

16th May 2019

To Whom It May Concern

Letter of Support

The Capital Arches Group is represented within the Northbank Business Improvement District (covering Trafalgar Square, Strand and Aldwych) by the McDonald's at 34-35 Strand.

As a key stakeholder the group plays a very active part within the local community alongside the Northbank's four key strands- Community Safety & Business Resilience, Marketing & Promotion, Environment & Sustainability and Corporate Community Engagement.

Since the Bid launched in 2013, the Capital Arches Group has made a considerable contribution on our Safe and Secure Group, working with our strategic partners, such as the GLA, Met Police, Westminster City Council and others to direct the efforts of the BID and are also represented on our main Board of Directors.

Capital Arches is also a major participant in our Business Continuity subgroup, with their Safety, Security & Licensing Consultant chairing our Evening and Night Economy subgroup. Launching at the end of 2017, these groups, with the ongoing support of the Capital Arches Group, have delivered a number of key projects including free counter-terrorism awareness sessions, welfare and vulnerability training and Project Diffuse, a simulated acid attack response training.

As chair of Northbank's Night Economy Forum Capital Arches supports our participation with the Mayor of London's Women's Night Safety Charter, helping to promote best practice principles towards improving the safety of women and girls in public spaces.

The Capital Arches Group is represented at the local Strand and Whitehall Ward Panel, having helped draft the terms of reference, alongside the London School of Economics and the Northbank. The Ward Panel forms part of the Mayor's Office for Policing and crime (MOPAC) structure of accountability, providing representatives to the Westminster Safer Neighbourhood Board as and when required. The Panel has sole responsibility for establishing and reviewing policing priorities for the Strand and Whitehall Ward.

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The Strand restaurant also works with the Northbank and its neighbours, including Heaven Nightclub and Charing Cross Station, on the annual Pride Safety Hub. A community project, the hub sees Northbank businesses providing medics and other welfare provision to vulnerable people who require a safe place to recover, meet friends or charge phones after the main events have finished.

With the Northbank promoting its Cleaner Air for London message at the Lord Mayor's Show 2018, the Capital Arches Group had a number of volunteers accept our invitation to highlight the work they are doing on Environment and Sustainability, such as their waste cooking oil being converted into bio-diesel to power their delivery vehicle fleet.

The Capital Arches Group has actively engaged with local efforts and continues to offer support to local initiatives to enhance the experience of those who live, work and visit the area.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ruth Duston', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ruth Duston OBE, OC
Chief Executive