boiler engineer re visited tested the boiler and could not find a problem with the boiler. The plan in mid-January was to move the flue. Environmental Science have not received any further complaints

# 9 Independent Westminster Hate Crime Commission

- **9.1** The Independent Westminster Hate Crime Commission has been established with Nick Ross being appointed as Chairman. The Commission has met several times and the evidence-gathering process is underway.
- **9.2** A report with recommendations to challenge and support the Council will come for consideration later this year.
- **9.3** The Hate Crime Commission is made up of the following members:
  - Nick Ross (Chair): a renowned broadcaster and founder and visiting professor at the Jill Dando Institute of Crime Science. He has served on several national policing and crime prevention committees.
  - Sir Peter Bazalgette: chair of ITV and previous chair of Arts Council England, 2013-17. Sir Bazalgette also sits on the board of UK Research and Innovation.

- Jonathan Kent: Detective Inspector (Safeguarding) in the Metropolitan Police Service
- Professor Gloria Laycock OBE: headed the Home Office Police research Group and was founding Director of the UCL Jill Dando Institute.
- Professor Les Moran: professor in the School of Law at Birkbeck College where Hate Crime has been the focus of his research, teaching and public engagement, including a post-graduate course on hate crime.
- Fiyaz Mughal OBE: founder of 2 UK-based social enterprises- *Tell MAMA* and *Faith Matters*, which work to tackle extremism in the UK, Europe and Middle East.
- Isaac Saliu: Deputy Member for Westminster in the Youth Parliament
- Sara Sutton: Executive Director for City Management and Communities at Westminster City Council

# 10 Response to recommendations for the Inclusion in the Evening and Night Time Economy Task Group Report

**10.1** The Inclusion and Night Time Economy Task Groups report was published late last year. Councillor Ian Adams was pleased with the report and the work undertaken by the Task Group to produce it. He provided a full response to the recommendations. This report is attached to this report at Appendix 1.

# 11 Licensing Policy Review

- **11.1** There is a statutory requirement to review Licensing Policy at the end of every 5-year period of the policy under the Licensing Act 2003. Westminster's must be published before January 2021.
- **11.2** There is an opportunity to amalgamate the existing licensing regimes under one licensing policy with a strategic framework guided by four principles:
  - A Licensing Policy appropriate for the next 20 years
  - A neighbourhood approach to policies
  - Balanced policies to protect residents and encourage responsible and inclusive growth
  - Proactive polices helping to shape Westminster and guide applicants
- **11.3** The new policy will empower local communities, enabling them to shape their aea through the development of neighbourhood licensing policies.
- **11.4** As of April 2018, the council is required to undertake a Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) if it believes that cumulative impact exists. The CIA's purpose is to limit the growth of licensed premises where the promotion of the four licensing objectives is being compromised. The plan is to develop a CIA that will

provide a robust evidence base to restrict the licensed operations that are not going to promote the Licensing objectives and add to cumulative impact.

**11.5** There will be opportunies for this committee to contribute to developments of the Licensing Policy.

# 12 Air Quality

- **12.1** The council is proposing to extend its current air quality monitoring network, with an additional 52 passive monitoring locations are being considered. The network will consist of diffusion tubes that measure concentrations of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>). NO<sub>2</sub> is one of the key air pollutants in Westminster and although existing monitoring has indicated gradual improved in recent years, NO<sub>2</sub> concentration still exceeds the EU limit values. The main sources of air pollution in Westminster is road transport, although emissions from commercial and domestic buildings also play a significant role.
- **12.2** The extension will supplement the existing monitoring network and will be distributed borough wide. This will help to target any policy and/or air quality improvement interventions in areas of greatest need.
- **12.3** Additional monitoring will help the council monitor trends in pollution concentrations across the borough and to assess the success of policy changes or local interventions Results will be published annually and will be available for public view.
- 12.4 Air pollution from burning wood and other unauthorised fuels in non-exempt appliances, such as a grate fireplace are a significant contributor to poor air quality. Complaints are received by Public Protection and Licensing officers about dark smoke emitted from chimneys, caused by the burning of wood and other unauthorised fuels. The council succeeded in a bid for a grant from Defra to train officers in PPL who have day to day contact with commercial businesses. This will help officers to improve their technical knowledge of enforcement, advise them on the provisions of the current legislation, identify any non-compliance, and investigate any complaints received about alleged breaches of the legislation, to help improve local air quality. The training will be carried out this month

# 13 Waste Policy and Waste Enforcement

- **13.1** The waste policy has been reviewed as part of the Councils' vision for a Clean and Green City The new policy is aimed at changing behaviours by adopting a robust approach to fly-tipping and repeat offenders. The changes in enforcement procedures support the work being undertaken on the new digital platform, which will include a new mobile device to accommodate more agile working.
- **13.2** With respect to enforcement, City Inspectors have been supporting our Waste and Recycling Department, in a project to address the issue of premises

presenting overweight receptacles, in the form of waste bags, for collection by our Waste Contract Team. Where premises have been identified as consistently failing to comply with written advice, follow up visits have been made to the premises by the City Inspectors. Eight venues have been reminded of their Duty of Care and where applicable their attention drawn to waste conditions attached to their Premises Licences. This has resulted in only one premise out of twenty original offenders still offending.

**13.3** The below table provides figures in respect to waste enforcement in 2019

	Residential Warnings	FPNs
October	147	506
November	165	544
December	87	379
January	93	313
Totals	492	1,742

# Appendix 1

To: Chairman of City Management and Public Protection Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Chairman of the Inclusion in the Evening and Night Time Economy Task Group

From: Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Licensing

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Subject: Response to recommendations of the Inclusion in the Evening and Night Time Economy Task Group

### **Recommendation 1**

The council's Evening and Night-Time Economy strategy should have an explicit aim of increasing inclusion and the council should encourage partners with similar strategies to do the same. This should also relate to the City for All objectives of creating a caring and fairer City as well as celebrating Westminster's communities.

### Cabinet Member comments:

It is important that we continue to promote and strive for better inclusion across our City. The Evening and Night Time Economy is a huge benefit to Westminster and encourages visitors from all over the UK and beyond every day. I intend to ensure that if the Evening and Night Time Economy strategy is developed over the coming year that a key element within that strategy is the promotion of inclusivity throughout venues operating in the evening and at night.

Recommendation is AGREED

### **Recommendation 2**

The council should encourage the development of a voluntary local scheme developed with strategic partners and businesses that introduces a code of conduct for late night establishments to foster and encourage inclusivity. This code of conduct, with the active support of the council, would:

- a. encourage venues to prominently advertise their dress code and any other criteria that might be a reason for refusing someone entry.
- b. encourage venues to have a complaints procedure and to prominently advertise it, along with other relevant avenues of complaint (e.g. EHRC and the SIA)

This could be done by extending the Best Bar None accreditation scheme (including an inclusivity component) to other BIDs/parts of Westminster.

Cabinet Member comments:

I have instructed officers to begin discussions with relevant trade bodies, licensed club venues and other key stakeholders to develop guidance and an accompanying code of practice for licensed operators on inclusivity. The overall aim will be to work with industry to develop a meaningful and widely adopted guidance and accompanying code of practice.

An alternative approach would be that the council will develop this guidance and code of practice independently if there is insufficient support from trade bodies. I am keen that the council should proceed in any event, as I feel strongly that venues must do more to promote inclusivity within Westminster. If we were to take this alternative approach then I would also instruct officers to seek out ways of incentivising the adoption of this code through policy, the Licensing Charter or any other means.

### Recommendation is **AGREED**

#### **Recommendation 3**

The Council will encourage and support venues and industry representatives (e.g. the UK Hospitality Industry and NTIA) to develop a best practice guide for increasing inclusion in the evening and night time economy.

### **Cabinet Member comments:**

See response to recommendation 2.

Recommendation is **AGREED** 

### **Recommendation 4**

The council should encourage HOLBA to incorporate inclusivity as part of the Best Bar None accreditation scheme currently being implemented.

### Cabinet Member comments:

Officers are in discussions with HOLBA and Best Bar None to identify whether inclusivity could form a specific element of the Best Bar None (BBN) accreditation. It is not possible to include inclusivity within this year's Best Bar None accreditation. HOLBA have already agreed the accreditation for this financial year and these have already been distributed to licensed premises. We will continue to work with HOLBA and BBN to include inclusivity within their accreditation next year.

One of the points officers will emphasise with HOLBA will be my desire to see the relevant inclusion element within the BBN assessment requiring each business to demonstrate compliance and promote our codes of practice. This will enable greater buy in and emphasis on the councils inclusivity guidance and codes of practice.

Recommendation is **AGREED** 

#### **Recommendation 5**

The SIA should ensure that its training for door supervisors also contains a module on inclusion in the Evening and Night-Time Economy. There should also be compulsory regular refresher training on this subject.

No cabinet member response required.

#### **Recommendation 6**

The licensing authority should encourage applicants to provide information/details about how they will ensure and support inclusivity as part of the operating schedule attached to a premise's licence.

#### **Cabinet Member comments:**

Officers are currently undertaking a review of the councils licensing policies and a revised version of these policies will be published by the end of 2020 following formal consultation. I have highlighted to officers that inclusivity and equalities must be a key component in the revised policy. It is intended that the council's policy will have a part dedicated to inclusion and equalities with a focus on staff training, operational procedures and design. Applicants will be encouraged to provide far more information to officers on how they will ensure that they are compliant with the Equalities Act and how they will ensure that their premises will provide the inclusivity that the council expects. Officers will identify applicants that do not provide sufficient information on this point and could make a representation to that application that would require the applicant to address the issue or explain to members of the Licensing Sub-Committee why they have not done so.

Recommendation is AGREED

### **Recommendation 7**

The council should, when appropriate, lobby the Government to include promotion of the Equality Act as a licensing objective in the Licensing Act 2003.

### Cabinet Member comments:

I completely support the Task Groups work and agree with the findings within this report. However, I believe that there may be more effective ways of improving inclusivity within licensed premises within Westminster, such as the guidance document, policy development and providing more information on how to report inequalities rather than lobbying government on this point. There is already a means of recourse for any alleged offences under the Equality Act via the Equalities and Human Rights Commission.

I believe that lobbying government on this point, in my view is unlikely to be successful at the moment for the following reasons.

Firstly, local authorities have been lobbying successive governments since the introduction of the Licensing Act 2003 to make specific changes that they would see as being positive steps in developing the Act and their powers. One of these was the inclusion of the promotion of Public Health as a licensing objective. This was supported by a host of other stakeholders and significant evidence was presented to the government on this matter. It was also an issue that was nationwide and would have related to premises that sell alcohol and provide late night refreshment (hot food and/or drink between the hours of 11pm and 5am). The government has not accepted the arguments for including public health as a licensing objective even with strong supporting evidence and a large number of organisations lobbying on this point.

There is limited evidence on the issues surround inclusivity in licensed premises, which has been highlighted within the Task Groups report. These issues don't appear to be affecting other local authorities around the country and it is unlikely therefore that the council could gain wider support on this issue from other local authorities and organisations.

Secondly, the Licensing Act 2003 does provide the legal framework for licensing the types of operations that have been the subject of the Task Groups focus. However, the council is responsible for other licensing regimes that may also need to improve their inclusivity e.g. sex establishments, special treatment and gambling premises. Although there's no specific evidence highlighted to the council that these types of premises aren't inclusive the council should not limit the promotion of the Equality Act to one licensing regime.

I want to see all licensed premises, not just late-night entertainment venues being more inclusive within Westminster. Therefore, as part of the Licensing Policy review mentioned above we will be making it very clear within our new policy that the council will expect all licensed premises to meet the requirements of the Equality Act and ensure that they offer an inclusive venue or service to their customers and staff.

I am also instructing my officers to start to engage with the Equalities and Human Rights Commission to identify whether they would be willing to work with us to develop a more transparent and accessible route for members of the public to raise concerns. I want to better inform the public on how they can inform the Equalities and Human Rights Commission of venues that are actively discriminating against people who are protected under the Equalities Act.

As part of the engagement with the Commission officers will explore whether the Commission would be willing to collaborate on the development and/or promotion of the councils guidance and code of practice, referred to in my response to recommendations 2 and 3. This would also enable the opportunity to develop better information sharing on best practice (Recommendation 8).

The council will seek to develop a specific information page on the councils website that sets out the expectations and legal requirements associated with venues who operate as part of Westminster's Evening and Night Time Economy. This webpage will also provide information on how staff from licensed premises, residents or visitors can raise concerns or make a complaint to the Equalities and Human Rights Commission who are the enforcing body for the Equality Act.

### Recommendation is **NOT AGREED**

### **Recommendation 8**

The council should encourage the systematic sharing of best practice for fostering inclusivity among venues and industry organisations with the council facilitating, as required.

### Cabinet Member comments:

My officers are already involved with a number of initiatives, such as Club Watch and Pub Watch that foster engagement and communication with licensed premises. More needs to be done to raise the awareness of the requirements of the Equality Act and how venues should promote inclusivity through operational management, staff training and design.

To achieve this, officers will be working with trade bodies, the existing engagements networks, the Equalities and Human Rights Commission and other stakeholders to develop a guidance document specifically for licensed operators on this issue. A code of practice will accompany that guidance that, if followed would promote inclusivity within these premises. The councils new Licensing Policy will make inclusivity a key part of that policy specifically setting out the council's expectation on applicants and licensees to adhere to the Equality Act and promote inclusivity. My officers will work with the Equalities and Human Rights Commission and exemplar operators to widely publish and share best practice in this area.

Recommendation is **AGREED** 

# Agenda Item 6 AGENDA ITEM No:



Environment, Highways and Public Protection Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Date:	March 2020
Classification:	General Release
Title:	The Safer Westminster Partnership
Report of:	Sara Sutton
Cabinet Member Portfolio	Public Protection and Licensing
Wards Involved:	All
Policy Context:	Community Safety
Report Author and Contact Details:	Report Author Angela Lambillion 07971024133 alambillion@westminster.gov.uk Angela Lambillion- Community Safety Commissioning Manager

### 1 Executive Summary

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Scrutiny Committee with an overview of the Safer Westminster Partnership, key findings from the annual strategic assessment and highlighting some examples of best practice and the challenges faced.

### 2 Key Matters for the Committee's Consideration

2.1 Committee to discuss with officers what issues should be considered in the Safer Westminster Partnership 2020/23 Strategy.

### 3 Community Safety Partnership

- 3.1 Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) were set up under Sections 5-7 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and are made up of representatives from the 'responsible authorities' which are:
  - Police Service (Metropolitan Police Service);
  - Police & Crime Commissioner (Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime or MOPAC);
  - Local Authority (Westminster City Council);
  - Fire and Rescue Service (London Fire Brigade);
  - Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG);
  - National Probation Service (NPS) and
  - Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC).

- 3.2 The Police and Justice Act (2006) brought in new statutory requirements for CSPs and have been updated by subsequent legislation until the Crime and Disorder Regulations 2011. These include the duties;
  - Produce yearly Strategic Assessments and partnership plans;
  - Share information and have an Information Sharing Protocol;
  - Report on work and progress on a yearly basis;
  - Formulate and implement a strategy to reduce reoffending;
  - Conduct Domestic Homicide Reviews in relation to incidents of domestic homicide.
- 3.3 In Westminster the Community Safety Partnership is called the Safer Westminster Partnership and its aim is to ensure the responsible authorities work together to create strategies and practical interventions to reduce crime and disorder in Westminster.
- 3.4 The Safer Westminster Partnership is chaired by Helen Harper the Borough Commander for Central West area and meets two to three times per year.

#### 4 Strategic Assessment and partnership plans

- 4.1 A strategic assessment is produced annually as a requirement of the Police and Justice Act 2006 on behalf of the responsible authorities for the Safer Westminster Partnership. The latest Strategic Assessment was produced in September 2019 a copy of which is attached in the Background Papers.
- 4.2 The Strategic Assessment is the evidence base for the partnership and aims to identify the key crime and anti-social behaviour issues affecting the borough and to make recommendations on SWP priorities for the following year.
- 4.3 The 2019 Strategic Assessment will be used as the evidence base for the forthcoming 2020/23 Safer Westminster Partnership strategy.
- 4.4 Below details some of the new and emerging findings from the Strategic Assessment. This covers the period July 2018 to June 2019.
- 4.5 Crime continues to rise in Westminster (28%) at a greater rate than across London (6%). A third of the increase in crime across the Metropolitan Police Service, was a result of increasing crime in Westminster. Whilst crime levels increase, detection levels continue to decline. Only 5.9% of crimes in Westminster were 'solved' over this review period. Despite this, public confidence and feelings of safety remain very high.
- 4.6 The West End and St James's wards are not just the hotspots of crime and disorder for Westminster, but across London. The concentration of crime in this area has increased considerably over the last year. 41% of all recorded crime in Westminster is located within just 4 of the 128 Lower Super Output Areas<sup>1</sup>.
- 4.7 Previous victimisation is the single best predictor of future victimisation than any other characteristic of crime. Over half of the victims in Westminster are not residents and they are less likely to be repeat victims of crime, than borough residents. Of particular concern are vulnerable older residents, who are more likely to experience financial and physical abuse and proportionally more likely to be repeat victims of crime.
- 4.8 The number of offenders residing in the borough is decreasing at a much greater rate than the rest of London, despite a steadily increasing population and increasing crime levels. Despite this reduction in offenders, those that remain and reoffend are responsible for a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Lower Super Output Areas are a geography containing approximately 1,500 residents.

considerable proportion of crime. In particular older adult male offenders, who have one of the highest re-offending rates across London.

- 4.9 Drugs and alcohol are two of the key drivers of crime and disorder. Individuals dependent on opioids and/or crack cocaine are responsible for an estimated 45% of acquisitive crime and around 40% of all violent crime is alcohol related. Illicit drug supply has been identified as one of the factors linked to levels of serious violence, particularly in relation to competition for the control of drug supply markets. Getting people into treatment and preventing people from becoming drug users in the first place needs to be the SWP key approach.
- 4.10 Copious research exists on the risk and protective factors, that are flags or signals of involvement in crime and youth violence. Overall, Westminster has lower risk and protective factors than across London. However, there are pockets of risk, correlated with the most deprived wards of the borough, which is evidenced by the volume of Youth Offending Service and Integrated Gangs and Exploitation Unit clients who reside there.
- 4.11 The majority of violent crime in Westminster is not perpetrated by young people. Only 16% of those accused of serious violent crimes were aged up to 24 years. 38% of the young accused were resident's and half of the victims.
- 4.12 Knife crime is often associated with being perpetrated by young people. However, we have no data to understand the volumes of young people involved in the borough, only in relation to the age of victims. It is also assumed to involve injury, yet 82% of all recorded knife crime in Westminster last year did not involve injury.
- 4.13 Whilst it is important to focus on high harm crimes, we can't ignore the rapidly increasing levels of theft in the borough. Theft is the most frequent precursor crime for juvenile offenders and theft offenders have the highest recidivism levels. The sheer volume of offences, very low detection rates and escalating costs to the partnership means it is drawing partnership resources away from dealing with more serious and high harm crimes.
- 4.14 Over the last 12 months, there has been an increase in support for extreme right wing or identarian groups, nationally and to an extent locally. The threat from the extreme right wing in London, is predominantly in the form of public order, which Westminster is a focal point for demonstrations. Events and the number of people attending has increased and this trend is anticipated to continue over the next 12 months.
- 4.15 A workshop was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January for partners to help develop the 2020/23 Safer Westminster Partnership strategy. The workshop covered three thematic areas: Victims, Offenders and the West End.
- 4.16 The Victims thematic group discussed a number of recommendations, including developing enhanced victim training to police officers and educating the officers on issues unique to the borough; the need to gain ASB victim feedback from victims on the service they received; and review and analysis of the current approach to cuckooing to inform a clear partnership response.
- 4.17 The Offenders thematic group proposed setting up an 18-24 offenders working group to look at the distinct needs of this age group and what a more flexible outreach approach might look like. Cross-border offending was also regarded as a priority and suggestions were made to lobby MOPAC, ask the Police to share data on cross border offenders as well as considering cross-border offender management panels with other boroughs. The group also discussed the development of a Public Health campaign on the impact of drug taking / buying from young people in Westminster.

- 4.18 The West End thematic group made suggestions such as improved communication of success and activity to Westminster residents and businesses; BIDs security teams trialling overnight patrols; and moving effective practice from days of action and nights of action into business as usual.
- 4.19 The recommendations are being explored further and will be developed into a strategy, which will be presented to the Safer Westminster Partnership on April 29<sup>th</sup> for approval.

### 5 Key Deliverables

- 5.1 Reviewing the risk and protective factors that put someone at increased risk of being involved in crime and youth violence identified Church Street as the most high-risk area of the borough. The Serious Youth Violence Task Group is prioritising Church Street ward to pilot a public health approach to serious youth violence, with a view to taking these lessons and seeing what can be adapted on a wider scale across Westminster.
- 5.2 Youth clubs, schools and local voluntary sector organisations will work together to deliver a programme of activity to work with young people in years 5 and 6 in primary schools in the Church Street area. The project will engage not just young people but also their families. Positive diversionary activities will not only keep young people safe and off the streets, but they will focus on building resilience and maintaining their health and wellbeing.
- 5.3 A parenting toolkit has been produced and provides a glossary of facts, practical advice to look for signs of your child's involvement in youth violence, as well as tips on how to speak to your child and how you can seek further help or support. It is being circulated to parenting groups, libraries, GP surgeries, youth clubs, Family Hub, other voluntary sector groups, business owners and supermarkets in the local area. Other boroughs have expressed an interest in replicating the booklet for their own areas.
- 5.4 A Serious Youth Violence Community Engagement officer was recruited in July and has been very pro-active in the first four months. She has worked with 9 community groups delivering to over 200 parents, delivered 4 training sessions on capacity building for community representatives, held 1 community against knife crime event attended by over 90 people and begun working with schools. Many more sessions are planned over the next few months, along with the development of a joint Community Safety Community Engagement Strategy.
- 5.5 £200k for this financial year and the same for 2020/21 has been granted from MOPAC to further develop our work to tackle youth violence. It has been proposed to uplift and add to existing projects working with young people to prevent and reduce violence this year and in 2020/21 expand the work of the Integrated Gangs and Exploitation Unit (IGXU) as well as develop new initiatives, such as Serious Youth Violence training offer for schools.
- 5.6 A joint vulnerable adult's task and finish group with the Safeguarding Adults Executive Group has been set up with key partners to address the increased victimisation risk older residents face, in particular to becoming victims of financial abuse. The groups will initially focus on gaining a greater understanding of those who are most at risk of financial abuse/scams, cuckooing and at risk within supported living environments.
- 5.7 The Integrated Offender Management (IOM) team work with high recidivist offenders in the borough to reduce their re-offending. Quantitative evidence has shown that the cost of crime and number of offences has decreased after involvement with the IOM and the interval between offending has increased. Evidence on 65 offenders worked with since April 2017 is estimated to have made over £1m in savings by preventing reoffending.
- 5.8 Contracts for specialist services to support victims of domestic violence and abuse expire in March 2020 and officers are in the process of re-commissioning these services across

Westminster, Kensington and Chelsea and Hammersmith and Fulham. This will include specialist front line support to victims and a coordination service to manage the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) working with high risk victims of domestic abuse and the Dedicated Domestic Violence Count at Westminster Magistrates Court.

5.9 The Prevent Team successfully applied to the Home Office for the largest funding pot, across both staff and projects, that Westminster has ever received. A range of Prevent projects have been commissioned for this financial year, working with educational institutions, parents and young people.

#### 6 Challenges

- 6.1 Crime is increasing at a much greater rate in Westminster than across the Metropolitan Police Service, particularly in a small area of the West End. Following the police Borough Command Unit merger, there are over 200 fewer officers working in the Neighbourhood teams. The council has lobbied for a reversal of these cuts.
- 6.2 65% of those accused of crime in Westminster were not residents and 33% were foreign nationals. Most services are available only to residents only, making it difficult to successfully reduce reoffending in the borough. To successfully reduce crime levels in Westminster, we need a strategy that encompasses a focus on both cross-border offending and foreign national offenders.
- 6.3 With the increased government scrutiny on violent crime has come funding opportunities. These are sporadic and often at very short notice and usually limited to a maximum of two years. This makes commissioning sustainable provision challenging. Funding is often limited to just tackling violent crime meaning other borough priorities attract little funding.
- 6.4 A key risk in our response to counter terrorism is the capacity to respond to the increasing demands and risks. Robust plans and agreement on priorities and coordination of partnership response are key to ensure demands are met.
- 6.5 At present Offender Management is carried out either by the National Probation Service or by the Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC). From April 2021 Offender Management will be unified within the National Probation Service (NPS). The contracts nationally awarded to the CRCs will terminate. Unpaid work and accredited programme work will be tendered within the private sector and new providers will be engaged to provide these services across the country.
- 6.6 The unification will be a major undertaking, at least as significant as the split in 2014. Across the country the CRCs have introduced different hierarchies and pay structures, and some have moved to newer and more innovative IT systems. All of this will have to be consolidated under one NPS structure. It is likely that existing NPS structures will prevail but resolving the issues associated with this is going to be challenging and time consuming.

#### If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers please contact Report Author 07971024133 alambillion@westminster.gov.uk

#### BACKGROUND PAPERS

Safer Westminster Partnership Strategic Assessment 2019





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#### METROPOLITAN POLICE

### **CW – Performance**

ELCON	STR	
Protective marking	OFFICIAL	
FOIA Exemption	Yes	
Suitable for publication scheme?	No	
Title	WCC CMMP Policy and Scrutiny Committee Pack	
Summary	Assessment of performance across Westminster	
Puppose	Analysis of performance in key areas	
Aughors	AW Business Support (HQ)	
Owner	PC 207489 AW	
Date created	07/02/2020	
Review date	N/A	

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Section .

# **BCU Overview**

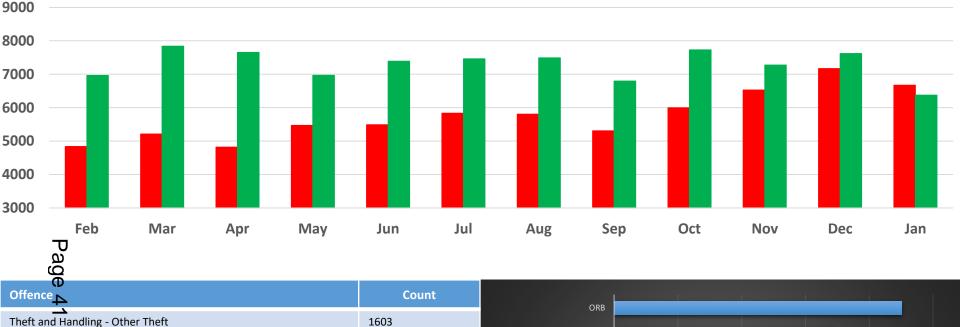
### Central West Basic Command Unit Feb 2019 – Jan 2020

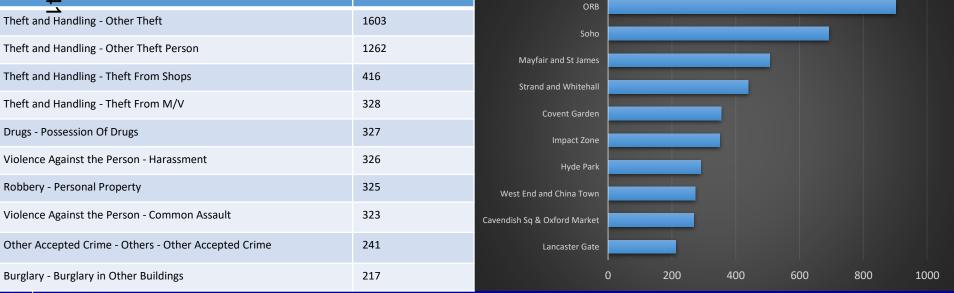
- Burglary and Robbery Investigation teams have been established (BRITs) led by a Detective Chief Inspector (DCI)
- Robbery initiative, Operation Fahrenheit running since Nov 2019, 324 arrests
- Tegrated partnership teams IGXU (Integrated Gangs Exploitation Unit) ISEU Integrated Street Engagement Unit including home office funded officers)
- Work force numbers steadily increasing including additional DCI, BCU total strength 1989.
- Local Violence Suppression Units formed with specific focus on tackling public space violence.
- Working with partners, internally and externally to prevent and detect crime, supporting victims and bringing offenders to justice.

### OFFICIAL

## **Total Notifiable Offences**

2018/19 – Red 2019/20 - Green



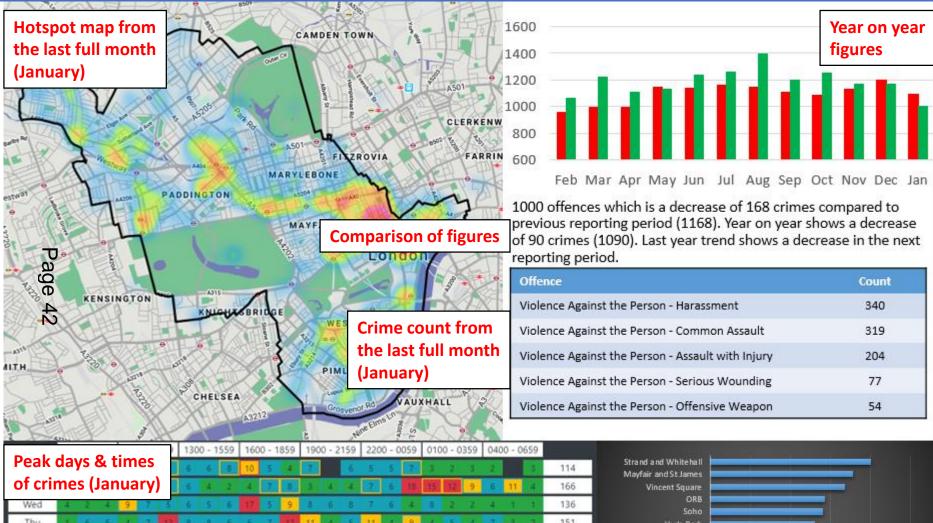


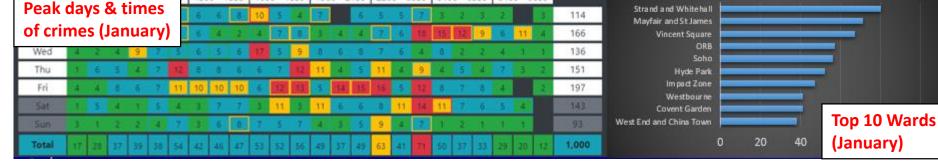
OFFICIAL



3

# \*Slide Explanation\*





#### OFFICIAL

# Violence Against the Person

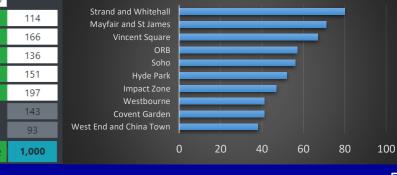
1600 1400 1200 A501 1000 CLERKENW 800 FARRIN ZROVIA 600 Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan

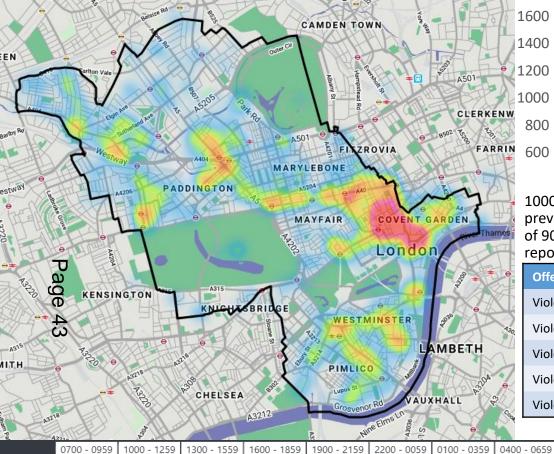
> 1000 offences which is a decrease of 168 crimes compared to previous reporting period (1168). Year on year shows a decrease of 90 crimes (1090). Last year trend shows a decrease in the next reporting period.

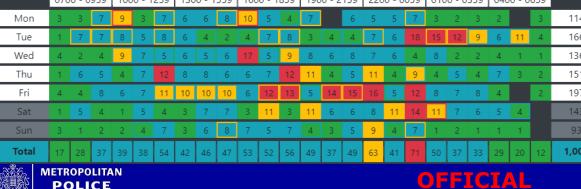
2018/19 - Red 2019/20 - Green

5

Offence - January 2020	Count
Violence Against the Person - Harassment	340
Violence Against the Person - Common Assault	319
Violence Against the Person - Assault with Injury	204
Violence Against the Person - Serious Wounding	77
Violence Against the Person - Offensive Weapon	54



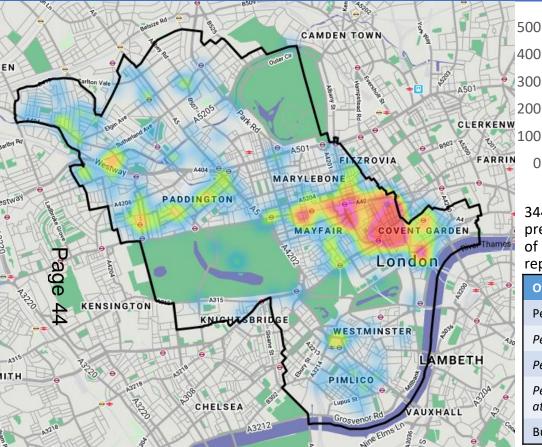




POLICE

# Robbery

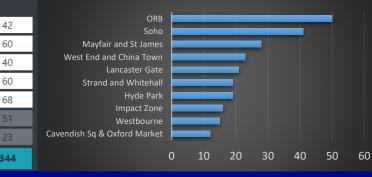
2018/19 – Red 2019/20 - Green





344 offences which is a decrease of 74 crimes compared to previous reporting period (418). Year on year shows an increase of 54 crimes (290). Last year trend shows an increase in the next reporting period.

Offences - January 2020	Count
Personal Property	328
Personal Property – knife or sharp used to injure (flag)	2
Personal Property – Knife or sharp intimated (flag)	30
Personal Property – Knife or sharp used as a threat or an attempt to injure (flag)	24
Business Property	16



 0700 - 0959
 1000 - 1259
 1300 - 1559
 1600 - 1859
 1900 - 2159
 2200 - 0059
 0100 - 0359
 0400 - 0659

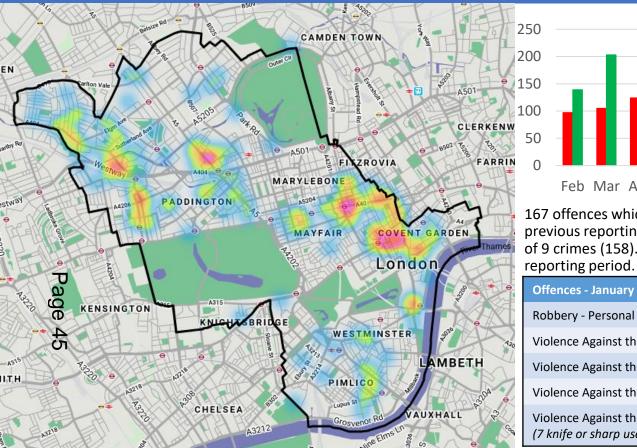
 2
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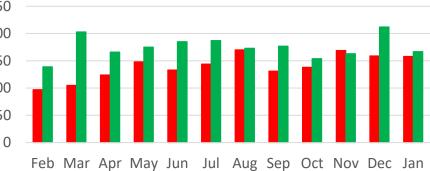
Mon



# Knife Crime

2018/19 – Red 2019/20 - Green

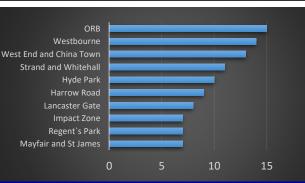




167 offences which is a decrease of 45 crimes compared to previous reporting period (212). Year on year shows an increase of 9 crimes (158). Last year trend shows a decrease in the next

Offences - January 2020	Count
Robbery - Personal Property (Of total robbery - 328)	57
Violence Against the Person - Offensive Weapon	46
Violence Against the Person - Harassment	23
Violence Against the Person – Common Assault	10
Violence Against the Person - Serious Wounding (7 knife or sharp used to injure)	9



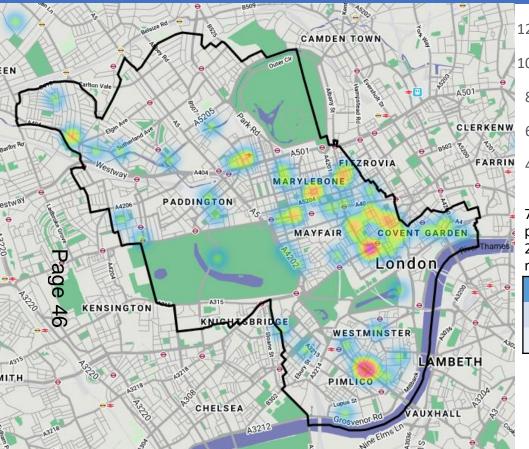


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# **Sexual Offences**

2018/19 – Red 2019/20 - Green

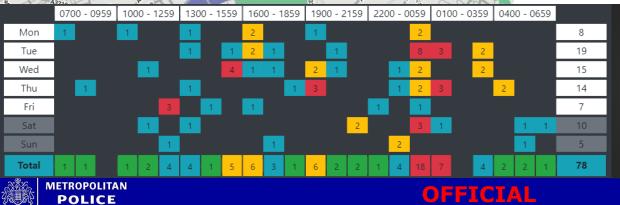


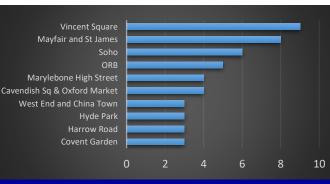


Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan

78 offences which is a decrease of 2 crimes compared to previous reporting period (80). Year on year shows a decrease of 23 crimes (101). Last year trend shows a decrease in the next reporting period.

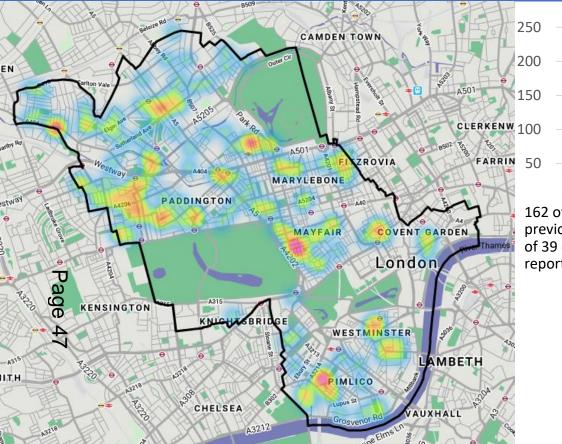
Offences - January 2020	Count
Sexual Offences - Other Sexual	55
Sexual Offences - Rape	23

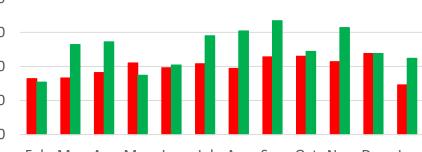




# **Residential Burglary**

2018/19 – Red 2019/20 - Green





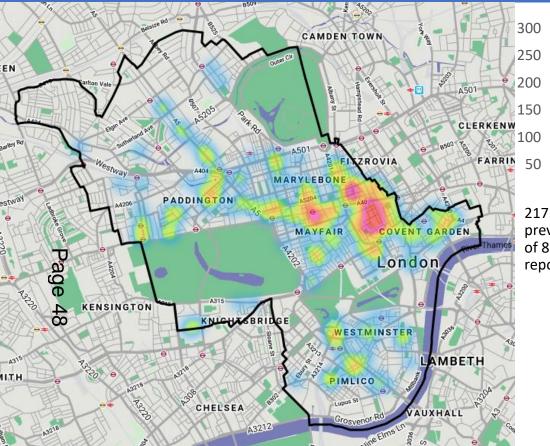
Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan

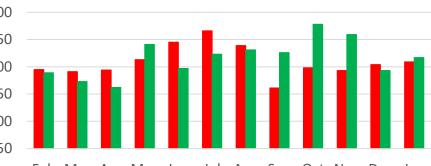
162 offences which is a decrease of 7 crimes compared to previous reporting period (169). Year on year shows an increase of 39 crimes (123). Last year trend shows an increase in the next reporting period.



# Non Residential Burglary

2018/19 – Red 2019/20 - Green





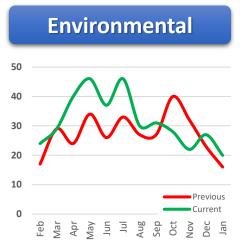
Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan

217 offences which is an increase of 24 crimes compared to previous reporting period (193). Year on year shows an increase of 8 crimes (209). Last year trend shows a decrease in the next reporting period.



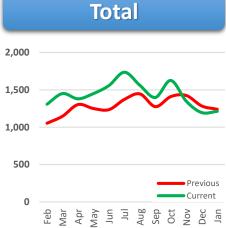
# Anti Social Behaviour

2018/19 – Red 2019/20 - Green



Nuisance			
1800			
1600			
1400			
1200	$\sim$		
1000			
800			
600			
400			
200	Previous		
0	Current		
	Feb Mar Apr Jun Jul Sep Oct Nov Nov Jan Jan		





<b>D</b> Ward	Count
Strant Ond Whitehall	3
Victori Business and Transport	2
Vincent Square	2
Hyde Park	2
Maida Vale	1
Westbourne	1
Queen's Park	1
Churchill	1
Bayswater	1
Lancaster Gate	1

Ward	Count
Strand and Whitehall	107
Westbourne	78
Vincent Square	78
Hyde Park	66
Lancaster Gate	61
Bryanston and Dorset Square	59
Warwick	59
Oxford St Regent St and Bond St	54
Soho	50
Mayfair and St James	48

Ward	Count
Warwick	12
Vincent Square	9
Bayswater	8
Westbourne	5
Marylebone High Street	4
Covent Garden	4
Soho	4
Victoria Business and Transport	4
Churchill	3
Oxford St Regent St and Bond St	3

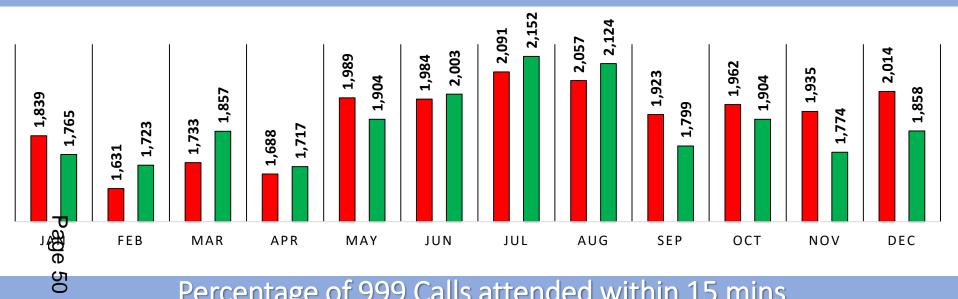
Ward	Count
Strand and Whitehall	113
Vincent Square	89
Westbourne	84
Warwick	72
Hyde Park	70
Lancaster Gate	62
Bryanston and Dorset Square	60
Oxford St Regent St and Bond St	57
Soho	54
Mayfair and St James	51



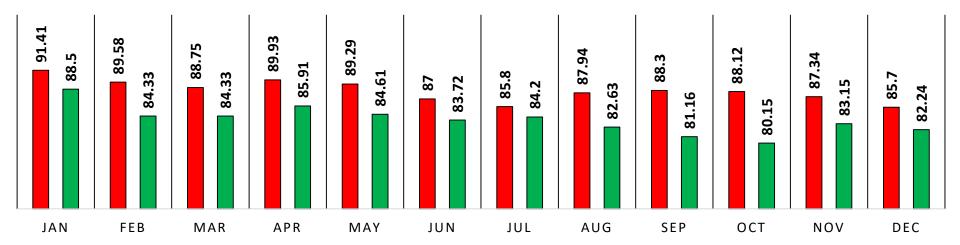
# 'l' Grade data

2018 - Red 2019 - Green

### Volume of 999 calls



Percentage of 999 Calls attended within 15 mins





## Agenda Item 8



### City Management and Public Protection Policy & Scrutiny Committee

Date:	16 March 2020	
Classification:	General Release	
Title:	2019/2020 Work Programme and Action Tracker	
Report of:	Director of Policy, Performance & Communications	
Cabinet Member Portfolio	Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Licensing Cabinet Member for Environment and City Management	
Wards Involved:	All	
Policy Context:	All	
Report Author and Contact Details:	Lizzie Barrett ebarrett@westminster.gov.uk	

#### 1. Executive Summary

1. This report presents the current version of the work programme for 2019/2020 and also provides an update on the action tracker.

#### 2. Key Matters for the Committee's Consideration

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:
  - review and approve the draft list of suggested items (appendix 1) and prioritise where required; and
  - note the Action Tracker.

#### 3. Changes to the work programme following the last meeting

3.1 This work programme takes from the work programme items suggested by the committee and also builds on suggestions from the topic selection campaign. It is presented here for the committee to review and prioritise as appropriate. The suggested focus for the item for the November meeting is the Energy Strategy and an update on Basic Command Units.

### If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers, please contact Artemis Kassi

ebarrett@westminster.gov.uk

#### **APPENDICES:**

Appendix 1- Work Programme Appendix 2- Action tracker

### WORK PROGRAMME 2019/2020 Environment, Highways and Public Protection Policy and Scrutiny Committee

ROUND FIVE 16 MARCH 2020		
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by
Cabinet Member Q&A	To receive an update and provide "critical friend" challenge	Councillor Ian Adams Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Licensing
Basic Command Unit	Review of the first year of basic command units	Metropolitan Police
Safer Westminster Partnership/Community Safety Partnership	Annual report	Sara Sutton

#### ROUND SIX 28 APRIL 2020

20 AFRIL 2020				
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by		
Cabinet Member Q&A	To receive an update and provide "critical friend" challenge	Councillor Ian Adams Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Licensing		
Hate Crime Commission/Strategy	To review hate crime within the city and the initiatives aimed at tackling it. To feed into the development of a hate crime strategy			
Energy strategy	Review the approach to developing a council wide energy strategy			

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#### ACTION TRACKER City Management and Public Protection Policy and Scrutiny Committee

ROUND 1			
12 June 2019			
Agenda Item	Action	Status/Follow Up	
Item 4 Cabinet Member Updates: Councillor Tim Mitchell	The committee requested the details for the locations for the thirteen cycle hangars along with any alternative locations (Sara Sutton/Kevin Goad)	Completed	
	The committee requested information about details regarding the process for parking bays, when long term building works are planned (Kevin Goad). Also, to consult with Housing services	Completed	
	Cllr Arzymanow to forward to Cllr Mitchell/Sara Sutton the location and details where drivers consistently break parking regulations (Artemis Kassi). Cllr Mitchell to look into as part of larger project (Angela Bishop)	Completed	
	The committee requested information about the costs associated with the Extinction Rebellion protests (including cleaning of bridges etc)	Completed	
	The committee requested information regarding the Banksy, including the measures taken to protect it and whether an information board can be placed near it	Completed	
Item 6 Waste and Recycling (fly tipping)	The committee requested Cllr Arzymanow requested to take part in a ward walk (Annette Acik/Alex Woodman)	Completed	
	The committee requested Church Street Library to be added to Wetspots Map. Please provide the Wetspots Map for circulation to members (Mark Banks)	Completed	
	The committee requested further information on WCC Bulky Waste Collection: income generated, how many items collected in the last year, by ward, types of waste etc (Mark Banks)	Completed	
	The committee requested further information on WCC Bulky Waste Collection: income generated, how many items collected in the last year, by ward, types of waste etc (Mark Banks)	Completed	
	The committee requested information on how often hotspots were visited in the Churchill Ward, including Lupus	Completed	

Street and the siting of black bins (Alex Woodman)	
The committee requested information on whether it is feasible to run a recycling point for decorator's items (including paint) (Mark Banks)	Completed