



City of Westminster

# Committee Agenda

Title: **City Management and Public Protection Policy and Scrutiny Committee**

Meeting Date: **Tuesday 10th September, 2019**

Time: **7.00 pm**

Venue: **Rooms 18.01 & 18.03, 18th Floor, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP**

Members:

**Councillors:**

Tony Devenish (Chairman)	Aicha Less
Barbara Arzymanow	Margot Bright
Paul Dimoldenberg	Mark Shearer
Matthew Green	Shamim Talukder

**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.**

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**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**

To report any changes to the membership.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive declarations by Members and Officers of any personal or prejudicial interests in matters on this agenda.

**3. MINUTES**

To approve the minutes of the City Management and Public Protection Policy and Scrutiny Committee held on 12 June 2019.

**(Pages 5 - 12)**

**4. CABINET MEMBER FOR PUBLIC PROTECTION AND LICENSING - UPDATE REPORT**

Councillor Ian Adams (Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Licensing) to update the Committee on current and forthcoming issues in his portfolio.

**(Pages 13 - 26)**

**5. CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CITY MANAGEMENT - UPDATE REPORT**

Councillor Tim Mitchell (Cabinet Member for Environment and City Management) to update the Committee on current and forthcoming issues in his portfolio.

**(Pages 27 - 38)**

**6. KNIFE CRIME AND THE COUNCIL'S PARTNERSHIP RESPONSE**

A report on the council's multi-agency response to tackling knife crime.

**(Pages 39 - 58)**

**7. INCLUSION IN THE EVENING AND NIGHT TIME ECONOMY TASK GROUP REPORT**

The report presents the findings and recommendations of the Inclusion in the Evening and Night Time Economy Task Group.

**(Pages 59 - 74)**

**8. WORK PROGRAMME REPORT**

**(Pages 75 - 82)**

The Committee to receive a report on the progress of the work programme, 2019/20 work programme and action tracker.

**Stuart Love  
Chief Executive  
03 September 2019**

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CITY OF WESTMINSTER

## DRAFT MINUTES

### 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 **Wednesday 12 June 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, Mark Shearer and Shamim Talukder.

**Also Present:** Councillor Tim Mitchell, Sara Sutton (Executive Director of Environment, City Management and Communities), Annette Acik, Acting Director for Public Protection and Licensing and Mark Banks, Head of Service - Waste and Parks

**Expert Witnesses:** Richard Bradbury (Head of Environment Services), Camden and Jim Graham (Assistant Director, Cleansing Operations of Street Environment), City of London)

#### 1. MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1 The Chairman sought any absences, apologies or substitutions to the committee's membership.
- 1.2 There were no changes made.

#### 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 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the City Management and Public Protection Policy and Scrutiny Committee held on 10 April 2019 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record of proceedings.

**4. CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CITY MANAGEMENT PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW**

- 4.1 Councillor Tim Mitchell updated the committee on the Environment and City Management portfolio. He advised the committee that with regard to the Schools' Clean Air Fund (SCAF), all Westminster schools will receive Air Quality Audits which will provide recommendations to schools that they can take forward in applying to the Schools' Clean Air Fund. He confirmed that audits will be paid for by the CIL fund. Councillor Mitchell discussed the energy strategy advising that the council continued to develop the Westminster's Energy Strategy and the draft strategy was due to be published in Autumn 2019. He advised that the energy strategy focused on both internal and external energy reduction, with the Civic Centre's energy use down 40% since 2015.
- 4.2 With regard to transport matters, Councillor Mitchell advised that over thirty public realm schemes were being delivered on the ground at any one time, with further work being continually undertaken on design and development of new schemes. He advised that work was progressing on a number of local safety schemes, developer schemes, Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funded schemes and the Local Implementation Plans (LIP) programme of work. Councillor Mitchell informed the committee that three new cameras had been installed in hotspot areas to assist with parking offences. He also advised that traffic orders enabling parking enforcement on Westminster Council housing estate land came into effect on 6 May for Churchill Gardens Estate. Councillor Mitchell advised that enforcement had begun on the estate via Warning Notices, with full PCN issue scheduled from 20 May.
- 4.3 Councillor Mitchell high-lighted the good performance of Waste and Parks, however graffiti still remains an issue near the Marylebone Road and felt that TFL could do more to help with the issue and that the Leader would be meeting with Mike Brown regarding TFL issues. Councillor Mitchell advised that the items would be discussed in more detail as part of the substantive item.
- 4.4 Members of the committee made a number of inquiries, Councillor Talukder congratulated officers on the funding from DEFRA, he queried if WCC officers would pass on their bid winning knowledge to other councils. Councillor Talukder queried how WCC dealt with smoke pollution in high profiled wards, he felt that the current laws were not strong enough and the new London cleaner air act should be rolled out across the UK and would help to mould future legislation. Councillor Dimoldenberg requested a list of the locations for cycling hangers and parking on estates, he also asked that the alternative locations also be listed.

Councillor Mitchell advised that there had been push back from local residents due to some confusion regarding the sites, he advised that further work with residents was needed. Councillor Mitchell informed the committee that funding was being sought to install a further 17 or 18 cycling hangers in the next financial year.

- 4.5 Councillor Dimoldenberg raised further queries regarding paying for parking on estates, the diesel surcharge and the 'idling fines', requesting that the council consider and a possible tougher approach. Councillor Less advised that she was happy to hear the updates regarding 'Active Streets' and the performance of Street Waste Action Team (SWAT). Regarding parking on estates, Councillor Less queried whether provisions could be made for the residents in the Little Venice Ward where a number of parking bays were suspended due to building works. She felt that residents had become frustrated and was concerned for vulnerable elderly and disabled residents. Councillor Less sought further information regarding WCC procedures for suspending parking bays for building works. Councillor Mitchell advised that he would discuss the matter with colleagues in Housing Services and update Councillor Less.
- 4.6 Councillor Bright congratulated SWAT on the results of the street survey, Councillor Mitchell advised that education was very important to the improvements, he informed the committee that SWAT had recently completed operations in Lancaster Gate ward and was currently active in Queen's Park ward. Councillor Bright mention the difficulties sending photo's through the 'Report it' app. Sara Sutton informed the committee that WCC IT team were currently working on a new version of the 'Report it' app. Councillor Arzymanow wondered if the DEFRA grant could be used to tackle the smoke problem on the Edgware Road and it was causing concerns, she also queried the types of coal burning. Annette Acik - Acting Director for Public Protection and Licensing, agreed to look into Councillor Arzymanow's query and e-mail the permissions granted. Cllr Arzymanow raised concerns regard the unlawful parking of commercial vehicles, Cllr Mitchell requested the details in writing so that the information could be fed into a wider discussion.
- 4.7 Councillor Green sought information on cost and impact on the council with regard to the Extinction Rebellion protests and the Banksy recently discovered in Marble Arch. Mark Banks agreed to provide the committee with a breakdown for the costs associated with the clean-up after the Extinction Rebellion protests. Sarah Sutton also advised the committee that the Banksy was being sufficiently looked after and officers were considering the best methods to protect the piece for the future.

RESOLVED: The committee noted the report.

## **5. CABINET MEMBER FOR LICENSING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW**

- 5.1 Councillor Ian Adams provided a report of the Licensing and Public protection 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.

RESOLVED: The committee noted the report.

## **6. ACTION ON FLY-TIPPING REPORT**

- 6.1 Sara Sutton addressed the committee advising that the report was an opportunity for the council to demonstrate all its efforts so far in tackling fly-tipping and their plans for future initiatives. Mark Banks, Head of Service - Waste and Parks advised the committee that whilst fly tipping remained an issue to the council and all council across the UK, satisfaction with the council's waste collection and street cleansing services remains exceptionally high (93% and 91% respectively in the 2018 City Survey). Officer's advised that the report provided an overview of waste enforcement activity undertaken during 2018-19, the work of the Street Waste Action Team, and two new initiatives to tackle fly-tipping – the trial use of CCTV monitoring and utilising 'nudge' theories to improve behaviours.
- 6.2 Members were informed that much of the fly-tipping activity in Westminster happened around the 141 Big Black Bin (BBB) sites that were predominantly located in high density residential areas. Officers advised the committee that the sites were widely misused, with significant levels of recycling material in general waste bins and were hotspots for dumping. It was noted that from the City Survey, 30% of our residents feel that litter and waste on the street was a "big" or "very big" problem".
- 6.3 Mark Banks advised that they recognised the failure to comply often began with unintended ignorance, carelessness, or a lack of training and management control. It was felt that educating through the provision of information and advice, as well as serving notices that provide the opportunity to remedy the breach, were examples of the important tools that officers will use to manage risks. It was noted that in some cases failure to comply may risk causing serious harm, be the result of deliberate illegal behaviour, or failure to correct an identified serious problem. In these instances, officers will issue Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs).
- 6.4 Councillor Green advised that he was happy to see that fix penalty notices were up 150% in the Little Venice Ward, but still had concerns regarding the street sweepers stacking bagged rubbish by the street bins, this is attracting further additional fly-tipping, he asked if the current procedures could be looked at. Councillor Green also queried if the council would look at street bins which



allowed for recycling to be filtered, separate sections for different types of recycling. Mark Banks advised the committee that the manual street sweepers could only fit 4-8 bags on their cart and had no choice but to drop off some bags at specified drop off points and that the council were looking into ways of improving the current procedures. Mark Banks advised the committee that WCC had carried out a trial using filtered bins and it had been unsuccessful. He stated that information would be fed back to ward members in the form of ward updates, which would include identified hot spots and available resources.

- 6.5 Councillor Shearer queried how fly-tipping was being dealt with by other countries and sought further clarity regarding the number of warnings and FPN's issued. Sara Sutton advised the committee that issuing FPN's were complicated and depended heavily on evidence, which was difficult to find in the rubbish fly-tipped (1 in 3 hit rate of rubbish searched). Mark Banks advised the committee that the demographics and culture of another country played a large part when comparing fly-tipping and referred to Japan. He advised that for example Japan was of similar size but has a smaller fast food industry and a culture of bring their litter home, therefore had different needs to the UK.
- 6.6 Councillor Arzymanow queried the process of identifying offenders and why FPN and convictions rates were not higher. She also sought confirmation on the regularity of ward sweeps. Councillor Green queried the process of making a statement to prosecute offenders and picture quality on the 'Report it' app. Annette Acik confirmed that the person reporting would need to make a statement, which might discourage some. Ms Acik also confirmed that Ward sweeps happen three times per year and ward members are invited. She advised members that each ward sweep would be tailored to a specific ward and would email list and dates to the committee.
- 6.7 Members praised Barking and Dagenham for the CCTV YouTube Channel and questioned whether WCC should adopt a similar approach. Sara Sutton advised the committee that she would be happy to trial something similar and that the behavioural team are open to ideas. Mark Banks advised that there were over 50 commercial waste companies operating in Westminster not just WCC, any initiatives would need to include these companies. Councillor Dimoldenberg queried the council's bulky waste collection service, comparing the service, costs and waiting times to other local authorities.
- 6.8 Councillor Less queried how the bulky waste services had been communicated/advertised to residents, comparing WCC rate of 5 items for £25 to RBKC's 10 items for £32. Councillor Less also raised queries regarding the education of residents with regards to fly-tipping and dates of the ward sweeps as the Library on Church street was in urgent need of cleansing due to strong smell of urine. Mark Banks agreed to circulate to members the details of the income generated from the WCC bulky waste collection. Mark Banks also agreed to circulate the wet map for cleansing, he advised that the Church Street Library

will be visited to establish root causes of odour and added to wet map if need be. Councillor Talukder felt that improvements were needed on Looper Street and the west triangle route.

- 6.9 Councillor Arzymanow felt that daily inspections, two or three times a day were needed in known hotspots area like Church Street Gardens Estate. Mark Banks advised that City West Homes issues would be resolved now that they are back in house. Richard Bradbury (Head of Environment Services), Camden advised that Camden's rate for Bulky waste collection was the same as WCC (5 items for £25). He advised that Camden made 6,000 bulky waste collections a year which generated an income of £80,000, though this did not cover the cost of running the service. Mr Bradbury felt that Hertfordshire County Council had had some successes and could be a great source for improved outcomes for WCC. He advised that Camden were having similar issues with CCTV image quality and that the most impactful initiative was education and awareness raising by local campaign groups.
- 6.10 Jim Graham (Assistant Director, Cleansing Operations of Street Environment), City of London (COL) addressed the committee advising that the City of London had 7,000 residents, most were businesses and that there were 4 housing estates. He advised that the COL rate for bulky waste collection was £34 for 4 items, assisted residents were able to use the service for free. Mr Graham advised that the COL use millennium bags and residents also had two bins, however these would still become full and overflowing with rubbish. He also advised the committee that the COL had 60 bins in a square mile, each site was very carefully selected for maximum impact.
- 6.11 Councillor Less reminded the committee of the recycling centre visit some committee members attended in LB Southwark last year and queried the possibility of another trip being arranged.

RESOLVED: The committee noted the report.

## **7. COMMITTEE TRACKER AND WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE**

- 7.1 Artemis Kassi (Policy & Scrutiny Officer) presented an updated report on the current version of the work programme for 2019/2020 and also provided an update on the action tracker.
- 7.2 The committee reviewed the progress of items on the 2018/19 work programme, committee members were asked to note the unallocated items and prioritise, where required. The committee was also asked to consider items for the 2019/20 work programme and note the action tracker. The suggested focus for the item for the meeting on 10th September was a reviewed, Ms Kassi advised that after

discussions with Sara Sutton (Executive Director of Environment, City Management and Communities) the focus would be on Serious Violence as it was made clear that tackle county lines did not fall within the City Management and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee's remit.

7.3 Ms Kassi advised that issue of County Lines sits within the Family and People Services Policy and Scrutiny Committee, however it could be looked at under the sub-context of the substantive item of Serious Violence. The Chair agreed to take the discussion off line and liaise with Councillor Adam and Councillor Mitchell regarding content for the Serious Violence item.

7.3 RESOLVED: The committee noted the report.

## **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

8.1 There was no other business

## **9. FUTURE DATES**

Wednesday 10 September 2019 at 7.00pm

Wednesday 20 November 2019 at 7.00pm

The Meeting ended at 8:26 pm.

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

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

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## City Management and Public Protection Policy and Scrutiny Committee

**Date:** Wednesday, 10 September 2019

**Report Of:** Councillor Ian Adams

**Portfolio:** Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Licensing

**Report Author and Contact Details:** Chloe Baker  
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Ph: 020 7641 4170

### 1 Improving Neighbourhood Co-Ordination

- 1.1** In my last report to the Committee, I set out how we have reviewed our approach to neighbourhood management to provide Councillors with a consistent approach to member engagement at a neighbourhood level, supporting them in their role as civic leaders.
- 1.2** As of May 2019, a new neighbourhood meeting structure was implemented across Westminster. The new structure promotes 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.
- 1.3** A new tasking and co-ordination process is now operating across the neighbourhood teams ensuring that local priorities are being addressed 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 Rough Sleeping

#### Numbers on the Street

- 2.1** The street counts in May and July alongside CHAIN<sup>1</sup> data for the quarter continue to demonstrate very high levels of new people coming to the streets of Westminster from around the world. The latest street count conducted on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2019 found 389 people, 123 of which identified themselves as UK or Irish Nationals. With over two thirds identified as non-UK or Irish Nationals, this presents a significant challenge to support teams who have

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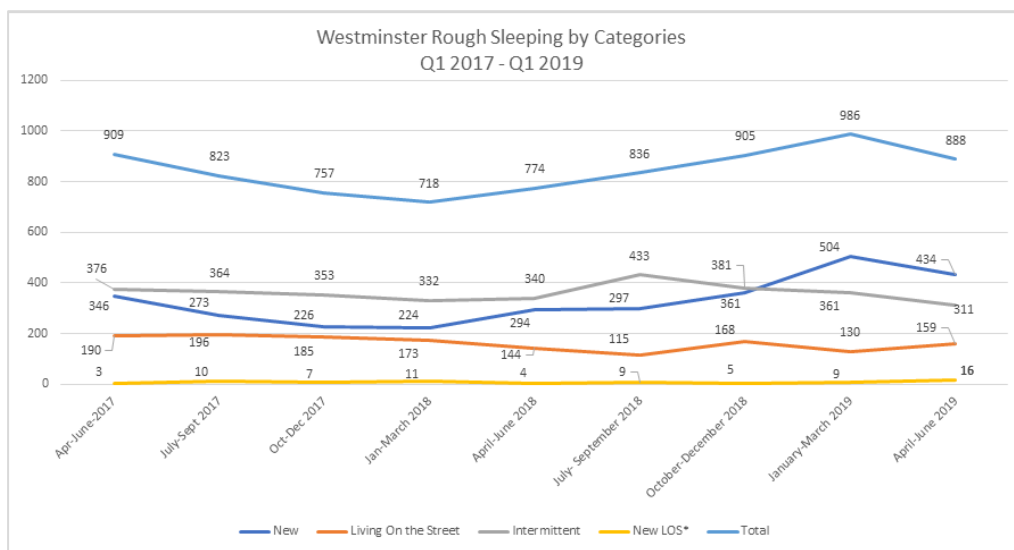
<sup>1</sup> CHAIN is a database holding information on rough sleepers and the wider London street population.

limited options available to help those not entitled to welfare support. Teams work hard to meet and assess everyone on the street, explain their rights and entitlements and offer them a suitable Route Away From The Street (RAFTS).

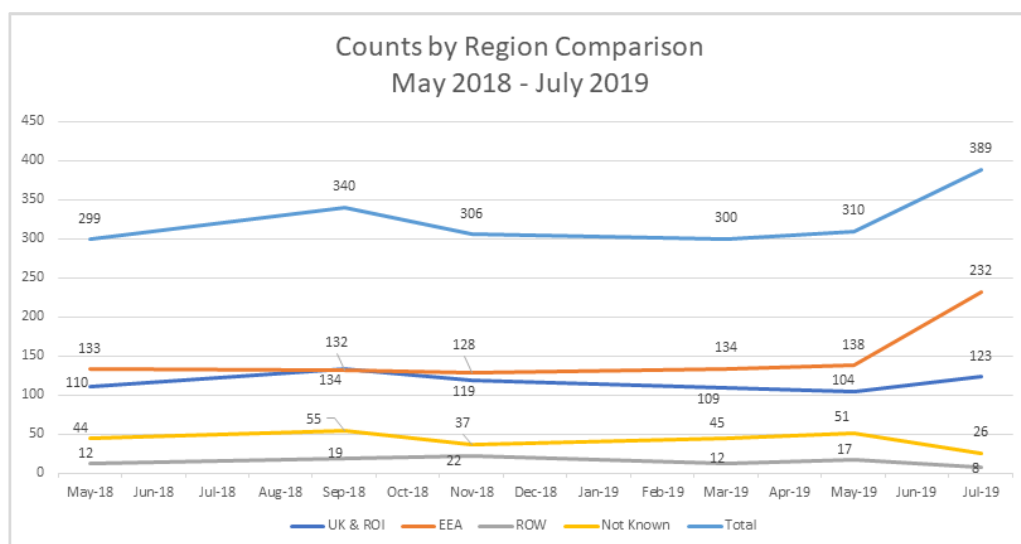
**2.2** Throughout Q1 of this year we saw 434 new people, slightly down on the previous quarter of 504 but still higher than we have seen for a number of years.

**2.3** Figure 1 shows the changes in numbers over the last two years. Figure 2 sets out the snap shot night figures we gather during our Bi-Monthly Street Counts:

**Figure 1:**



**Figure 2:**



**Responding to addiction amongst the street population**

**2.4** Teams are working hard at trialling new initiatives to support people who are stuck on the street as a result of an addiction to alcohol or drugs; this month sees

the launch of two pilots; one focusing on interventions in the new Charing Cross Custody Suite at Charing Cross Police Station. Drug support workers from Turning Point will be working with Council Officers and Police to offer support interventions to those that are arrested for criminal behaviour on the streets of Westminster. The intention is to encourage those in desperate need of support to consider their options at a critical 'point of reflection' thus ensuring that some of the country's most vulnerable people are directed to the support they need.

- 2.5** The second project is led by Connection at St Martin's (CSTM) in partnership with the local health authority, Turning Point and Dr Hickey's Surgery and will see intensive support delivered to an initial cohort of 20 individuals using the streets of Westminster in the day time. The aim will be to deliver drug prescribing support as part of a multi-disciplinary team so that people receive important health treatment alongside housing advice, reconnection support and harm minimisation support.

### **Integrated Street Engagement Unit (ISEU)**

- 2.6** The ISEU's multi-agency approach has been very successful at helping some of the most vulnerable people in the city access long-term support and in reducing the number of people on the street. The ISEU team have increased resources and introduced a shift-based approach to the work of the team. The team now consists of a Senior City Inspector and 8 City Inspectors covering between 0700 and 2200 on a two-shift rotational shift pattern. The team continues to be deployed across the City undertaking a priority-based tasking process dealing with the challenges associated with Westminster's 'street population'. This group are not solely rough sleepers, but also include people who live elsewhere in London and travel to Westminster daily and spend significant amounts of time on our streets. The associate issues include, but are not limited to, drug-taking, begging, street-fouling and other anti-social behaviour (ASB). The team has also spent time enforcing against businesses who negatively impact the street environment by supplying alcohol to street drinkers, and businesses who leave excessive and easily accessible food waste, contributing to the problems on the street.

- 2.7** During the months of June and July the team issued 23 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN)s whilst taking part in a pre-planned operation focussing on rough sleeping and rough sleeping related ASB. The ISEU team with social care partners and Police have had 224 positive engagements with the rough sleeping community, with 29 new referrals submitted for social care support. The ISEU team continue utilising the full range of their powers against those acting antisocially including using the CPN process. The team have issued 43 CPN written warnings to individuals for ASB related activities across the City. In addition to serving CPNs, ISEU have issued 22 section149 notices to tents/structures unlawfully erected on the public highway and removed or disrupted 70 tents in total.

## **Chat, App, Tap**

- 2.8** The Council launched the second phase of its rough sleeping campaign on 18 July. The campaign tells the story of the hidden network of professionals and volunteers who work behind the scenes to make a real and sustained difference to people's lives. It aims to change behaviour by encouraging people who want to help to give to charities and services, rather than directly to those who are sleeping rough. It is raising money for projects and services in Westminster that help people off the streets and to rebuild their lives.

## **Cathedral Piazza**

- 2.9** A second public meeting to discuss issues raised by residents about rough sleeping and anti-social behaviour in the Westminster Cathedral Piazza was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July at Westminster Cathedral Hall. Follow up engagement on these issues continues via Ward Members.

## **3 Emergency Planning and Business Continuity**

- 3.1** 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 is in the implementation phase. The project is wide ranging and has involved major changes to the way Westminster's Borough Emergency Control Room (BECC) is both resourced and operated.
- 3.2** Westminster Council is on-track to fully deliver all aspects of the project as per the programme timelines and has engaged in a process of seeking new volunteers from across the Council to support our emergency operations. A significant amount of training has been undertaken and new cohorts of both Gold and Silver Command Officers are now operating, meaning that the Council has increased resilience in its ability to lead during times of emergencies.
- 3.3** The Council has ensured that even though we have complied fully with the requirements of pan-London standardisation, we have not lost the best of what we already do. For example, the Council has a unique approach to training all of our City Inspectors as Local Authority Liaison Officers (LALOs) who can respond quickly to potential incidents. Our unique approach means that not only can we operate in the same way as every other London Borough and support mutual aid requests across councils, but we also have an improved response with our own local initiatives.

## **4 Serious Youth Violence and Knife Crime**

### **Serious Youth Violence Task Force**

- 4.1** The Serious Youth Violence Task Group met on 5<sup>th</sup> August. The meeting looked at the latest Serious Youth Violence dashboard which is helping to provide a more rounded picture of serious youth violence in Westminster, including school



exclusions data, London Ambulance data, police gangs unit data, as well as local crime data. It also discussed the impact of the drugs market on serious youth violence in Westminster. The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) have been tasked to complete a pan London drugs profile, to review the impact of drugs on London's violence, safeguarding and crime. The new serious violence statutory duty was discussed, and the potential impact and challenges this may pose for Westminster.

- 4.2** 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 to ensure we have the most appropriate representation at each board, with the Safer Westminster Partnership taking overall leadership. The meeting 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.

### **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 MPS and the Mayor's new 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.
- 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 and its purpose 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.
- 4.7** On 27<sup>th</sup> June, Westminster Council joined with the MPS and BTP to run Operation Poniard, a day of action to tackle knife crime and to specifically promote social responsibility amongst retail premises selling knives, reducing opportunities to steal knives and reduce the availability of knives to young

people. A total of 193 business premises were visited and a number agreed immediately to move knives off the shop floor to behind the counter positions. Community weapon sweeps were conducted in areas North and South of the Borough. Passive drug dog and knife search arch operations were conducted at high profile locations. The operation was considered a success and further joint operations are being planned going forward.

## **5 Basic Command Unit (BCU) Update**

- 5.1** Following the tri-borough merger of the MPS BCU in February, Westminster Council has kept 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.
- 5.3** This team will focus on responding to those incidents and will own investigations from reporting through to case disposal. This improved grip by a dedicated team will see an increase in positive outcomes at court thereby reducing the levels of this crime type across the BCU.
- 5.4** 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.
- 5.5** 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 already raised these issues with the new Policing Minister upon his appointment in July 2019 particularly considering the Prime Minister's commitment to provide an additional 20,000 police officers.

## **6 Private Sector Housing**

### **Building Safety Programme**

- 6.1** In response to central government's Building Safety Programme, work is ongoing to inspect and assess buildings with unsafe cladding across the City following Grenfell. Since identification of affected buildings, officers have been closely engaged with relevant parties, including building owners and leaseholders, to bring about assessment of the fire risk presented by buildings and the necessary remediation works. This has included inspections of these buildings 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 attached, providing increased fire risk. It is important to note that interim fire safety measures which meet LFB approval are in place in these buildings pending full remediation. Officers have been fully engaged with the building

owners and relevant partners to secure remediation. This has resulted in one building being fully remediated, and substantial remediation of 3 further buildings with completion expected shortly.

- 6.3** Following consultation with LFB and our Building Control department, enforcement action under the Housing Act 2004 will now be taken against the outstanding buildings requiring remediation. Building owners and affected leaseholders will be provided advance notice of this and will have the opportunity to offer representations.
- 6.4** On 9<sup>th</sup> May, the former Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, James Brokenshire MP, announced that the Government will fund the replacement of ACM cladding with a £200 million fund to remove cladding from unsafe privately-owned buildings. Details regarding criteria for submission of applications to this fund are awaited. Officers are keeping building owners who can access this fund fully updated regarding developments in this area.
- 6.5** In addition, MHCLG have recently issued a request to local authorities across the country to undertake a data collection exercise regarding high-rise residential buildings in their area. Plans are being developed to undertake this exercise.

### **Housing Standards Task Force**

- 6.6** Intelligence gathered by the Housing Standards Taskforce has resulted in a £15,000 fine on a guardian company protecting a property in Westminster. Guardians are tenants placed into domestic or commercial buildings to protect them against vandalism or intruders. An inspection of the three-storey property in Abbey Road ward by Environmental Health Officer revealed six people living in the property which was operating as an unlicensed House in Multiple Occupation (HMO). Discussions with the company resulted in the declaration of six other unlicensed properties which are now going through the HMO licensing process. The Council decided to issue a Civil Penalty Notice of £15,000 as an alternative to a prosecution. This has the advantage for the company that they do not receive a criminal record for the offence and for the Council that the “fine” is returned to the Councils Housing Enforcement budget. The £15,000 penalty charge has been paid by the guardian company.
- 6.7** In a separate case, an appeal by a letting agent against a Civil Penalty Notice was dismissed by the First Tier Tribunal. Officers from the Taskforce found a property in Star Street was being run as a HMO being a mixture of rented rooms and short term lets. Despite the appellants arguing that a fraud had been committed against them the Tribunal described their evidence as lacking in “credibility and believability”. The Tribunal awarded the Council £15,000 reduced from £25,000 as the tribunal described the offence as serious rather than severe.

## **Short Term Lets**

- 6.8** The Short Term Lets Team is continuing its work with a number of partners and other council departments and external agencies to enable the most effective use of resources to tackle this issue. You will be aware of some of the recent media coverage around the growing abuse of the short term letting system, and the consequences for communities and London more widely.
- 6.9** The partners the team works closely with include:
- City Inspectors – waste and noise related matter; targeted waste enforcement at properties where non-compliance with rules around waste disposal are frequent.
  - Neighbourhood coordinators – ASB related matters and fear of crime; identification and resolution of short term let properties used as brothels.
  - Waste and Parks Services – opportunity for commercial waste revenue; properties with significant percentage of short term lettings charged for their waste collection and disposal.
  - Great Estates and RSLs – discussions and intel sharing about short term let within their portfolio particularly where entire blocks are being short term let.
  - Westminster Housing – intel sharing to stop short term letting/subletting of WCC housing stock; referrals of cases and intel, and joint visits conducted.
  - Valuation Office - potential for the reassessment and re-rating of properties for NNDR (National Non-Domestic Rates) - meaning a property comprising large numbers of let flats can be assessed as commercial and its rates adjusted accordingly
- 6.10** Work continues on strategic approaches through the media and engagement with central government on the need for better regulation of the sector.

## **7 Markets**

### **Church Street Market**

- 7.1** Following a large number of complaints regarding aspects of non-compliance from traders at Church Street market on Saturdays, a co-ordinated approach to tackle the various problems was undertaken.
- 7.2** As there were 50 vacant pitches which were filled by daily casual traders, the Licensing Service agreed to advertise temporary 6-month licences. Over 100 applications were received for these licences from traders holding a casual licence as well as traders who already trade at the market on Monday to Friday. The Licensing Team engaged with the North Area Enforcement Team, Environmental Health Officers and the Regeneration Team to assess the applications, specifically looking at days and commodities on any current licence, enforcement history and criteria from the street trading policy.

- 7.3 40 temporary street trading licences were granted to start on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July with 10 vacant pitches held for casual trading for new business start-ups.

### **Strutton Ground Market**

- 7.4 Major Public Realm works have taken place between Jan and August 2019 that caused disruption to the traders. The Licensing Service worked with the Economic Development Team to support the traders to be able to continue to trade whilst the works were undertaken. Temporary relocations were agreed with the traders to use Old Pye Street, traders with double pitches agreed to reduce their use to one pitch and rotas were created to ensure fairness to all traders.

- 7.5 Thirteen permanent licence applications were received for Strutton Ground market. These will be referred to Licensing Sub-committee for decision.

### **New Fees for the Market**

- 7.6 The revised fees and charges for Westminster's markets came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April, following approval by the Licensing Committee on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

- 7.7 The Committee approved a tapered rate over a two-year period for the daily charge increasing it to £16 Monday to Thursday, £22 Friday and Saturday, rising to £22 across all days in year 2.

## **9 Digital Update**

- 9.1 We are continuing the process of acquiring digital devices for Officers to enable them to record and action in real time, under the ENW initiative. We have evaluated two suppliers for the provision of an Automatic Scheduler and Mobile Inspection Tool. We have decided to award the contract to Kirona as a result of these evaluations. We gained approval to award the contract to Kirona following a successful Procurement Assurance Board (PAB) Gate 3 on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

- 9.2 The next steps will be to send the award letter and invite Kirona in for a kick-off meeting to discuss next steps and the way forward week commencing 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019. The first service area that we will look to develop is Fixed Penalty Notices, we will be engaging with the supplier to finalise expected implementation and delivery of the solution. CMC continues to be the Lead service in implementing the Council's 'Digital by Default' vision and the 'City for All' programmes.

### **Noise SMS**

- 9.3 We are now 3 months into the Council's noise SMS text service. The solution provided customers with the ability to update the service on the complaint, by responding to the SMS text, if the noise is continuing or not. The SMS service was expected to reduce the number of officer interactions needed with cases.

**9.4** Figures for the 3-month period show that the total number of cases that were closed automatically without officer intervention was on average 40% per month. The figures for each month have been consistent, with no spikes, so we can consider these figures an indicator of what might be possible on a long-term basis.

**9.5** The monitoring has also shown a marked increase in customer satisfaction rates, now shown as over 75% as a result of the SMS text service and Officer ability to manage all cases more effectively. The introduction of the Noise SMS service offers customer a more 'customer centric' journey that allows customers to engage more with the service and express their wishes. The SMS service enables a speedier customer response and ability for officers to attend, and more effectively investigate, the most serious and complex cases.

## **10 Disruption resulting from Whiteleys development – Queensway**

**10.1** A high number of complaints were received in May and June when the Whiteleys development started the breaking of the basement structure. The complaints regarding the works were mainly from residents further away from the site, which is very unusual. Whiteleys had been given prior consent to undertake this essential work however they were restricted to specific working times; Monday to Friday 8:00 to 18:00 hrs and Saturday 8:00 to 13:00 hrs with no breaking allowed on Sunday.

**10.2** As a result of the impact of the noisy aspects of this work and working with local councillors, residents and the resident association, we have changed the initial quiet times from 10:00-12:00 hrs and 14:00-16:00 hrs to 8:00 to 9:00 hrs, 11:00 to 12:30 hrs and 14:30 to 16:00 hrs, however the overall duration of quiet times across the day are unchanged.

### **Works undertaken to minimise and mitigate noise and dust**

**10.3** Westminster officers have worked with the contractors to take practical measures to reduce the impact of the noisy works and reduce the dust produced by the site:

- The working hours for undertaking noisy works has been reduced. They are only allowed to take place Monday to Friday on a 2 hrs on / 2 hrs off basis and no breaking at all at the weekends. The Council has considered limiting the hours further; however, it would only prolong the duration of the works and extend the time that residents would be affected.
- The contractor has isolated the basement structure as far as possible with the aim of reducing possible noise and vibration transmission paths.
- The contractor has tested different makes and style of breakers and is now operating the least noisy equipment.
- The contractor had visited a large number of complainants to support them during this difficult phase of the works and help explain the preventative measures in place.
- The contractor has extended the distribution of the newsletters to a much wider area to capture the residents that could experience the noise from the

breaking, so that they informed about the progress on site and operations taking place.

- The contractor has reduced the stockpile at the Redan Place elevation and has agreed to cover the stockpile if not in use to reduce dust blowing off from the site.

**10.4** Through these mitigation measures in place the complaints in July/ August have been drastically reduced. The site is not breaching the set noise, vibration and dust levels.

### **Future Compliance Monitoring**

**10.5** To be able to effectively control the agreed mitigation measures the following monitoring regime has been put in place:

- The site is continuously being monitored with regards to the compliance with the agreed working pattern and mitigation measures.
- The site has set noise, vibration and dust limits with continuous monitors located on the 4 boundaries.
- An automatic alerting system is in place to notify the site if the set levels have been exceeded.
- The Environmental Sciences Team continues to actively monitor data received from the site and to check these for compliance.

**10.6** The site has agreed to visit residents that are affected by the work with the aim to be in open dialogue and give support during this difficult phase of the works and help explain the preventative measures in place. If people are experiencing excessive vibration the site has offered to place vibration monitors in residents' properties for a period of time.

**10.7** This phase of the noisy works which most likely continues until the beginning of November is a difficult time for all local residents and businesses. We will continue to work with the extended local community to assist with any issues identified and work with the contractors involved with the regeneration of the site to resolve the issues.

## **11 Major Event Management**

**11.1** The Council works hard to help stakeholders deliver successful events across the city every year. My portfolio deals with the environmental health and licensing aspects of events, including food hygiene, health and safety, public safety, licensing, noise. The Leader is responsible for the City Promotions, Events and Filming team itself.

**11.2** The Council's aim is to help to deliver a safe and successful event that is enjoyed by all those concerned by:

- Promoting **Public Safety**: This includes all members of the public including vulnerable children and adults.
- Ensuring **Food Safety**: Documentation review and inspection of all catering provisions on site.

- Overseeing **Health & Safety** procedures: Risk assessments and method statements reviewed and full site inspection. Assessment of activities such as, inflatables, funfair rides, children's activities, face painting, use of pyrotechnics and special effects, performance of animals, special treatments, etc, are carried out.
- Administering **Licensing** regimes: Check that the event is licensed and in compliance with all conditions attached to a Premises Licence or a Street Trading Licence.
- Managing **Noise** levels: A noise limit may need to be set and/or continuous noise monitoring to ensure compliance with Licence conditions and ensure that the event does not cause a nuisance under the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Ensure compliance with the The Control of Noise at Work Regulations 2005 for staff and contractors on site.

**11.3** Regulatory Support Team 2 are currently involved in the planning of various events including those where we liaise with City Promotions Events and Filming. Lapada in Berkeley Square takes place September. The Last Night at the Proms and the Radio 2 Festival, which is on Royal Parks land, take place mid-September. Japan Matsuri also takes place in Trafalgar Square. The Royal Parks Half Marathon takes place in October.

#### **Notting Hill Carnival Update**

- 11.4** Notting Hill Carnival took place over the bank holiday weekend. This year was one of the most challenging for staff as the temperature soared, making it the hottest carnival ever.
- 11.5** WCC licensed 28 temporary street trading pitches at carnival which were a mix of food and non-food traders. Feedback from residents has been used to ensure there were no open cooking pitches along the south side of Talbot Road, due to concerns around cooking fumes and smoke going into residential homes. For the first time all food traders signed up food waste collection scheme.
- 11.6** The traders have been very positive about this year's application process as we have gone partially electronic. They look forward to a fully integrated system in the coming years.
- 11.7** There was a total of 353 arrests at the Carnival this year. Sunday saw 111 arrests, and Monday 242. The overall number of arrests are similar to 2018 (363), but Carnival was significantly busier this year on Sunday compared to the previous year.
- 11.8** Between them, the London Ambulance Service and St John's Ambulance treated approximately 1300 over the two days, with 121 people transported to hospital. This is considerably up from last year's 1000 over the two days, but the hot weather is likely to have played a significant part in this increase.



## 12 Licensing Venues

### Windmill Sexual Entertainment Venue Appeal

- 12.1 On 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019 the appeal submitted to the Crown Court was withdrawn by the appellant. The premises cannot trade as a SEV and the premises is now currently closed. Should the premises wish to re-open as a SEV in the future, a new application will need to be made by the Licensing Service and consulted upon appropriately. The total costs to WCC of these two appeals, which we recovered in full from Big Country Ltd came to £125,000, this included Counsel fees and sundry disbursements.

## 13 Waste Enforcement

- 13.1 City Inspectors (CIs) continue to patrol all wards and take action against businesses and residents that dump and leave waste out on the streets. They have a positive and proactive approach towards ensuring compliance, by helping businesses and individuals understand and meet regulatory requirements, however, since April 2019 CIs have taken formal enforcement action on 2529 occasions, with more than 50% of the interventions taking place in the West End and St James Wards. Figure 1 (below) shows a breakdown by ward of the interventions made.

Figure 1

Wards	FPN (No Registered Waste carrier)	FPN (Dog Fouling)	FPN Residential (Bad Presentation of Waste)	FPN Commercial (Bad Presentation of Waste)	FPN Commercial (Fly-tipping)	FPN Residential (Fly-tipping)	Warning Notice Residential (Fly-Tipping)	Warning Notice Residential (Bad Presentation of Waste)	Grand Total	Percentage
	0	0	0	5	3	3	0	0	11	0.43
Abbey Road	0	0	0	1	1	3	9	2	16	0.63
Bayswater	0	0	0	0	3	0	75	19	97	3.84
Bryanston and Dorset Square	1	0	0	16	8	14	7	8	54	2.14
Church Street	0	1	0	0	2	1	4	6	14	0.55
Churchill	0	0	0	1	0	0	6	0	7	0.28
Harrow Road	4	0	0	0	9	5	21	8	47	1.86
Hyde Park	1	0	2	6	15	12	16	9	61	2.41
Knightsbridge and Belgravia	1	1	0	4	7	0	1	16	30	1.19
Lancaster Gate	3	0	4	5	9	13	75	22	131	5.18
Little Venice	3	0	4	3	12	47	65	14	148	5.85
Maida Vale	0	0	0	0	0	13	11	0	24	0.95
Marylebone High Street	3	0	3	213	51	1	3	13	287	11.35
Queen's Park	0	0	0	0	1	3	15	8	27	1.07
Regent's Park	1	0	0	0	3	4	14	1	23	0.91
St James's	9	1	1	315	77	2	2	12	419	16.57
Tachbrook	1	0	0	1	1	0	24	9	36	1.42
Vincent Square	0	0	0	1	3	1	5	11	21	0.83
Warwick	0	0	0	20	6	3	69	0	98	3.88
West End	15	0	2	685	212	1	6	22	944	37.33
Westbourne	12	0	0	0	1	1	19	2	35	1.38
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1276</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>2529</b>	

### Use of CCTV at Big Black Bin sites

- 13.2 We have been trialling the use of CCTV at the Big Black Bin (BBB) site on Porchester Terrace North in Bayswater. This trial has now been concluded. The trial took place from 17<sup>th</sup> June to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019. It was an overt trial and there was clear CCTV signage placed around the location and one sign at the BBB site. One camera covered the BBB site and there was also an Automatic Number

Plate Recognition (ANPR) camera installed to capture any details of vehicles involved.

**13.3** Early analysis of the evidence indicates that it is local residents leaving the waste on the street at this location. No vehicles were recorded on camera as parking at the location and depositing waste and no builders' waste was deposited from vans. All persons seen on camera depositing waste were carrying plastic waste bags and made no attempt to place them in the BBBs. A full report of the project is currently being compiled.

**13.4** The main area for depositing waste was around the Green Recycling bins. Numerous local residents were observed taking large cardboard boxes to the BBB site and making no attempt to break them up and place them in the bin. This then led to other people adding to the waste on the street on top of what had already been placed there. It was also noted that on approximately 5 nights people were going through the bins looking for sleeping material and waste of value to them. On some of these nights, waste was taken out and left on street.

## **14 Hate Crime Commission**

**14.1** We have identified a Chair for the Commission. He is currently considering the terms of reference for the Commission and the best candidates for the posts of Commissioner to deliver those terms.

**14.2** We hope to be able to announce the full Commission in the coming weeks.



## City Management and Public Protection Policy & Scrutiny Committee

**Date:** Tuesday, 10 September 2019

**Report of:** Councillor Tim Mitchell

**Portfolio:** Cabinet Member for Environment and City Management

**Report Author and Contact Details:** Angela Bishop  
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### Environment

#### **1. Air Quality Strategy 2019 – 2024**

- 1.1** Westminster is required by statute to measure air pollution then develop and implement an improvement plan if health-based air quality limits are not met. Westminster's Air Quality Strategy is a statutory document that sets out the measures that will be taken to reduce the impact of air pollution.
- 1.2** The Council's Air Quality Strategy is being finalised internally with a view to public consultation on starting in September. This will allow adoption of the new Strategy in November / December this year.

#### **2. Air Quality Grant**

- 2.1** Westminster is a partner on a number of grant funding projects that have received third party funding. The most recent project to receive funding is Clean Air Villages 2, which is project managed by Cross River Partnership.
- 2.2** This £500,000 project is aimed at reducing business related emissions in hotspot 'villages'. Westminster's hotspot locations are in Covent Garden and the Strand.

#### **3. Schools' Clean Air Fund (SCAF)**

- 3.1** The Council has confirmed £400,000 funding for all schools in the city to receive air quality audits, which will then enable schools apply for our Schools' Clean Air Fund.
- 3.2** Queen's Park School in the north of the borough was the first school to receive a bespoke audit visit on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July. An official launch event for the wider School Clean Air Fund will take place at the school in September.

#### 4. ActiveStreets

4.1 The #MyWestminster Active Streets programme is a key strategy commitment of our ActiveWestminster strategy - *Activate Your City, Lives and Neighbourhoods*, as well as being in our Biodiversity and Open Spaces strategy. Having launched the programme's first two ActiveStreets, attention has now turned to the following key work strands:

- Officers are developing a formal 'Street Play' policy, as part of our overall ActiveStreets programme. The 'Street Play' policy encourages temporary road closures for children and families to play in the street. The policy will make applying for a 'Street Play' event as simple as possible through a clearly defined application process.
- On the 23<sup>rd</sup> August I visited Westminster's first permanent 'Play Street' at Luton/Fisherton Street to publicly sign the Car Free Day pledge.
- Plans are being developed for Car Free Day (which is on 22<sup>nd</sup> September) and beyond. New locations for ActiveStreets are being scoped with additional funding secured through London Sport to 'activate' each site for up to a year following inception.

### Highways and Transport

#### 5. Highways – Reactive Jobs on Footway and Carriageway

5.1 The table below shows the performance for reactive highway works on the carriageway and footway.

	April 2019 Performance		May 2019 Performance		June 2019 Performance		Completed within time target. (June 19)	Target
Priority 1 (2 hour)	100%		100%		100%		57 of 57	98%
Priority 2 (24 hour)	97%		97%		98%		252 of 257	98%
Priority 3 (10 days)	98%		98%		97%		282 of 290	98%
Priority 4 (28 days)	98%		99%		99%		809 of 810	98%

5.2 FM Conway's reactive services for carriageway and footway repairs show a high level of performance in the period April to June.

5.3 During the April to June 2019 Audit of reactive works, 98 sites were checked and visited by the contractor. 100% of the works were completed and 91% were completed in compliance with the service specification.

## 6. Planned Preventative Maintenance Carriageway – 2018/19

6.1 Francis Street, Sutherland Avenue, Warwick Avenue, Saltram Crescent, Leinster Place, Sussex Place and Bishop’s Bridge Road were completed in the last quarter.

6.2 FMC are due to commence on site at:

- Duke Street in August
- Great Western Road in August
- Eaton Square in September
- Ebury Bridge Road in September
- Westbourne Park Road in September
- Wimpole Street in September
- Kilburn Lane in September













## 7. Planned Preventative Maintenance Footway – 2019/20

7.1 Old Compton Street, Allitsen Road, Avenue Road and Grafton Street were completed in the last quarter.

7.2 FMC are currently on site at:

- Castle Lane due for completion in August
- Norfolk Place due for completion in August
- St Michael’s Street for completion in August
- Cunningham Place due for completion in September
- Ebury Street due for completion in October
- Randolph Avenue due for completion in December

## 8. Lighting

	April 2019 Performance		May 2019 Performance		June 2019 Performance		Target
<b>Priority 1 (2 hour)</b>	95% (21 of 22 jobs)		100% (24 of 24 jobs)		100% (31 of 31 jobs)		98%
<b>Priority 2 (24 hour)</b>	100% (6 of 6 jobs)		100% (2 of 2 jobs)		100% (2 of 2 jobs)		98%
<b>Priority 3 (48 hour)</b>	100% (413 of 414 jobs)		99% (510 of 514 jobs)		100% (399 of 399 jobs)		98%
<b>Priority 4 (7 day)</b>	100% (6 of 6 jobs)		100% (5 of 5 jobs)		100% (29 of 29 jobs)		98%

8.1 The reactive lighting service has delivered a strong set of results continuing in April, May and June.

8.2 In my previous report to the Committee, I explained that the only supplier of replacement parts for gas lighting assets, Sugg, went into administration. This has

caused significant difficulties in maintaining gas lights. As it is vital that the Council continues to adequately illuminate the carriageway and footway, the Council is switching to electric powered (gas effect) units where necessary.

## 9. Road Management

	May Volume	June Volume	July Volume	Previous three months' average
Utility Works	2,488	2,148	2,661	2,432
Crane Licences	79	80	69	76
Temporary Structures	201	152	181	178
Road Closures	134	129	133	132

- 9.1** We have witnessed an upturn in activity on the network compared to the period February to April. We have experienced an 11% increase in granted utility works in comparison with the same period last year. While crane licences are down 19% in comparison with the same period last year, temporary structures are up 16% and road closures are up by 43%.
- 9.2** 100% of highways condition surveys were completed in the period in line with the necessary frequency.

## 10. Surface Water Management

- 10.1** The May to July quarter continued without any significant operational issues. Generally good weather has remained, but there have been some isolated events in which large amounts of rain fell. Despite these events we have not seen a significant increase in reports of flooding or emergency callouts.
- 10.2** Reactive works have remained consistent during this time and within expected volumes. With the warm weather we saw an increase in reports for odours coming from the drainage system. These odours originate from the Thames Water sewer but can reach the street level through the Westminster Council's drainage system.
- 10.3** We have incorporated a couple measures to alleviate this issue, including flushing the system with fresh water and installing caps to prevent any odours from exiting through our drainage system.

## 11. Gullies Cleaning Data (April – June 2019)

Gullies Attended	Gullies Cleaned	Further Works Reported	Further Works Resolved (Heavy Jetting)	Stuck Lids Reported	Vehicle Over	Unforeseen Site Circumstances	Patch-Lining Repairs Completed
3,027	2,234	90	20	35	497	247	55

- 11.1 FM Conway can attend up to a hundred sites per day and frequently have issues with parked cars, road works, and traffic preventing works being completed.
- 11.2 FM Conway's routine cleans are also programmed alongside reactive cleans based on reports from members of the public and our highways inspectors. The service provider is looking for innovative ways to address these issues, including further coordination with parking services and adjusting the routine programme.
- 11.3 One solution being tried is for our operatives to visually inspect any asset they cannot attend due to parking and report this back. These locations can then be prioritised and attended. Additionally, a proposal to integrate the parking inventory with the gully inventory to minimise abortive visits due to parking inventory discrepancies is being considered.

## 12. Cycling

- 12.1 The fourteen cycle hangers 'On-Street' for the 2018/19 expansion have all been installed as of 6<sup>th</sup> August, and the details of occupancy will be provided in due course. The fifteen sites for 2019/20 are being developed with a planned consultation programmed for November 2019.
- 12.2 Further proposals for 'In Estates' cycle parking are being developed at various Westminster Council estates along with approximately a hundred Sheffield Stands to be consulted for possible installation at targeted areas in Westminster.
- 12.3 Four Quietway's have been issued to Ward Councillors for comments with a few comments being received. Quietway 7 (Hyde Park to Fitzrovia) is the next to be issued for Cabinet Member decision.

## 13. Public Realm Schemes

- 13.1 Over thirty public realm schemes are being delivered on the ground at any one time, with further work being continually undertaken on design and development of new schemes. Work is progressing on a number of Local Safety Schemes, developer schemes, Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funded schemes and the Local Implementation Plans (LIP) programme of work.

- 13.2 The major public realm schemes are progressing on time and on budget.
- 13.3 Of the larger public realm schemes, the initial phases of Queensway have been completed. Phases 3 – 6 will commence early Autumn and are due for completion over the next year.
- 13.4 The Strutton Ground scheme will be fully complete in September, with some minor footway works and tree planting to be completed. The street is already looking transformed and provides easier access for all due to the new flush surface.
- 13.5 Enabling works have started at Christchurch Gardens. Work on Berkeley Square commenced in July 2018 and is progressing well, with completion due in early 2020.
- 13.6 Work on Phase 1 of the Oxford Street District programme is advancing well with improvements to the paving, drainage and lighting being undertaken. This is due for completion by the end of the financial year.
- 13.7 Baker Street Two Way was substantially completed in June with the remaining anti-skid surface works due to be completed by August. Post-monitoring will be undertaken in October this year.

## **Parking**

### **14. Estate Parking**

- 14.1 The installation of Traffic Orders and accompanying signs and lines work to enable parking enforcement on Westminster Council housing estate land continues apace. Churchill Gardens Estate is now fully enforceable and Traffic Orders have come into effect in Phase 1B locations, which include a number of off-street areas.
- 14.2 Enforcement by Warning Notice and PCN has begun at four off-street estates: Dorchester House, Lapworth Court, Brinklow House and Desborough Close.
- 14.3 The formal Traffic Order consultation process is in progress for Phase 2 locations, with the remainder of the Council's estates to follow suit in a third phase due for completion in the Autumn.

### **15. Diesel Surcharge**

- 15.1 The Council's diesel surcharge scheme has been applied city wide since 12th August. Following public consultation in 2018, approval was given in May to expand the scheme across every parking zone in the city. The scheme applies a 50% surcharge on pre-2015 diesel vehicles that park to park in the City. The diesel surcharge is a key project in the Council's ongoing priority to reduce air pollution in Westminster.



## **16. Moving Traffic Contraventions**

- 16.1** Three new camera sites enforcing moving traffic contraventions have now been in operation since late May at Clifton Road/Lanark Road, Cambridge Square and Devonshire Place.
- 16.2** A review of the camera enforcement is currently ongoing to assess the effectiveness of the current camera stock and sites. The review aims to propose potential new sites and confirm and refine processes. A number of potential new sites are currently being monitored.

## **17. Contracts**

- 17.1** Work continues to develop Parking Services' procurement strategy for its two main contracts (People & Resources and Business Processing & Technology), both due for expiry in 2020.
- 17.2** A strategy is also being developed for the cashless parking element of the Business Processing and Technology contract, as this will be let separately.

## **18. Fees & Charges**

- 18.1** The Corporate Fees & Charges report, approved in July, included provision for a 7.1% inflationary increase on permit charges, with the charging increase planned to take effect for new permits purchased from October.
- 18.2** No specific pay-to-park charging increases were included in the report but a wider review of parking charges and potential demand is underway. Proposals for fee increases will be proposed for approval later in the year under delegated authority once this review is completed.

## **19. Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging**

- 19.1** Work on additional rapid charger sites at taxi rest ranks to the six already installed has been delayed as a consequence of UKPN connection issues. As these issues have now been resolved, work will commence shortly and should be completed by the end of September, delivering an additional seven rapid charge points on three taxi rest ranks at Regency Place, Grosvenor Gardens and Achilles Way.
- 19.2** Negotiations are on-going with Transport for London (TfL) for the next round of rapid charger installs and approximately twelve sites are being considered for conversion, including a number of publicly available sites.
- 19.3** Additionally, Westminster Council is seeking to secure other funding streams, including CIL, Capital Funding and Section 106 funding to support further roll out and there is opportunity to apply for further funding through the next round of

GULCS funding for rapid charger installation which will become available in the Autumn.

- 19.4** Westminster Council currently has 379 EV on-street charging points;
- 97 of these are in dedicated EV-only bays;
  - 44 in dedicated car club bays;
  - 6 taxi rapid chargers
  - 232 retrofitted into lamp columns.
- 19.5** It is the Council's goal to continue to build EV infrastructure to keep up with demand and help reduce air pollution. We have signed a contract with Siemens and they are in the process of delivering another 200 lamp column charge points across the City in addition to the 101 installed so far.
- 19.6** The Council is also in the process of introducing a further 35 free-standing charge points through the contract with Blue Point London, made up of 15 x 7kW and 20 x 22kW charge points (the first at this power output on our network).
- 19.7** Installation is underway and should complete in September. There have been issues that have impacted on installation at three of the sites, with one of the sites looking like installation will not be possible (at Cambridge Square) and another two (Bryanston Square and Exhibition Road) hampered by problems from a planning and design perspective. We are looking at the possibilities to overcome these problems.

## **Waste and Parks**

### **20. Waste Performance**

- 20.1** As detailed in the graph below, in June we received 192 complaints, which was 7% up on June 2018. However, since the new *Report It* forms went live in April 2019, the ability to report waste collection complaints to the Council has become much easier.



**20.2** This explains why the complaints from the first three months of this year seem higher than in January to March last year, while the figures we have received from April onwards are much more comparable with what we might see as the new norm. Officers are currently working closely with Veolia to resolve the root cause of these complaints.

## 21. Recycling Performance

**21.1** Recycling that has been contaminated with the wrong material costs the Council £105 per tonne when it must be sent to be processed at the materials recovery facility (MRF). This time last year, Westminster's recycling contamination rate was 11.7%. Due to various projects and interventions, it has dropped to 10.5%, which represents a saving of almost £30,000.

**21.2** The Contamination Action Plan continues to grow and looks at ways to reduce contamination in our recycling stream. Regular communication materials are essential, with letters and leaflets being distributed to residents in all housing stock. Additionally, monitoring contamination and analysing reports, fed via crews, allows site-specific action.

**21.3** This involves working with bin manufacturers to tailor unit design for the purpose of preventing commonly seen issues like dumping. These unit designs have included transparent bins, reverse-lids and t-locks, which discourage people from forcing lids open to deposit black bags and large non-recyclable items. The installation of these has seen contamination decrease by 33% at some sites.

## 22. Pride Clean Up

- 22.1** This year's Pride clean-up was planned well in advance by officers and went very well, despite a vehicle breakdown and the event being better attended than ever before. Overall, there were 135 Veolia Managers, Team Leaders, Drivers and Sweepers working on Pride this year. Veolia also decorated their dustcarts and brooms with rainbows to help mark the event, which was met favourably by all involved in the event.
- 22.2** The team picked up and disposed of 160 tonnes of waste, which far exceeded the levels seen in previous years, which have been as low as 40 tonnes in 2015 and 2016.



## 23. Street Waste Action Team (SWAT)

- 23.1** The SWAT project, which received the 'Waste Performance of the Year' national award at the annual Keep Britain Tidy Conference earlier this year, has moved into Church Street and will then go to Fitzrovia.
- 23.2** Veolia have completed the baselining survey and engagement part of the project in Church Street. City Inspectors will now undertake compliance checks at the end of August, while Veolia will then move into Fitzrovia to complete the baseline survey there.

## 24. Parks Performance

- 24.1** At a recent ceremony in July, Westminster were awarded a total of 28 Green Flags for our Park sites, of which two were brand new and three were for green spaces on Housing Estates.

- 24.2** The park, garden or green space is usually judged against eight criteria, which cover everything from access through to sustainability and marketing. The result places Westminster third overall in London. In addition to this, we achieved three new Heritage Flags for Victoria Embankment Gardens, Whitehall Gardens and Leicester Square.
- 24.3** We were also entered into the prestigious Britain in Bloom competition, which was judged in early August for the category of City Award. *RHS Britain in Bloom* is the largest horticultural campaign in the UK and has been organised by the Royal Horticultural Society since 2002.
- 24.4** Floral displays play an important part in the contest, but the "Bloom" title is now, perhaps, misleading: in recent years the competition has increasingly assessed how all sectors of the local community are managing their local environment, which brings areas like street cleansing and recycling initiatives to the fore. We keenly await the outcome in late October.

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# City Management and Public Protection Policy and Scrutiny Committee

<b>Date:</b>	10 September 2019
<b>Classification:</b>	General Release
<b>Title:</b>	Knife Crime and the Council's Partnership Response
<b>Report of:</b>	Sara Sutton, Executive Director of City Management & Communities
<b>Cabinet Member Portfolio</b>	Public Protection and Licensing
<b>Wards Involved:</b>	All
<b>Policy Context:</b>	City for All
<b>Report Author and Contact Details:</b>	<b>Wayne Chance-Mckay Head of Service PPL</b> <a href="mailto:wcmckay@westminster.gov.uk">wcmckay@westminster.gov.uk</a>

## 1. Executive Summary

This paper outlines the council's multi-agency response to tackling knife crime including Westminster's Knife Crime Action Plan, activity taken by the Serious Youth Violence Task Group, the new Public Health Approach and the work of the Integrated Gangs and Exploitation Unit and the Youth Offending Team.

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

2.1 The Committee is asked to note the position and activity taking place in response to current high levels of knife crime experienced within Westminster.

2.2 The Committee is also asked to consider and reflect on some of the challenges their wards may be facing as a result with a view to improving response.

## 3. Background

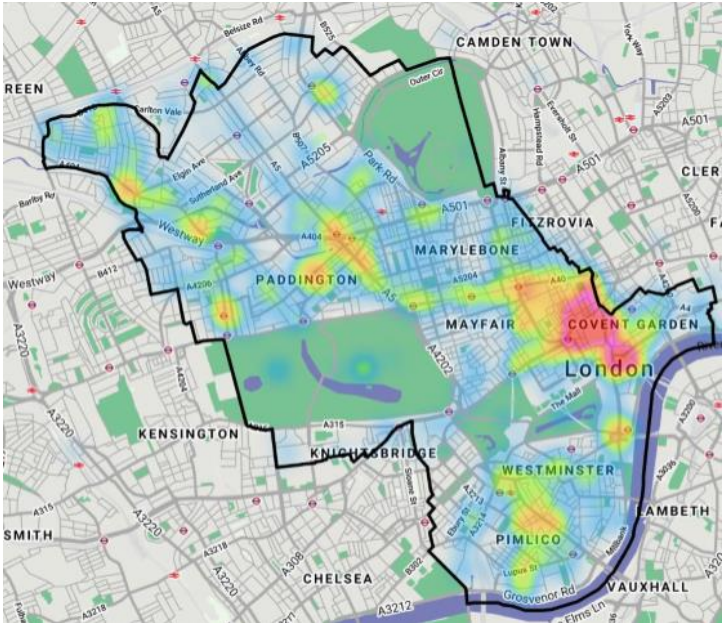
### Levels of Knife Crime and Serious Violence in Westminster

#### 3.1 Violence

3.1.1 The Crime Survey of England and Wales shows that the level of lower-harm violent offences (for example, violence without injury and assault with minor injury) has not changed. However, police recorded crime gives more insight into the lower-volume but higher-harm violence that the survey does not capture well. This does show an increase in the number of recorded offences involving knives or sharp instruments.

3.1.2 Violence against the person offences have increased by 7% over the last year to June 2019 in Westminster and similarly across the MPS by 6%. Coupled with this increase is a fall in sanctioned detection rates from 14% a year ago to 11% in Westminster and similarly across the MPS. In Westminster 64% of all violence against the person offences are without injury. On average there are 29 violence against the person offences in Westminster a day compared with 27.5 a year ago.

3.1.3 This hotspot map below looks at the spatial distribution of violence against the person offences over April 2019. Offences are concentrated and have been historically in West End and St James’s wards.



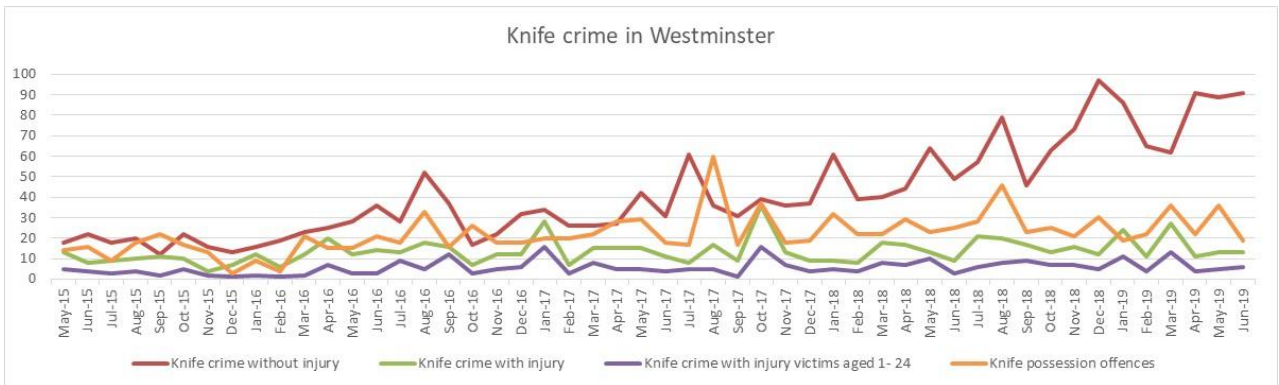
The chart below shows the temporal distribution of offences over date and time. Evidencing the peak time for offences to occur late evening.

	0700 - 0959	1000 - 1259	1300 - 1559	1600 - 1859	1900 - 2159	2200 - 0059	0100 - 0359	0400 - 0659																	
Mon	7	4	6	7	6	5	6	5	8	4	8	12	6	6	11	4	5	20	4	8	2	2	1	3	150
Tue	7	5	6	12	4	5	9	11	8	5	4	15	10	9	2	6	6	16	7	4	3		1	1	156
Wed	2	6	12	7	7	7	6	6	9	3	9	15	6	6	4	10	5	16	8	4	3	3		3	157
Thu	3	4	4	4	7	13	6	8	6	5	5	3	9	10	4	7	6	16	1	9	5	1	1		137
Fri	4	5	9	3	7	6	3	12	10	9	5	9	15	7	12	5	5	20	7	7	9	4	2	3	178
Sat	5	5	4	7	7	5	12	8	18	10	11	10	13	13	10	7	16	13	8	8	7	3			200
Sun	3	4		3	4	8	11	6	9	7	7	20	6	10	8	10	14	23	3	3	5		2	3	169
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1,147</b>



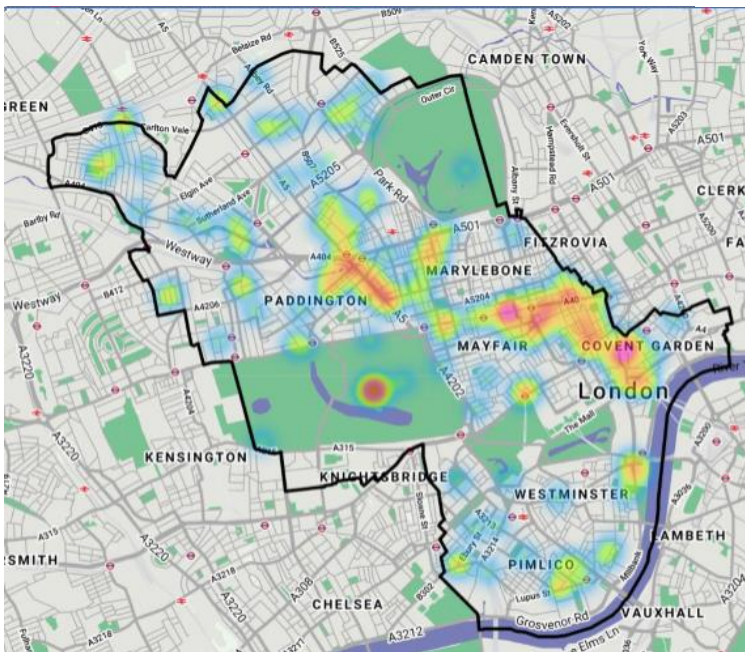
### 3.2 Knife crime

This chart looks at knife crime in Westminster over the last four years and includes all ages.



3.2.1 In the last year knife crime has increased by 56% in Westminster compared with a 1% increase across the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS). 18% of all knife crime in Westminster was with injury compared with 27% across the MPS. There were 85 knife crime victims with injury who were aged 1-24 compared with 75 a year ago.

3.2.2 30% of knife offences were knife possession in Westminster compared with 37% across the MPS. The sanctioned detection rates have declined significantly from 15% a year ago to 7.7% in Westminster, the same is true of knife crime with injury offences which have declined from 22.9% to 11.6%. Levels for both remain lower than across the MPS at 12.1% for knife crime and 16.7% knife crime with injury.

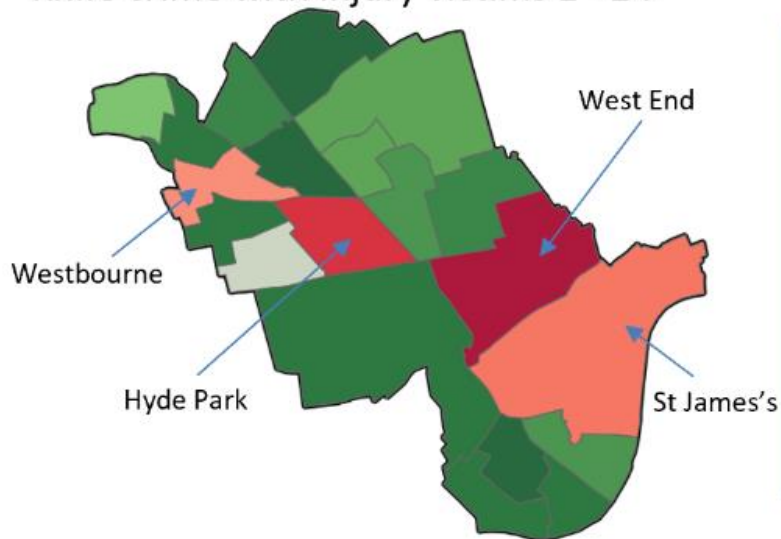


This map looks at the spatial distribution of knife crime offences over June 2019. With the majority concentrated in the West End and St James's Wards. 40% of all knife crime in June was linked to robbery offences.

	0700 - 0959	1000 - 1259	1300 - 1559	1600 - 1859	1900 - 2159	2200 - 0059	0100 - 0359	0400 - 0659																
Mon			2	1	1	1	2		1	1	2	2	2	2	1	18								
Tue	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	24							
Wed			2	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	5	2	24							
Thu			2		1		4	2		1	3	4		1	2	20								
Fri				4		2	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	5	3	4	1	1	1	1	31			
Sat	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	3	1	2		1	2	1	1	3		1		25				
Sun		1			1	2	2	1	2	3	1	4	2	2	2	3		1		1	28			
<b>Total</b>	2	1	2	6	3	7	12	10	9	11	13	6	12	11	12	7	17	11	7	6	2	1	2	170

This table looks at the temporal distribution of knife crime offences over April 2019. Evidencing a slight peak on Friday/Saturday evening.

### Knife crime with injury victims 1 - 24



This map looks at knife crime with injury victims aged 1 – 24 over the last year to June 2019.

3.2.3 Over half (56%) of all victims were within four wards of the borough.

- 18% West End
- 13% St James's
- 12% Hyde Park
- 12% Westbourne

Despite the increasing levels of knife crime, the percentage of people who think it is a problem is only 18% in Westminster compared with 28% across the MPS.

3.2.4 Robbery offences have increased by 60% in Westminster in the last year. The vast majority of offences are personal robbery. Robbery is disproportionately concentrated in London. 12.6% of all personal robberies across London are in Westminster. 6.6% within West End and St James's wards. 4.4% of all personal robberies in England and Wales took place in Westminster. **Robbery is a key driver of knife crime.** There are on average 10 personal robberies a day in Westminster compared with 6.5 the previous year. The map

above looks at the spatial distribution of robberies in Westminster over April 2019. As can be seen they are very concentrated in the West End and St James's wards.

3.2.5 In response to the high levels of robbery, the police recently formed a dedicated robbery squad to tackle this prevalent issue. Whilst still early days, notable successes are already being achieved by this new approach. In addition, Westminster Police are also focussing on open drug markets within the borough as there is definite link between drug supply, violence and knives. Again, early results are proving very encouraging.

### **3.3 Multi-agency response**

3.3.1 No issue relating to serious youth violence has a single aspect or cause and no single agency, service or organisation can address this issue alone. As such, Westminster is highly supportive of a whole-system approach as the most effective at delivering a long-term solution to reducing serious youth violence. Westminster tackles serious violence using a multi-agency approach involving a range of partners and agencies, such as education, health, social services, housing, youth and victim services, offender management and others. We also work in close partnership with the voluntary and charitable sector to develop targeted interventions in local communities with action guided by evidence of the problems and what works in tackling root causes. There is cross-portfolio responsibility for violence and knife crime with cross-departmental leadership of the Integrated Gangs and Exploitation Unit. The Cabinet Member for Children and Family Services is a highly valuable member of the Serious Youth Violence Task Group.

3.3.2 **The Serious Youth Violence Task Group** continues 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. The Task Group looks at how we can 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.

3.3.3 The Task Group has been leading on a number of initiatives which include:

- Developing a serious youth violence toolkit for parents and carers in Westminster to equip them with a glossary of facts, practical advice to look for signs of their child's involvement, tips on how to speak to their child and how to seek further help or support within the borough. The leaflet is now published and is being distributed across the City.
- A Task Group meeting, focusing on schools and how the partnership can support young people in education and schools in addressing serious youth violence.
- Leading on the Council's Public Health approach to serious youth violence. A workshop was held exploring what a Public Health whole systems approach to serious youth violence could look like in Westminster. The workshop began to collectively capture what we are currently doing that contributes to a Public Health approach and what we could be doing more from a PH perspective to shape an action plan. The full outcome of this workshop has contributed towards the new Public Health Approach that has now been adopted by the Health and Wellbeing Board as a priority for 2019/20 (see below).

- The Task Group decided to pilot the proposed Public Health approach and the identified evidence-based interventions in Church Street. Work is currently ongoing to develop preventative education sessions in primary and secondary schools and sessions with young people during the school summer holidays; training in schools for professionals, as well as linking in opportunities for positive activities and consultation with young people alongside the Church Street Regeneration programme.
- Following a Task Group workshop on Community Engagement, a gap was identified in terms of having a dedicated post to develop engagement with the local community. A Serious Youth Violence Engagement Officer has now been recruited and began work at the end in August 2019.
- Developing a multi-agency performance dashboard

#### **4. Westminster Knife Crime Action Plan**

4.1 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 cri

4.2 The Westminster Local Knife Crime Action Plan was refreshed in May 2019 and is overseen by Community Safety. It was updated and agreed within the Youth Crime Prevention Partnership, which sits within the broader Safer Westminster Partnership. 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 and its purpose 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.

#### **5. Integrated Gangs and Exploitation Unit (IGXU)**

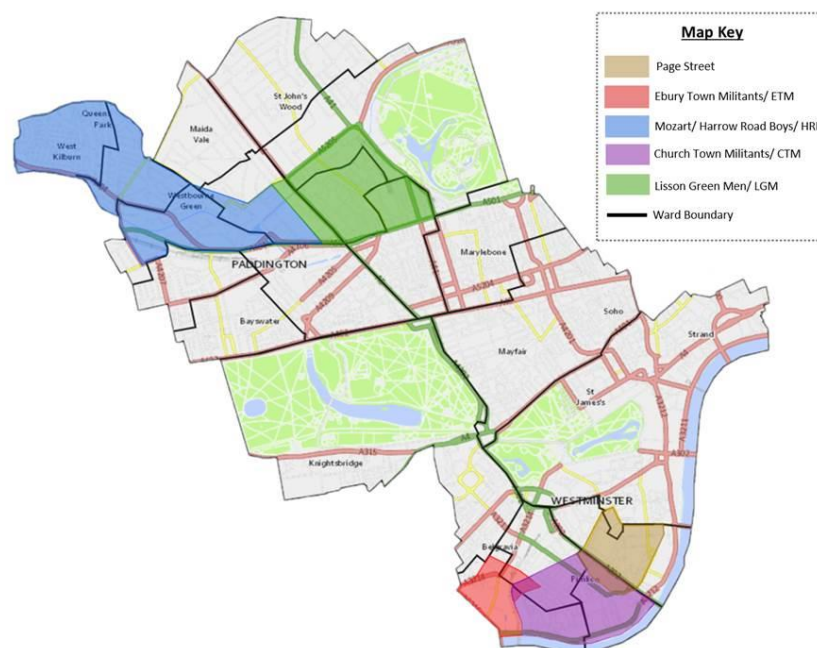
5.1 The IGXU is a multi-agency team funded by Community Safety, Family Services, MOPAC and the Home Office, consisting of the following professionals:

- Dedicated gangs police team
- Four flexible gangs workers
- A gang exit worker
- A Community Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS) professional
- A specialist sexual exploitation worker
- An employment coach
- Two anti-social behaviour caseworkers
- A data analyst

- Two managers - one service manager and one deputy service manager
- Family therapist
- Two additional flexible workers operating in RBKC and H&F
- Community Engagement worker

5.2 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. The IGXU report to the Youth Crime Prevention Panel which itself in turn reports to the Safer Westminster Partnership Board. In 2019 the IGXU was able to expand its resources following a successful bid to the Home Office Early Years Intervention Fund and has expanded its remit to provide flexible gang workers in Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC) and London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (LBHF). This enables the team's approach and intelligence to be a shared approach across all three boroughs. A full-time family therapy clinician has joined the team. To work both directly with families and to work alongside flexible gang workers to help them utilise their systemic training use this approach with families and young people.

5.3 The unit has also widened its focus beyond just gangs to deal with **criminal exploitation** (e.g. County Lines) and this has been reflected in the name change to the Integrated Gangs and Exploitation Unit (IGXU).



#### 5.4 Current Westminster Gangs and local tensions

The above map shows the current locations of known gangs/groups in Westminster. Since March 2019 there has been very little intelligence or reported incidents denoting any major conflict or tensions between different gangs that have resulted in serious assaults. There is intelligence to suggest that most of the current gang tensions are internal between members vying for superiority within the group or positioning themselves as 'key players' amongst the membership. Westminster gangs appear at the moment to be concentrating on illegal business activities, in particular drug dealing, rather than vying for supremacy

amongst each other. This is always a very fluid situation which can escalate at very short notice.

## **5.5 IGU County Lines work**

5.5.1 County lines is a term used to describe the criminal exploitation by gangs and organised criminal networks of vulnerable children or adults to export illegal drugs into one or more importing areas (within the UK). County Lines is currently a growing issue for the IGXU, with offenders travelling as far as Norfolk and Hampshire. New patterns have emerged highlighting the importance of developing a more collaborative approach and model in partnership with other London Boroughs, as well as key services and partners in pertinent Home Counties. The new MOPAC funded Response and Rescue Service which operates across London will play a key part in coordinating intelligence and analysis around this growing issue. The National Crime Agency (NCA) has recently started to take executive action by conducting widescale operations against County Lines.

5.5.2 Westminster's IGXU have started an analysis of County Lines operating from the borough. Initial findings show we have at least 28 people from one gang alone going to 20 counties. This is a rapidly changing picture. Bearing this in mind the pattern of change we see currently in Westminster suggests:

- A move from an emphasis on post code disputes to drug dealing for profit
- Movement from closed groups to less fixed more fragile alliances based on money and business
- Movement from high visibility of gangs (i.e. wearing certain colours) to low visibility
- Use of high-quality video music postings as adverts for their lifestyle 'the life' rather than fuelling adversity between groups
- Movement from local neighbourhood dealing to distribution in distant counties
- Changes from known young people to those 'under the radar' and less likely initially to be known and monitored
- Acts of violence between groups and individuals specifically for control of drug markets

## **5.6 Westminster Youth Offending Team (YOT)**

5.6.1 The Youth Crime Prevention Partnership (YCPP) acts as the management board that oversees the local delivery of responsibilities under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 for Youth Justice Services. It is chaired by the Director of Family Services and provides strategic direction to prevent offending and reoffending by children and young people. It is accountable to the Safer Westminster Partnership via an Offender Delivery Group. The YCPP is an active and well attended board; it receives regular performance reports, discusses emerging issues to find a partnership response, receives updates on audit compliance and the impact on service delivery as well as details of any safeguarding or critical incident reporting to the YJB.

5.6.2 Data for the period April 2018 – March 2019, in relation to Westminster's YOT performance, shows the following:

- The YOT caseload has gradually been reducing. In April 2017 it was 63 and in March 2019 it was 39. It remains around the 39 – 42 figures. This caseload is made up predominantly of males with the majority being 16 – 17 years old, although there was an increase in 14-year olds in 2018. The highest offences in the group were for ‘violence against the person’ at 24% and drugs at 28%.
- There has been a decrease in first time entrants to the youth justice system and Westminster’s figures are below the London average and near to the national average.
- Reoffending rates have reduced but those that do reoffend do so on more occasions. This supports what we know about the caseload, that it has reduced overall but those in the system have more complex needs. This may be one of the reasons that only 47.5% of the caseload are in education, employment or training and this is a priority area for development. The team are working closely with the economic development team and education colleagues to increase this figure. In the last year an educational psychologist has been assessing the unmet needs of our cohort as many have fallen out of education before being fully assessed.
- Custodial sentences for young people known to the YOT reduced significantly between April 2018 and March 2019 on the preceding year, from 11 to just four young people.
- The numbers of young offenders under 18 have been reducing over the past three years, particular young offenders committing violent offences:
  - In 2016/17 there were 99 violent offences recorded, 34 involving the possession of a knife, blade, offensive weapon
  - In 2017/18 there were 84 violent offences recorded, 27 involving the possession of a knife, blade, offensive weapon
  - In 2018/19 there were 60 violent offences recorded, 18 involving the possession of a knife, blade, offensive weapon

5.6.3 Westminster’s YOT uses a relational approach to its one to one work with young people and their families. We believe that by focusing on understanding the reasons for the behaviour, rather than just the result of the behaviour, young people will be supported to make more sustained change. We recognise that many of the young people known to the Youth Offending Team have unmet needs, which have impacted on their life choices. All staff in the team have now been trained in systemic and trauma informed practice to support the development of our relational approach.

## **6. Additional local and partnership initiatives in Westminster**

### **6.1 Knife crime day of action**

In June 2019 City Operations led on a day of action with our Metropolitan Police Service colleagues primarily focusing on the responsible sale of knives by small and medium business within the borough. 293 shops selling knives were visited in the key hot-spot areas to engage with the shop-keepers to promote the responsible sale of knives, and the safe display of sharp objects to prevent theft. The MPS committed significant resources to support the day of action and will focussed on preventative and enforcement opportunities, including weapon sweeps, knife arch operations and high visibility patrols. This is the first day of action that has been conducted and

volunteers from across Public Protection and Licensing participated. Future day of actions are being planned.

## **6.2 Community Weapons Sweep**

We and the Police operate regular community weapons sweeps which are used to detect knives and offensive weapons left in open spaces - in vegetation or otherwise concealed from view. These items are then removed from circulation. These weapons have either been left for safekeeping so its owner cannot be caught with it, left for trade/pickup or even used as communal weapons for gang members. Residents and the community are encouraged to take part with the police to show unity against weapons and a shared responsibility to keep the community safe

## **6.3 Victims of serious assault protocol**

The council is developing a new approach to supporting victims of serious crime, particularly knife crime. Following best practice from across the UK a project was initiated to determine how better council and partnership services can quickly and efficiently respond not only to the victim's needs, but also that of the victim's families (especially siblings), connected communities (e.g. schools) and the wider community. Deliver of this multi-agency protocol is scheduled for Autumn 2019.

## **7. Changes to the MPS approach to Stop and Search**

The Home Secretary has amended *some* of the requirements of the Home Office 'Best use of Stop and Search' scheme, with effect from 31st March 2019 and as part of a 12-month trial involving seven forces including the MPS. This brings the rank of authorising officer to the level required in the legislation, namely Inspector or above. Westminster has seen an increase in the number of authorities since these changes came into effect and have been authorised immediately after incidents of serious violence, or pre-emptively following the receipt of intelligence that serious violence is imminent. The authorisations have been either borough-wide or in specific locations, and all for specific time periods as per the requirements of the legislation. The council has always been informed when an authority has been made. There has been a significant uplift in stop and search activity following the change in legislation and directions given by the Senior Leadership of the MPS.

## **8. Public Health Approach**

8.1 The bi-borough Health and Wellbeing Board has adopted violence as a key priority for 2019/20. The Home Office has also recently announced that it expects to legislate to make the partnership public health approach to violence a legal 'duty to co-operate' amongst all partners.

8.2 The causes of youth violence are complex and multifactorial. A 'risk factor' is a "characteristics that increases the likelihood of a person becoming a victim or perpetrator of violence, or of a place having high rates of youth violence"<sup>1</sup>. The following table outlines the risk factors associated with SYV by ecological level.<sup>1</sup> These risk factors are influential at

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<sup>1</sup> Preventing youth violence: an overview of the evidence. WHO 2015



differing developmental stages from conception and early infancy 0-1 year, through to early adulthood 18-19 years. This recognition of a life course approach emphasises the importance of prevention and early intervention.

Ecological Level	Risk Factors
Individual risk factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)</li> <li>• Undiagnosed/ unmet need around speech and language challenges</li> <li>• Pre-existing mental health issues</li> <li>• Attention deficit, hyperactivity, conduct disorder</li> <li>• or other behavioural disorders</li> <li>• Physical violence/aggression</li> <li>• Positive attitude towards delinquency</li> <li>• Gang involvement</li> <li>• Previous criminal activity/ persistent offending</li> <li>• Long-term exposure to violence (also through media)</li> <li>• Alcohol consumption/ drug use</li> </ul>
Family and close relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poor parental supervision</li> <li>• Harsh and inconsistent discipline by parents</li> <li>• Disrupted home life/change in the primary carer</li> <li>• Family history of antisocial behaviour</li> <li>• Unemployment in the family</li> <li>• Gang membership</li> <li>• Bullying perpetration and victimisation</li> <li>• Child in local authority care or leaving care</li> </ul>
Community and society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to alcohol</li> <li>• Illicit drug markets</li> <li>• Harmful use of drugs</li> <li>• Access to weapons</li> <li>• Poverty</li> <li>• Inequality</li> </ul>

8.3 However, not all young people classed as high risk will ultimately engage in violence so it is also important to consider the ‘protective factors’ that may reduce the likelihood of involvement in youth violence including high resilience and self-esteem; low levels of

impulsiveness; pro-social attitudes; close relationships to parents and stable family structure; intensive parental supervision; medium socioeconomic status; strong ties to school; satisfactorily educational attainment and aspirations; having positive social connections and non-deviant peers; and living in a non-violent neighbourhood with low economic deprivation<sup>4</sup>.

8.4 A Public Health approach is a multi-agency, whole system approach to serious youth violence, looking at the root causes, wider and contextual influences of health and crime. Prevention and early intervention are key as well as working with a wide range of partners as part of a long-term, integrated multi-agency approach rather than taking a procedural justice response which deals with the consequences.

8.5 At its core a public health approach is an acknowledgement that no issue relating to violence has a single aspect or cause and that no single agency, service or organisation has all the answers.

8.6 A Public Health approach has **six broad criteria**:

- It is focused on the whole population but may prioritise targeting the individuals, families and communities most at risk of becoming involved in youth violence It is established with and for communities
- It is not constrained by organisational, professional, service or sector boundaries but requires an integrated approach to achieving shared outcomes
- It is focused on prevention, addressing the root causes of youth violence as well as early intervention with high risk groups
- It requires a long-term commitment to action and an acknowledgement that return of investment may take years
- It is based on data and intelligence
- It is rooted in evaluation and evidence of effective practice

8.7 To date the key Public Health contributions in this agenda have been:

- To influence the thinking of the Task Group to take a Public Health approach and focus intervention efforts earlier and across the life course.
- To work with partners to map current activity and identify opportunities as part of the Prevention Matrix exercise.
- To provide Project Management support to the emerging Church Street Pilot.
- To commission the Healthy Schools programme, The Health Visiting Service and the School Health Service.
- To scope out a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment on the health needs of youth offenders and those at risk of becoming youth offenders. Including those accessing the pupil referral unit and those engaged with the IGXU.
- Contributed to the consultation from the Home Office on a new legal duty to support a multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence.

8.8 To continue to contribute to addressing SYV, including knife crime, in the borough Public Health can add value by:

- Engaging health partners including NHS A&E departments and CCGs alongside key Public Health commissioned services such as the School Nurses and Health Visitors.
- Providing data and intelligence by playing a leading role in shaping a dataset to be accessed by all key stakeholders to inform action.
- Embedding health messages in the Youth Offending Services in response to the cohort's specific health needs.
- Strengthening governance and providing leadership on the agenda.

## **9. Current Activities to Address Knife Crime and Serious Youth Violence by Westminster Family Services**

9.1 Children's services have a key role in the prevention of knife and serious youth violence committed by young people, including the provision of the following services:

- The Youth Offending Team has a multi-agency partnership set up under the direction of the Crime and Disorder Act which includes representatives from social services, police, probation education and health. The aim of this team is to work with young people and families to address factors that lead to offending health. The YOT is overseen by the YOT management board (the Youth Crime Prevention Partnership).
- The Multi-Agency Safeguard Hub (MASH) brings together key professionals to facilitate early better-quality information sharing analysis and decision making to safeguard vulnerable children more effectively.
- Early Help aims to achieve outcomes for children and families and one of the key areas in their strategy for delivering this is prevention of crime and serious youth violence. Early Help can make a significant contribution to the prevention of youth crime because of their close links to universal providers, which enables the early identification of need. One of the referral criteria to Westminster's targeted Early Help team is for prevention of crime and, as part of this, the team undertake one-to-one work with young people and their families.
- Emerging Family Hubs are important community assets where families can access a range of support.
- #MyWestminster Staying Safe Programme: partnership including Young Westminster Foundation, Avenues Youth Project, Marylebone Bangladesh Society, Red Thread and Victim Support delivering support to 50 young people at risk of crime and rolling out capacity building programme to youth workers in partnership with the Metropolitan Police Service.
- The service hosted a Youth Providers Roundtable in April 19 to discuss how, together with partners, we can help young people to fulfil their potential and offer them the right mix of services that will inspire our young people and support them to achieve their ambitions.
- In the summer, the council announced a £500K budget to support youth services within the borough. The Cabinet Member for Children's and Family Services held a Youth Providers workshop prior to the announcement to bring together youth

services partners from across the City. The distribution of the money will be conducted in partnership with the Westminster Young People's Foundation.

9.2 In addition to the above, Children Services has started a school inclusion pilot to tackle increased exclusions as a way of reducing youth crime. This has three components:

- 1) trauma informed training for staff;
- 2) a dedicated team of Early Help Family Practitioners led by a family therapist; and
- 3) one-to-one or group mentoring for each child.

## **10. Youth Select Committee Consultation and the Westminster Youth Council**

10.1 The Youth Select Committee has launched an inquiry into Knife Crime, which will inform the committee's annual report. The Committee welcomes submissions from a wide range of stakeholders, including young people, charities and organisations that directly support offenders and victims of knife crime, as well as schools and businesses. In preparing our response, 19 members of Westminster Youth Council (WYC) were asked for their feedback on the enquiry's Youth related questions. WYC is comprised of Children and Young People aged 11-19 from a variety of ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds. Two Youth Council meetings were devoted to discussing the Youth Select Committee enquiry. Cllr Nickie Aiken, Leader of Westminster City Council, and Rebecca Lawrence, Chief Executive of the Mayor of London's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) attended the second of these meetings.

## **11. Police response since the introduction of the BCU model in February 2019 (Submission from the MPS Westminster)**

11.1 The BCU went live on 20th February 2019. To date transition has and continues to be challenging, performance remains relatively consistent daily conference calls and review undertaken. The Five strands are now fully operational: Response, Neighbourhoods, Safeguarding, and Investigations and HQ. Interconnectivity between strands is vital to continued success.

11.2 The Partnership working continues to be strengthened, with dedicated points of contacts threaded throughout teams and strands. It is our absolute priority to keep people safe, reduce violence, and deal with the things that matter the most to the people we serve. Bearing down on violent crime on the streets of Westminster continues to be a top priority for the BCU. We are working tirelessly - day and night – to identify and pursue offenders, help bring perpetrators to justice, take weapons off the street, support victims, engage and reassure the public, and keep our communities safe.

11.3 Violent crime increased nationally from 2016, and whilst London saw particular increases at the beginning of 2018, more recently we have seen the rates not only begin to stabilise but in relation to the number of overarching knife crime and in particular in regard to people under the age of 25, it has started to reduce. However, we are not complacent and will continue to prioritise violent crime. Tackling violent crime requires strong partnership working. Police often have a role in galvanising a response, but it will take sustained and effective partnership working with a truly holistic, preventative approach at grass-roots levels to deal with the complex causes and to create tangible alternatives for our young

people, helping them avoid the draw into gangs and violence. Our communities have a vital role to play in tackling violent crime.

11.4 The MPS continue to encourage anyone who may have information about serious crime in their neighbourhood to come forward this information could save lives in the future. We are working to build trust and support to signpost to our communities the ways in which they can get this information to us. Crime stoppers is a prime example. We are using a range of tactics and technologies, to both tackle and prevent violence. These tactics are delivered across the Service by local policing supported by a dedicated Violent Crime Taskforce that works alongside Trident and other specialist units to deliver:

#### 11.4.1 Prevent

- Intelligence-led stop and search - we are driving up the number of intelligence-led stop and searches which has led to over 4,000 weapons being taken off the streets of London, further preventing crime, injuries and saving lives.
- S60 authorities to safeguard communities in geographical areas where violence is believed to be likely or has occurred. This allows officers to search without grounds specific areas. The use of this power is closely monitored and evaluated
- Test purchase operations to restrict sale of knives to young people and keep deadly weapons off our streets;
- Protection and education of young people - working alongside schools and other organisations, work has been happening to deliver key crime prevention messaging to young people and to undertake activities to keep children safe both in and outside of their school environment. There are currently schools officers across Westminster. The regular presence of SSOs within schools helps build confidence between police, teachers, parents and students. This has led to information being shared more willingly with officers which can help predict potential disorder or fights, identify young people carrying knives and encourage the reporting of crimes.
- Removal of illegal online content that incites violence – we are fully exploiting all legislative options to ensure videos and content that incites violence are removed from the internet;

#### 11.4.2 Protect

- Effective intelligence on criminal gangs to ensure our resources are directed at the groups causing the most harm;
- Activity to support drug / ASB related enforcement within communities such as closure orders.
- Support to victims of knife and gun crime – ensuring that improving support to victims is at the heart of a holistic response.
- We are working with colleagues from other agencies, including local authorities and social care, to safeguard both vulnerable children and young adults who are often targeted and exploited by criminals and organised crime networks, or who are exposed to or become involved in violence and associated criminality due to their domestic circumstances, friends or older siblings.

#### 11.4.3 Pursue

- Additional and targeted intelligence-led, high-visibility patrols, occasionally including convoys, to reassure local communities and demonstrate a show of strength or to flood an area to deter and disrupt criminal activity;
- Covert operations, involving specialist officers targeting the most dangerous criminals, drug dealers and gangs;
- Activity against moped-enabled offending, including a range of tactics such as DNA spray to tag offenders so we can identify them months after they commit a crime;
- Targeted activity in ‘hot spot’ areas where we have seen the largest increases in violence;
- Enforcement against the network of drugs markets, from street dealers to importers;
- Taking out injunctions and court orders against gangs and their members to restrict their ability to operate;
- Traffic and roads policing – check points and key locations to disrupt movement of weapons, drugs or stolen property;

#### 11.4.3 Prepare

- Public information campaigns to educate the public and urge citizens to be vigilant and report concerns to police; and to give them the confidence to play a proactive part in tackling the issue within their communities
- Community Supporting - Standing with communities, neighbourhoods and families who want to stand up against violent crime and the harm it does;
- Support to the work of our partners in understanding and effectively tackling the root causes of drug and violent crime affecting young people and take a holistic approach to long-term problem-solving;
- Opportunities offering a way out of crime – recognising that young people should be offered interventions which help them move away from criminality towards a brighter future.

11.4.4 The causes and drivers of violence are complex, and so effective solutions must be holistic and sustainable and will involve a range of action from government, education, health, social services, housing, youth services, and victim services. Chronic social issues such as deprivation, absent families and domestic abuse, are leading to increased vulnerability putting some young people more at risk of becoming involved in gangs and associated criminality and ASB. Some young people, who may have unstable home lives in addition to living in areas where gangs/crime are more prevalent, maybe drawn into gang culture or carrying knives as a way to feel a sense of belonging and safety.

11.4.5 Drugs are a driver and prove to be involved in many cases of violence. Growing cocaine markets, not only within the capital but across the country, have strong links to increases in serious violence. Social media is playing a role in escalating violence between young people and enabling content that glamorises or encourages violence and crime. It is responsible for contributing to the “respect” culture, and that the perceived “humiliation” or “disrespecting” of individuals and groups reaches wider audiences with extended legacy and therefore action must be taken in an equally public manner. **The response to violent and knife crime is a collective effort and an organisational priority. Officers and staff from across the service are undertaking proactive activities to effectively prevent and investigate violent crime**

11.4.6 Dedicated ward officers and the West End Business Engagement Team work closely with the community they serve to identify problems. This often generates from concerns raised by businesses or residents supported by analytical data. This leads to ongoing, multi-agency problem solving of high-risk venues. The police in Westminster are shortly undergoing training to use the WCC system to make this process as seamless as possible and reduce barriers to information sharing.

11.4.7 This allows us to seek additional support from specialist units within the MPS. We have a proven record in obtaining additional support from the Territorial Support Group and Violent Crime Task Force to specifically target knife crime and serious youth violence. When specialist units are secured, we provide a bespoke, timely briefing from a proactive crime team showing the latest high-risk areas.

## **12. MOPAC Knife Crime GSP Tagging on Licence Project**

12.1 In 2017 The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) published the London Knife Crime Strategy. The Strategy takes a public health approach to tackling knife crime, incorporating prevention, intervention, enforcement and support for victims. The Strategy includes a commitment to pilot the use of GPS tagging with knife crime offenders being released from prison on licence. This pilot began in February 2019 and was initially open to any offender being released from a London prison to an address in the four pilot boroughs: Lewisham, Lambeth, Croydon or Southwark.

12.2 From June 2019 a phased expansion of the pilot is planned to cover offenders returning to 20 boroughs. The end date of the pilot is now set for April 2020, this being the last date at which new cases can be tagged. Westminster is in the 1<sup>st</sup> tranche of the expansion.

12.3 To be eligible an offender must be:

- Aged 18+
- Serving a sentence for either a knife possession offence or another offence which involved the use of a knife or bladed object
- Being released during the pilot from a London prison to one of the pilot boroughs.
- Being released to some type of viable accommodation (to enable tag charging)

12.4 Additional screening of cases will be done to ensure that only those cases whose risk and need can be proportionately and justifiably managed by GPS have it included in their licence conditions.

12.5 The overall aim of this pilot is that GPS is tested as a tool for reducing the likelihood of offenders committing further weapon related offences. Specifically, this will include:

- That GPS data is used to improve the management of the risk posed to known adults, children and the public.
- That GPS improves the enforcement of licence conditions and increases deterrence from further offending.
- That location data is used to challenge offender's thinking and lifestyle and improves rehabilitation.

- That GPS location data is shared appropriately for enhanced crime detection.

12.6 Key partners in this pilot include the National Probation Service (London division), London Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC), Metropolitan Police, Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) and Buddi Ltd (GPS monitoring provider).

### **13. Development of the MOPAC Violence Reduction Unit**

13.1 Announced by the Mayor in September 2018, the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) is bringing together specialists from health, police, local government, probation and community organisations to tackle violent crime and the underlying causes of violent crime. It is based on a Public Health approach to serious youth violence, one where the public sector institutions and communities that make up London act together to help cut violence. It will seek to reduce all forms of violence - whether it is committed with a gun, knife, broken bottle or fist, by a young person or adult. 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.

13.2 The goals of the Violence Reduction Unit are to:

- Stabilise and reduce violence across London
- Find the major causes of violence and co-ordinate action across London to tackle them at scale, delivering a long-term reduction in crime and associated harms
- Involve communities in the work of the VRU and build their capacity to deliver the best long-term solutions to reduce violence.

13.3 The Violence Reduction Unit will provide London with greater capacity, expertise and co-ordination to identify the major causes of violence and deliver early interventions to help prevent the spread of violence. The Unit's work will involve gathering data from health, criminal justice and other public services. This data will be used to help identify the underlying risk factors that can lead to violence, diagnose the problem and then assist in the development and the delivery of plans and interventions - alongside communities - to tackle them. It is not currently clear what the operating model will look like. Whilst there were early plans to set up six local VRU 'hubs' across London, the model will now take a more hyper-local, place-based approach. The VRU central team say that this will allow for a deeper understanding of, and investment in, areas of London which are either experiencing significant increases in violence (in which case the VRU will invest in community-led, innovative solutions) or decreases in violence (in which case the VRU will take the learning from the activity and share that with other areas). This means that in the first instance the VRU's delivery will focus on priority areas of London and not cover all of London. It is unclear how they will choose the priority areas within London at present and therefore whether areas within Westminster will be prioritised.

### **14. Conclusion**

14.1 Knife crime (and serious youth violence) is a complex area of crime, with a multitude of differing offences being committed by persons from all spectrums of life, with a myriad of complex needs, traumas or causes involved. Tackling knife crime and serious youth violence is only ever successful when a full system multi-agency approach is taken. There are robust governance arrangements through the Safer Westminster Partnership and the Youth Crime



Prevention Partnership to prioritise multi agency effort in tackling this agenda. Operationally there are a range of activities in place to address the issues, including the underlying causes:

- Early Help Response working with schools to promote inclusion, emotional wellbeing and parenting
- Social Care addressing harmful parental behaviour and its impact on children
- Youth Offending Service addressing criminal behaviour
- IGXU tackling gang related behaviour and young people at risk of criminal exploitation
- Local Safeguarding Children’s Board leading a partnership response to map Young People at risk
- Probation focussing on offenders over 18s
- Community Safety operating with neighbourhoods, providing community engagement and working with our police partners, including around licencing
- Police disrupting and bringing to justice offenders, preventing crime and protecting victims
- Public health leading on a whole-systems approach to violence

14.2 We have some useful data about victims of knife crime and the wards where this is happening. We also know that there is a difference between the victim data and the data relating to perpetrators. The Youth Offending Service holds useful data on violent crime, including knife related incidents, and can provide a profile of first-time entrants to the criminal justice system and those repeat offenders. Less is known about the profile of offenders aged 18-25 and the relationship between offenders and victims.

14.3 The council is developing a victim analysis, by ward and against offender details - so that we can better target activity to protect victims, disrupt problematic behaviour, prevent violence, and bring offenders to justice. A performance dashboard has now been developed to assist with this and includes data from the relevant partners.

**If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers, please contact Wayne Chance McKay**  
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**APPENDICES:**

N/A

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

N/A

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# City Management and Public Protection Policy and Scrutiny Committee

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2019
<b>Classification:</b>	General Release
<b>Title:</b>	Report of the Inclusion in the Evening and Night Time Economy
<b>Report of:</b>	Executive Director of Policy, Performance and Communications
<b>Cabinet Member Portfolio</b>	Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Licensing
<b>Wards Involved:</b>	All
<b>Policy Context:</b>	City that celebrates its communities
<b>Report Author and Contact Details:</b>	<b>Aaron Hardy x2894</b> <a href="mailto:ahardy1@westminster.gov.uk">ahardy1@westminster.gov.uk</a>

## 1. Executive Summary

This report presents the findings and recommendations of the Inclusion in the Evening and Night Time Economy Task Group

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

The Committee is asked to

- Agree the recommendations of the task group.
- Forward the relevant recommendations to the Cabinet member for response.

### 3. Background

In June 2018, following a number of allegations made about discrimination and lack of inclusivity in late night premises in Westminster, a task group was established to investigate inclusion in the evening and night time economy. The task group's membership was:

#### Chairman

- Councillor Iain Bott, (June 2018 – January 2019)
- Councillor Timothy Barnes (January 2019 – June 2019)
- Councillor Matthew Green (June 2019 – September 2019)

#### Other members

- Councillor Aicha Less
- Councillor Pancho Lewis
- Councillor Gotz Mohindra

The task group's aims were to investigate people's experiences – from the perspective of visitors, residents and the industry.

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. These are:

- age
- disability
- gender reassignment
- marriage and civil partnership
- pregnancy and maternity
- race
- religion or belief
- sex
- sexual orientation

The task group gathered information for this report through:

- an open call for evidence from members of the public
- engaging with representative groups, such as Stonewall
- a direct call for evidence from late night venues in Westminster
- evidence gathering sessions with venues and industry experts
- engaging with Night-Time Economy experts and other interested parties such as Amy Lamé, London's Night Czar

Following approval by the committee the report will be published on the Council's website. The published version would include some cosmetic additions to the report such as an executive summary and case studies to illustrate some points.

**If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers, please contact Report Author x0000**  
[rauthor@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:rauthor@westminster.gov.uk)

**APPENDICES:**

Appendix 1: Report of the Inclusion in the Evening and Night Time Economy

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

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## **IENTE Task Group Report**

### **Introduction**

Westminster is the hub of London's Evening and Night Time Economy (ENTE) and plays a prominent role in shaping the capital's ENTE landscape, being home to world-leading entertainment, dining, cultural and shopping experiences. We are regarded as an international hub for ENTE innovation - what happens here can influence other major cities. The West End's ENTE alone is larger than Manchester's, Birmingham's and Edinburgh's combined in terms of gross domestic product. Westminster is a cosmopolitan melting pot, and this is reflected in our variety of ENTE offer. Given the scale, importance and diversity of Westminster's ENTE, it is important that it is an inclusive place for all.

This task group was established following a number of allegations made about discrimination and lack of inclusivity in late night premises in Westminster. The task group's aims were to investigate people's experiences – from the perspective of visitors, residents and the industry.

To provide focus, the task group concentrated its investigation on nightclubs as they were the subject of the original complaints. We also limited the investigation to discrimination based on the protected characteristics defined in the Equality Act 2010. These are:

- age
- disability
- gender reassignment
- marriage and civil partnership
- pregnancy and maternity
- race
- religion or belief
- sex
- sexual orientation

However, during the task group's work, we heard examples of people being discriminated on the basis of other factors, such as their physical appearance. We wish to make clear that this is also unacceptable and that, should they be implemented, the task group's recommendations could also apply to this type of discrimination.

We gathered information for this report through:

- an open call for evidence from members of the public
- engaging with representative groups, such as Stonewall
- a direct call for evidence from late night venues in Westminster
- evidence gathering sessions with venues and industry experts

- engaging with Night-Time Economy experts and other interested parties such as Amy Lamé, London's Night Czar

One of the key issues we encountered was the lack of testimonies from club goers, especially any that had corroborating evidence. Although we do not take this to mean that incidents do not occur, it has affected our ability to say how widespread discrimination may be and to identify the causes. It is important to note that anecdotal evidence within this report, whether from members of the public or from the industry, is not stated as fact.

#### Legislation/Regulation applicable to the Inclusion in the ENTE

There are three main pieces of legislation that the task group found relevant to our investigation. These are:

- the Private Security Industry Act 2001
- the Licensing Act 2003
- the Equality Act 2010

#### *The Private Security Industry Act 2001 (PIA 2001)*

The PIA 2001 established the Security Industry Authority (SIA). The SIA regulates the licensing of door supervisors and manages a voluntary Approved Contractor Scheme (ACS), which measures private security service suppliers against independently established assessment criteria.

All door supervisors need to gain a nationally recognised and regulated qualification before they can apply for a licence. To achieve the qualification, door supervisors need to correctly answer questions on equality and diversity legislation and how this works in practice. Areas that are assessed include the Equalities Act 2010 and the Human Rights Act 1998.

If the SIA receives a complaint that a door supervisor has broken the law or a condition of their licence, they can investigate. The enforcement powers of the SIA include requiring the individual to undergo training, issuing a formal warning and suspending or revoking the licence.

The objective of the SIA's ACS is to raise performance standards and to assist the private security industry in developing new opportunities. This voluntary scheme was developed in consultation with representatives from across the industry; it only covers those parts of the industry that are regulated by the SIA and the Private Security Industry Act 2001. The ACS requires companies to provide induction training that includes equality and diversity training, and those looking for higher ratings must do annual reviews of their employees' training needs.

#### *Licensing Act 2003*

Westminster City Council, as a licensing authority, has to carry out its functions with a view to promoting the licensing objectives, which are:

- the prevention of crime and disorder
- public safety



- the prevention of public nuisance
- the protection of children from harm

The most relevant objective here is the prevention of crime and disorder. The key word is prevention because breaching the Equality Act 2010 (detailed below) is not by itself a criminal act.

The prevention of crime and disorder objective becomes relevant only where there is a criminal act or the actions of a venue could cause one. Establishing a link between a discriminatory door policy and a criminal offence (e.g. if it led to an argument and then a public disturbance) would be difficult for a licensing authority. A review of a venue's licence would not be appropriate unless there were some evidence suggesting that the alleged discrimination was undermining the crime prevention objective. Therefore, unless discrimination is, or could lead to, a criminal act, it is difficult for the licensing authority to deal with any complaints.

### *Equality Act 2010*

The Equality Act 2010 places a legal obligation on public authorities to have due regard to the need to

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- advance equality of opportunity; and
- to foster good relations, between persons with different protected characteristics.

This duty supports the argument that Local Authorities have a duty to act on complaints of discriminatory door policies at nightclubs. However, there are limitations that are placed on licensing authorities, as described above.

The Equality Act 2010 states that when someone provides a service, they must not discriminate on the basis of "protected characteristics". Service providers such as venues must not discriminate against a person based on one of these characteristics. This includes providing the service on different terms to others (e.g. higher or lower entry fee).

If someone thinks that they have been unfairly discriminated against and that there has been a breach of the Equality Act, there are a number of ways in which they can seek redress. They can seek help from the Equality Advisory and Support Service which can

- give bespoke advice to individuals across the whole of Great Britain on discrimination issues;
- explain legal rights and remedies available within discrimination legislation, across the three nations;
- explain options for informal resolution and help people to pursue them;
- refer people who cannot or do not wish to go down this road to conciliation or mediation services; and
- help people who need or want to seek a legal solution by helping to establish eligibility for legal aid and, if they are not eligible, to find an accessible legal service or to prepare and lodge a claim themselves.

An individual can also contact the Equalities and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) which could assist them with their complaint. The EHRC focuses its regulatory role on helping organisations to achieve compliance with their obligations. To do this, the EHRC has a range of powers. These include providing advice and guidance, publishing information and undertaking research.

When these methods are ineffective, the EHRC has a range of enforcement powers including inquiries, investigations, unlawful act notices, agreements, assessments and compliance notices.

The EHRC does not get involved in every issue or dispute. It focuses its use of its powers to:

- clarify the law, so that people and organisations have a clearer understanding of their rights and duties;
- highlight priority issues; and
- challenge policies or practices that cause significant disadvantage, sometimes across a whole industry or sector.

The Commission might consider that there is an issue in general and seek to address compliance on a sectoral basis. This may include issuing Codes of Practice or non-statutory guidance.

It may also be possible for individuals to claim damages in civil proceedings, although this is a costly and time-consuming process.

#### [The complaints that were made](#)

This task group was established following complaints made against Drama, a nightclub in Mayfair. The accusations from two members of the public were that they were part of a group that was charged more for entry because they were black. We have received statements from those involved in the original complaint, but they chose not to attend a meeting of that task group:

*We did feel that we were treated unfairly due to the majority of our group being black.... It's a shame, it is a horrible feeling to experience and something needs to change. – Original complaint.*

As part of the task group's work we realised that, although these allegations were disturbing, we would need more evidence to be able to make firm recommendations. To do this, we issued a call for evidence from clubgoers and publicised it through the council's social media channels, the local voluntary sector, groups that represented the protected characteristics, the press and directly invited responses.

We received 16 submissions from members of the public, of which:

- seven alleged discrimination based on sexual orientation;
- six alleged discrimination based on race;
- one alleged discrimination based on religion;
- one alleged discrimination based on disability; and

- one alleged discrimination based on gender.

We also had three submissions asserting that discrimination based on protected characteristics was not an issue at nightclubs.

*“The majority of clubs do not want black men and women in their establishments unless they are prepared to pay thousands of pounds for a table. I’ve often been told; the club is at full capacity yet it isn’t, I have the wrong attire, I look aggressive, or I’m just made to wait and watch multiple groups of white people enter without hassle in the hope I will take the hint and leave.”* –Open forum submission

It should be noted that the submissions based on sexual orientation were from individuals claiming they were not allowed into LGBTQ+ venues as they were straight or ‘did not look gay enough’. We have not looked into this kind of discrimination in detail, however we would stress that, although they should be as inclusive as other venues, any action that comes as a result of the task group’s recommendations should recognise the importance of LGBTQ+ venues and ensure they are protected.

As part of our evidence gathering, we received a submission from Stonewall who told us that:

- One in six LGBT people (17 per cent) have been discriminated against because of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity when visiting a café, restaurant, bar or nightclub in the last year. This number increases to a third for trans people (34 per cent), compared to 13 per cent of LGB people who are not trans and three in ten black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) LGBT people (30 per cent);
- LGBT young people are also more likely to experience this discrimination: 47 per cent of trans young people aged 18 to 24 and 21 per cent of LGB young people who are not trans, have experienced discrimination in these venues;
- One in five LGBT disabled people (21 per cent) have been discriminated when visiting these venues;
- A third of LGBT people (33 per cent) avoid certain bars and restaurants due to fear of discrimination. This number significantly increases for trans people, half of whom (51 per cent) avoid certain venues;
- More than two in five BAME LGBT people (44 per cent) avoid certain bars and restaurants fearing discrimination, compared to a third of white LGBT people (32 per cent).

*“A female security guard refused to search me when I was waiting in line to get in to an event. She made a fool of me in front of the entire line. She said I wasn’t a female and made me stand in the men’s mine.”* – Juliet, 37, London (LGBT in Britain: Hate Crime and Discrimination, Stonewall)

## Views of the industry

During the course of the task group’s work, we also gathered information from a number of venues and industry representatives through evidence gathering sessions, an open call for submissions to all nightclubs in Westminster and attending the local ClubWatch meeting.

Some of the industry representatives admitted that there may be examples of individuals working in the ENTE who had discriminated against patrons based on protected characteristics. However, the majority of those consulted were of the opinion that racism in nightclubs was not an issue. Many said that they aspired to be as cosmopolitan as London and that there was no systemic issue within the industry, any cases occurring were down to individuals and that venues did not have policies of discrimination but in fact had zero tolerance policies against racism.

Some venues and other industry experts expressed the opinion that clubgoers had a sense of entitlement to be allowed into a venue and that they became angry when not allowed to do so. There was a feeling that accusing venues of discrimination was becoming a standard fall back “go to” response to being refused entry as a way of venting this anger. Venues also reported an increase in the number of allegations of discrimination against them.

We were given examples of complaints of discrimination that, when investigated, it was clear that the decision not to let them in was right because, for example, they were being aggressive. We had other examples of complaints against door supervisors, where the individual was eventually let in and admitted that the accusation was false.

We were also given some examples of the work the industry is doing to promote inclusion. Most of those representatives to which we spoke already had a large number of measures in place to prevent/address issues of discrimination. However, these are not always formalised and are not common across all venues.

## *Responding to complaints*

We heard several different approaches that venues take to responding to allegations of discrimination. These ranged from having a number available to the general manager on the night to following up online allegations. One common theme was that modern clubgoers know how to complain if they wish, although we are not sure they are using the most effective or constructive channels.

We heard that responding to complaints made online almost never led to any dialogue as when venues have approached someone to offer to investigate an allegation the individual did not respond. This could be because removed from the heat of the moment the complainant has a different view of the incident. However, it may also be that they do not

want to engage with the venue against which they have the complaint. Having contact details available for people to contact management could also be useful, though this could have the same issue of the complainant not wishing to engage with the venue as well as the fact that complainants are likely to be intoxicated to some extent at the point of refusal.

Venues told us that they found it frustrating that there was no meaningful way of positively responding to allegations, especially those made on social media. Venues wanted an effective means to avoid 'trial by social media' with the risk to reputation that this involved.

### *The licence*

During our discussions with venues, the value to their business of their licence, which was described as a venue's number one asset, became clear. Several major issues came back to the licence and the licensing objectives. We were told that door supervisors make decisions based on the licensing objectives and that refusal logs only noted issues that were required to show compliance with the licensing objectives. By refusing drunk or aggressive clients, venues are trying to prevent crime and disorder and public nuisance and ensure public safety, as per their licensing responsibilities, often following specific conditions that the Licensing Authority has placed on them.

As explained above, although the licensing authority has a public-sector equality duty and venues are bound by the Equality Act, when it comes to licensing, only the four licensing objectives are relevant.

### *Role of door staff*

One of the key themes that came from our discussions with industry experts was the door supervisors' role, which was described as poorly understood. There is an obvious expectation from the responsible authorities to vet entry to night clubs and there are many requirements regarding this on a venue's licence. However, concerns were raised about the quality of door supervisors as well as the resources that the SIA has available to do more than train and regulate them beyond the bare minimum. Venues told us that they view the door supervisors' role as being to make sure that people that might cause issues in the venue were not let in.

Door staff have to make a split-second decision on whether to allow someone into a venue. This decision is based on a dynamic risk assessment carried out in a matter of moments by door staff. These dynamic risk assessments take into account things such as the physical attributes of a person, if they were part of a group and what they might be like after drinking.

Although this is obviously an important part of the role, the process of undertaking a dynamic risk assessment remains nebulous and open to influence by the door supervisor's personal views. We heard about a cultural difference between older and younger door supervisors which may affect how they approach dynamic risk assessments, although we were told that venues in Westminster have diverse and multi-lingual door supervisors. There is however no requirement for door supervisors to undergo refresher training once

they have been licensed. This means that as society changes and the nature of clubgoers evolves, there is a risk that the factors involved in dynamic risk assessments and decisions taken regarding entry are not keeping up with societal and generational changes.

The task group also received evidence about the challenges that door staff face. We were told that over the past decade, venues' responsibilities had expanded as the police and licensing authority rely on venues to manage the area around them. We also heard that falling police numbers were an issue and that the West End was getting more dangerous, with the result that door staff had to be ever more vigilant to stop that danger getting into venues. Perceived danger has increased to such an extent that some operators in the West End have started issuing stab vests as staff feel threatened.

### *The role of promoters*

The original complaint that led to the formation of this task group involved a promoter and so we were keen to understand their roles. We heard about venues' different approaches to promoters. These ranged from using directly employed staff to attract customers, using promoters to push social media content to a larger audience or working directly with promoters to drive customers to their venues.

Modern promoters work largely online without knowing whom they are inviting to a venue. This can cause an issue if the promoter does not properly inform potential patrons of the venue's rules (e.g. dress code) and the customers are refused entry despite expecting to be allowed in. Venues have also reported that some promoters, especially new ones, overpromise to try and make a name for themselves, which can lead to customers having unreasonable expectations which are then not met. Promoters are also largely paid by results. We did hear examples of venues with a formal code of conduct for promoters.

Another issue was variable pricing. A number of venues use variable pricing. Some venues have a policy that leaves it completely to staff's discretion within a set price range where entry can vary from £10-£30. Other venues have set entry fees but may attract clients through other promotions (e.g. wristbands that allow entry to multiple venues). Drama (the venue involved in the original complaint) no longer has variable pricing, and instead entry is now a set fee, or free at the venue's discretion (e.g. for a regular customer). Making pricing clear and transparent would be a helpful way of showing that customers were being treated fairly and equally.

### **Solutions**

A number of solutions were discussed during the course of the task group's work. These largely focus on three themes:

- establishing best practice across the industry and a standard to which venues can be held accountable;
- avoiding situations where decisions can be misunderstood as being discriminatory and ensuring that there is contemporaneous evidence to help establish either way; and

- ensuring that there are proper procedures for clubgoers to bring complaints of discrimination which also allow venues to present their side.

### *Voluntary Codes*

Given the limited regulatory powers to address non-criminal discrimination as detailed above, any meaningful action will have to be industry-led. As part of the task group's work, we discussed voluntary codes of conduct and best practice charters.

We spoke to the national coordinator of Best Bar None, an accreditation scheme with national awards supported by the Home Office and the drinks industry. This scheme is aimed primarily at promoting responsible management and operation of alcohol licensed premises. Best Bar None already operates in Westminster, in the Heart of London Business Alliance Area (HOLBA).

The Best Bar None scheme incorporates licensing objectives, vulnerability and corporate responsibility into its accreditation. There is an audit of operational standards of each venue annually. There is also an annual review of the Best Bar None scheme's requirements to ensure they are up to date (e.g. the introduction of ask Angela or lockdown). Diversity could be part of Best Bar None.

The industry experts we spoke to highlighted that any charter needs strong engagement and buy-in from venues and all relevant authorities including the council and the police. Any charter needs to incorporate training and compliance checks. Compliance should include an easily accessible way for clubgoers to raise complaints and see that those complaints are being acknowledged and dealt with. Venues should also ensure that clubgoers who make complaints are aware of other avenues of complaint they could pursue.

A voluntary code relies on the impact to a venue's reputation, should that venue not comply with the code. Any such code would need to be publicised sufficiently widely to ensure that it is effective.

We note that, given smaller venues may not be able to commit the resources required to become accredited that may be available to larger venues, any scheme should take account of the different scales of operation in Westminster.

One way of linking a code of conduct or venue's own anti-discrimination policy to the licence is for it to be included in the operating schedule of a venue. This would not infringe or encroach on licence conditions or the legislative process but would formalise a venue's policy and commitment to inclusion.

Encouragingly, during our discussions with venues, most were receptive to the idea of a voluntary code.

We would also like to see the SIA's Approved Contractor Scheme more widely adopted across Westminster.

### *Dress codes*

Dress codes, and other door policies (e.g. pricing), were widely discussed as reasons for refusing entry that might be misunderstood. The venues that we consulted felt that displaying the policies at the door would not help avoid misunderstandings as signs would be long and customers would not read them. There will also be an inevitable element of subjectivity. Some venues publish their dress code on their website. We would encourage all venues to make their policies as available as possible so that clubgoers can understand why they have been refused entry.

### *Training*

We agree with Stonewall's submission that training staff of the legal equality duties is crucial to increasing diversity in the Evening and Night Time Economy. As discussed above, the SIA requires a certain level of knowledge around equality to be certified, but there is no requirement for refresher training. We would like to see refresher training become a requirement for an SIA licence to ensure that door supervisors are aware of their responsibilities, especially as society and legislation changes.

### *Technology*

During our discussions, we heard examples of where technology on the door at venues could be of assistance, particularly in gathering evidence to help determine a dispute. The majority of venues that we consulted already use bodycams for their door staff and agreed that these were useful. Although they are currently used mainly to further the licensing objectives, bodycams could also be used to provide evidence when an allegation is made.

We also heard an example of a universities student union that used technology to record refusals by door staff. The door supervisor used an iPad to make a note of when someone was refused entry. Effective reporting of the time position moment is key to being able to establish what happened and can help venues to discover patterns. We would encourage all venues to consider similar ideas.

### **Recommendations**

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.
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.

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

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## City Management and Public Protection Policy & Scrutiny Committee

<b>Date:</b>	10 September 2019
<b>Classification:</b>	General Release
<b>Title:</b>	<b>2019/2020 Work Programme and Action Tracker</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	Director of Policy, Performance & Communications
<b>Cabinet Member Portfolio</b>	Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Licensing Cabinet Member for Environment and City Management
<b>Wards Involved:</b>	All
<b>Policy Context:</b>	All
<b>Report Author and Contact Details:</b>	Artemis Kassi x 3451 <a href="mailto:akassi@westminster.gov.uk">akassi@westminster.gov.uk</a>

### 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 (appendix 2).

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

- 3.1 This work programme takes from the work programme items suggested at the committee's last meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019 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 draft Energy Strategy.

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

**[akassi@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:akassi@westminster.gov.uk)**

**APPENDICES:**

**Appendix 1-** Suggested Work Programme

**Appendix 2-** Action Tracker

## WORK PROGRAMME 2019/2020

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

<b>ROUND TWO 10 SEPTEMBER 2019</b>		
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Reasons &amp; objective for item</b>	<b>Represented by</b>
Cabinet Member Q&A	To receive an update and provide “critical friend” challenge	Councillor Ian Adams Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Licensing
Knife Crime	To review the work in Westminster, including an overview of partnership work	Sara Sutton

<b>ROUND THREE 20 NOVEMBER 2019</b>		
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Reasons &amp; objective for item</b>	<b>Represented by</b>
Cabinet Member Q&A	To receive an update and provide “critical friend” challenge	Councillor Tim Mitchell Cabinet Member for Environment and City Management
Energy Strategy	Review the approach to developing a council wide energy strategy	

<b>ROUND FOUR 29 JANUARY 2020</b>		
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Reasons &amp; objective for item</b>	<b>Represented by</b>
Cabinet Member Q&A	To receive an update and provide “critical friend” challenge	Councillor Ian Adams Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Licensing
Safer Westminster Partnership/Community Safety Partnership	Annual report	Sara Sutton

Basic Command Unit	Review of the first year of basic command units	Metropolitan Police
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<b>ROUND FIVE</b> <b>16 MARCH 2020</b>		
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Reasons &amp; objective for item</b>	<b>Represented by</b>
Cabinet Member Q&A	To receive an update and provide “critical friend” challenge	Councillor Tim Mitchell Cabinet Member for Environment and City Management
tbc		

<b>ROUND SIX</b> <b>28 APRIL 2020</b>		
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Reasons &amp; objective for item</b>	<b>Represented by</b>
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	

<b>ROUND SEVEN</b> <b>TBC</b>		
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Reasons &amp; objective for item</b>	<b>Represented by</b>
Cabinet Member Q&A	To update the committee on key areas of work within its remit and the Cabinet Member’s priorities	Councillor Tim Mitchell Cabinet Member for Environment and City Management
Noise Pollution	To review the problems associated with noise pollution and ways of tackling it.	Sara Sutton

**ROUND EIGHT  
September 2020**

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Reasons &amp; objective for item</b>	<b>Represented by</b>
Cabinet Member Q&A	To receive an update and provide “critical friend” challenge	Councillor Ian Adams Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Licensing

<b>UNALLOCATED ITEMS</b>		
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Reasons &amp; objective for item</b>	<b>Represented by</b>
Sexual Exploitation	Review of sexual exploitation in Westminster	
Gambling Policy	Review proposals and comment	
Utilities Update	An investigation into the practices of utility companies	
Probation Service		
Green Infrastructure Strategy		

<b>TASK GROUPS AND STUDIES</b>		
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Reasons &amp; objective</b>	<b>Type</b>
Inclusion in the ENTE	Report on inclusion within, access to and diversity in Westminster’s dance entertainment venues (nightclubs) which operate within the evening and night-time economy, identifying areas of best practice and making recommendations aimed at further improving standards	Task Group

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

<b>ROUND 1</b> <b>12 June 2019</b>		
Agenda Item	Action	Status/Follow Up
<b>Item 4</b> <b>Cabinet Member Updates:</b> <b>Councillor Tim Mitchell</b>	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
	<b>Item 6</b> <b>Waste and Recycling (fly tipping)</b>	The committee requested Cllr Arzymanow requested to take part in a ward walk (Annette Acik/Alex Woodman)
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