

## Appendix 2: Overview and Scrutiny Committee Tracker

This tracker enables the Committee to monitor progress against the recommendations it has made, requests for information and actions to be completed.

Meeting Date	Item	Recommendation / Information Request/ Action	Detail	Political Lead and Officer Lead	Status
14 December 2023	Item 6: Emergency Preparedness	Information request	That the Committee will receive more information about the new Humanitarian Assistance Lead role in due course when appropriate.	<i>Executive Director of Climate, Environment and Public Protection</i>	Included in the Emergency Preparedness report of 25 July.
		Recommendation	The Committee recommended that Emergency Preparedness remains a bi-annual item on the Overview and Scrutiny work programme.	<i>Lead Policy and Scrutiny Advisor</i>	Completed and added to the work programme.
		Recommendation	The Committee recommended that communication strategies are refined as much as possible to ensure promptness, clarity and consistency in all channels, and that Councillors are included in the strategy to recognise the key role they play in disseminating information.	Leader of the Council <i>Executive Director of Climate, Environment and Public Protection</i> <i>Executive Director of Innovation and Change</i>	Received on 19 February. Response on page 3 of Appendix 2 in the agenda for <a href="#">13 March 2024</a> .
	Item 7: Westminster After Dark	Information request	That the Committee will receive a list of different channels and organisations that the Council is using to reach out to stakeholders in the consultation and engagement process.	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development <i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i> Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Protection <i>Executive Director of Innovation and Change</i>	Received on 19 February. Response on page 5 of Appendix 2 in the agenda for <a href="#">13 March 2024</a> .
		Recommendation	The Committee recommended that targeted outreach efforts to sectors that may not have been adequately engaged, including marginalised voices, should be considered.	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development <i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i> Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Protection <i>Executive Director of Innovation and Change</i>	Received on 19 February. Response on page 4 of Appendix 2 in the agenda for <a href="#">13 March 2024</a> .
		Recommendation	The Committee recommended that a wide range of stakeholders should be actively sought and involved to ensure they are well-represented.	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development <i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i> Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Protection <i>Executive Director of Innovation and Change</i>	Received on 19 February. Response on page 4 of Appendix 2 in the agenda for <a href="#">13 March 2024</a> .
		Recommendation	The Committee recommended that communication during the process should be considered in-depth.	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development <i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i> Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Protection	Received on 19 February. Response on page 5 of

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				<i>Executive Director of Innovation and Change</i>	Appendix 2 in the agenda for <a href="#">13 March 2024</a> .
		Recommendation	The Committee recommended that Westminster After Dark comes back after the consultation has ended and the Committee should focus on hearing from a range of residents and other key stakeholders to ensure a balance of interests is considered in the development of an Evening and Night Time Plan.	<i>Lead Policy and Scrutiny Advisor</i>	Completed. It was included in the work programme for 13 March 2024.
	Item 8: Leader's Update	Information request	That the Committee will receive a briefing note on new regeneration schemes from the Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Regeneration and Renters, with a view to sitting down with the relevant Executive Director and Director to discuss these further if required.	Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Regeneration and Renters <i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i>	Received and distributed on 14 March.
		Information request	That the Committee will receive information on the stage the Council is currently at on the Paddington Recreation development site.	Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Regeneration and Renters <i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i>	Received and distributed on 14 March.
		Information request	That the Committee will receive granular details on the support the Council is providing for those impacted by the Middle East conflict.	Leader of the Council <i>Executive Director of Innovation and Change</i>	Received and distributed on 12 March.
13 March 2024	Item 6: Leader's Update	Action	That the Committee will receive an in-depth update in the next report on the Cabinet's progress on the Council's environmental objectives.	<i>Lead Policy and Scrutiny Advisor</i> <i>Leader's Senior Advisor</i>	Included in the Leader's Cabinet Update of 25 July.
	Item 7: Westminster After Dark	Information request	That the Committee will receive a breakdown of data from the consultation at a ward, or equivalent, level.	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development Cabinet Member for Communities, Children and Public Protection <i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i>	Received and distributed on 28 June.
		Recommendation	The Committee recognised the wide array of stakeholders who have been engaged so far in the process and recommended that the Westminster After Dark engagement strategy also includes speaking to those who specifically engage in the evening and night time economy, during the evening and night time.	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development Cabinet Member for Communities, Children and Public Protection <i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i>	Received on 22 May. Response on page 4 of Appendix 2.
		Recommendation	The Committee acknowledged that areas and communities in the City have different needs and visions of what Westminster After Dark should be. The Committee therefore recommended that barriers to participation should be investigated, specifically with the aim of ensuring that young, older and harder to reach stakeholders are adequately engaged as well as those who choose not to	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development Cabinet Member for Communities, Children and Public Protection <i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i>	Received on 22 May. Response on page 4 of Appendix 2.

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			participate in the evening and night time economy with its present offer.		
	Recommendation		The Committee recognised that mitigating potential negative impacts of increasing the evening and night time economy offer would be considered and recommended that it should remain central to a Westminster After Dark vision.	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development Cabinet Member for Communities, Children and Public Protection <i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i>	Received on 22 May. Response on page 5 of Appendix 2.
	Recommendation		Whilst the Committee acknowledged that the process of developing a Westminster After Dark strategy included setting a vision, the Committee recommended that this vision should be clear, and the Council should continue to keep in mind a balance of interests at all time.	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development Cabinet Member for Communities, Children and Public Protection <i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i>	Received on 22 May. Response on page 5 of Appendix 2.
	Recommendation		The Committee recommended that the final strategy should consider how different evening and night time events, particularly cultural events, across the City can be better promoted to broaden participation and, as part of this, that all evening and night time cultural and arts activities across the City are mapped to understand what is available and where there might be gaps in provision.	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development Cabinet Member for Communities, Children and Public Protection <i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i>	Received on 22 May. Response on page 6 of Appendix 2.

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<p>Recommendation (Item 7: Westminster After Dark)</p>	<p>The Committee recognised the wide array of stakeholders who have been engaged so far in the process and recommended that the Westminster After Dark engagement strategy also includes speaking to those who specifically engage in the evening and night time economy, during the evening and night time.</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development Cabinet Member for Communities, Children and Public Protection <i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i></p>
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In light of the Committee's recommendation, officers are taking steps to enhance engagement efforts, with a specific focus on individuals who frequent the city during evening and nighttime hours. This initiative includes planning on-street surveys to directly gather opinions from these users. Our goal is to achieve a 60% response rate from the West End, 20% from Victoria, and another 20% from Edgware Road.

Victoria, which has seen a recent increase in nighttime activity and serves as a significant transportation hub, and Edgware Road, renowned for its diverse array of evening activities beyond just alcohol-related venues, have been selected as additional focal points for these surveys. We anticipate conducting these surveys in July or August, aiming to capture a broad spectrum of perspectives and experiences from individuals who frequent these areas during evening and nighttime hours.

In response to implementing the Committee's recommendations for increased engagement, we have made adjustments to the timeline for releasing the draft strategy. This shift is essential to accommodate the additional survey and engagement efforts and to allow ample time for analysing the results thoroughly. Our current plan is to publish the draft strategy in September for public consultation. This revised timeline ensures that we can gather comprehensive input from stakeholders, incorporate valuable insights, and ultimately produce a strategy that best reflects the needs and desires of the community.

<p>Recommendation (Item 7: Westminster After Dark)</p>	<p>The Committee acknowledged that areas and communities in the City have different needs and visions of what Westminster After Dark should be. The Committee therefore recommended that barriers to participation should be investigated, specifically with the aim of ensuring that young, older and harder to reach stakeholders are adequately engaged as well as those who choose not to participate in the evening and night time economy with its present offer.</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development Cabinet Member for Communities, Children and Public Protection <i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i></p>
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In addition to the street surveys mentioned above and the data we've gathered so far, we're planning to distribute a survey specifically for residents. We'll promote this survey through the Council's social media channels, any upcoming resident newsletters, and with the help of members from the Westminster Amenity Society Forum (WASF) who can distribute it to their communities. This survey aims to understand individuals' experiences, worries, and desires regarding evening and night-time activities, both within their neighbourhoods and across the city. Understanding why residents choose to engage or not engage in nighttime activities, as well as their preferences for maintaining or changing current activity levels, is crucial.

We've learned from past online engagement efforts and will address concerns expressed in those surveys. This time, residents will have a direct platform to voice their opinions on activity levels and timings.

Our officers have already made significant efforts to identify and reach out to hard-to-reach groups and communities within Westminster. In addition to online engagement, they've attended over 30 community-focused events across the city, engaging with more than 300 local stakeholders from diverse age groups and backgrounds. This includes participation in events at local schools, universities, markets, family hubs, community centres, and libraries.

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We're committed to gaining further insights from groups and individuals representing these hard-to-reach communities. For examples our officers are actively reaching out to engage with the LGBTQ+ community, specifically targeting representatives of lesbian and transgender residents, as well as users of Westminster's evening and nighttime offerings.

Recommendation (Item 7: Westminster After Dark)	The Committee recognised that mitigating potential negative impacts of increasing the evening and night time economy offer would be considered and recommended that it should remain central to a Westminster After Dark vision.	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development Cabinet Member for Communities, Children and Public Protection <i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i>
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The Council is approaching the development of its first evening and night-time strategy in a distinct manner. Unlike many other cities worldwide, our strategy won't solely prioritise the economy. While economic factors are one of the four themes under consideration, they don't dominate the strategy's development. Instead, we're aiming for a balanced approach that considers both growth and future development of evening and night-time activities in suitable areas, alongside the needs of residents and the broader community.

As we embarked on this strategy, we recognised diverse perspectives among Westminster's communities—be they residents, students, visitors, workers, business owners, or landowners. Our strategy aims to incorporate everyone's input, prioritising areas of consensus. However, there will inevitably be disagreements, necessitating the Council to make decisions aligned with the city's needs. Nonetheless, the strategy will endeavour to minimise negative impacts, particularly in areas already experiencing such issues.

Recommendation (Item 7: Westminster After Dark)	Whilst the Committee acknowledged that the process of developing a Westminster After Dark strategy included setting a vision, the Committee recommended that this vision should be clear, and the Council should continue to keep in mind a balance of interests at all time.	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development Cabinet Member for Communities, Children and Public Protection <i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i>
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As part of the strategy, we will be incorporating a vision for Westminster After Dark. This vision draws from the input of the Stakeholder Assembly, which has outlined its perspective on how we should shape the strategy's development. We intend to build upon the assembly members' vision, ensuring it reflects the diverse views and aspirations of our stakeholders. Our aim is to create a balanced vision that prioritises Westminster's interests while facilitating responsible growth in appropriate locations and timing. At the same time, we're committed to ensuring robust protections for residents and mitigating any existing or potential negative impacts. By striking this balance, we aim to craft a strategy that not only supports the city's growth but also safeguards the well-being and interests of its residents.

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<p>Recommendation (Item 7: Westminster After Dark)</p>	<p>The Committee recommended that the final strategy should consider how different evening and night time events, particularly cultural events, across the City can be better promoted to broaden participation and, as part of this, that all evening and night time cultural and arts activities across the City are mapped to understand what is available and where there might be gaps in provision.</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development Cabinet Member for Communities, Children and Public Protection <i>Executive Director of Regeneration, Economy and Planning</i></p>
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We recognise that Westminster is a diverse area, especially when it comes to evening and night-time activities. In the bustling West End, there's a significant focus on evening and late-night entertainment, attracting large numbers of visitors but also leading to more pronounced negative impacts on residents. Conversely, in some parts of the city, there's minimal to no evening and late-night activity, creating a quieter environment for residents.

It's crucial to highlight that our strategy isn't solely about managing late-night entertainment and alcohol-related activities. We're equally committed to fostering community-accessible events, cultural venues, evening education, and supporting workers during night-time hours. Therefore, our strategy development process must consider the various neighbourhoods within the city, understanding their unique characteristics and the predominant activities taking place, both presently and potentially in the future.

We've carefully considered the feedback received during the engagement phase and the recommendations put forth by the Committee. As a result, we're committed to clearly outlining spatial strategies tailored to different areas of the city and delineating specific approaches for various times during the evening and night-time period. This ensures that our strategy is not only comprehensive but also responsive to the diverse needs and dynamics of Westminster's communities.