

## Notes from Fitzrovia Business Watch Meeting

**Date:** 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020

**Attendees:**

Barry (MPS), Gabriella (Planet Organic), Taya (Space NK), Dee (Greggs), Joseph (Sainsburys) Alex (Capital Arches), Tim (Capital Arches) Farid (TFP), Nancy (TFP), Dan (TFP), Elijah (TFP), Janos (TFP)

**Apologies:**

Harvey (Safer Business Network)

**Introductions**

Farid Aliev welcomed the attendees and thanked them for attending. All attendees introduced themselves and the businesses they represented.

**TFP Update**

It is expected that the majority of Roma street population will return towards the end of February. Since December 2019 the Wardens have conducted sixteen joint patrols whereby six CPN's were issued for anti-social behaviour. The Wardens have recovered £3k of stolen goods in the past three months and have also assisted with many medical situations. TFP are receiving good feedback from businesses regarding the Wardens and their street presence and in response to numerous requests by member businesses The Fitzrovia Partnership will be reviewing their current hours to determine what is best for the area. The Safer Business Network have reported an increase in 'gift card' fraud whereby duplicate amounts are loaded onto gift cards but perpetrators working in pairs to distract sales assistants.

Businesses were reminded of the Great British spring Clean taking place on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020, it is an opportunity for businesses to become involved with cleaning up the area.

**Police Update**

2020 has started with the same level of crime as 2019 ended. Team at full strength 1Sgt, 5PC's and 1 PCSO. Bicycle enabled thefts have increased with the busiest times being 7am – 8am and 4pm to 7pm. A Joint Patrol will be held on 27/02/2020, CPN's are being issued to displace repeat offenders. MPS beginning an 'Hotel Watch' as tourists are being target by people impersonating police offers, some are carrying card payment machines to issue on the

spot fines. MPS present training to advise businesses of the procedures when detaining shoplifters and this was offered to all attending businesses.

## **Business Update**

Sainsburys advise that experience a number of thefts, shoplifting and receive a good response from the TFP Wardens however the Police response was often poor. The MPS advice is to keep on phoning the Police when someone is detained and to report all crime. The issue of repeat offenders was also raised, if offenders are released on bail following an arrest there is little the Police can do. Capital Arches advise that they continued to experience table surfing within branches. Planet Organic advise that they experience theft/shoplifting in the mornings however their in-store security do not start before 11am. Space NK report a reduction in shoplifting as they only keep samples on the shop floor and the staff are experienced in identifying potential shoplifters, the staff also monitor CCTV when necessary. Greggs report an increase in money/change scamming especially by teenagers.

## **Current threat level**

The threat to the UK from terrorism is **SUBSTANTIAL**

The threat to Northern Ireland from Northern Ireland-related terrorism is **SEVERE**

## **Dates of 2020 Briefings/Meetings**

**To be confirmed.**

### **Contact numbers**

Listed below are the phone numbers that are available to you if you wish to report a street based issue to the authorities.

- **Emergency services - 999**
  - Fire Brigade
  - Ambulance
  - Police in the case of emergency, life threatening, or where the suspect is still on scene
- **non-emergency police reporting call - 101**
  - To make non urgent reports of crime and anti-social behaviour
  - To report a crime that has occurred and the suspect has left
  - To report begging and rough sleeping
  - Appointments can be made for the police to visit you at a time that suits

- **Anti-terrorism hotline. 0800 789 321**  
The slogan, 'if you suspect something is linked to terrorism then report it' applies to this number.
- **Bloomsbury Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team - 020 8721 2693**  
[Barry.MacInnes@met.police.uk](mailto:Barry.MacInnes@met.police.uk)  
[Bloomsbury.snt@met.police.uk](mailto:Bloomsbury.snt@met.police.uk)  
[@MPSBloomsbury](https://www.facebook.com/MPSBloomsbury)

This is our local policing team. They work a shift pattern and there are occasions when none of the team are on duty or working locally. They also carry the Fitzrovia Business Link Radio when working in the area.

**Send images to**

[Bloomsbury.snt@met.police.uk](mailto:Bloomsbury.snt@met.police.uk)

- **Camden Safer Street Team - 08088 000005**  
[streetsafe@cri.org.uk](mailto:streetsafe@cri.org.uk)  
To report: -  
Rough sleepers  
Street drinkers  
Beggars
- **Camden Community Warden Service – 0207 974 4444**  
To deter antisocial behaviour in public places and report problems within the street environment, such as graffiti and abandoned vehicles
- **Camden Council - 020 7974 4444**  
To report the following issues: -  
Flytipping  
Missed waste collections  
Highway faults  
Overflowing waste bins  
Graffiti  
Illegal street traders
- **NHS non-emergency number - 111**  
Call 111 and speak to a highly trained adviser, supported by healthcare professionals. They will ask you a series of questions to assess your symptoms and immediately direct you to the best medical care for you
- **Fitzrovia Partnership Street Team 020 7755 3398**  
[ambassadors@fitzroviapartnership.com](mailto:ambassadors@fitzroviapartnership.com)  
To provide advice, support and information
- **Safer West End Business Network**  
[www.saferbusiness.org.uk](http://www.saferbusiness.org.uk)

Harvey.husnu-beresford@saferbusiness.org.uk