

Camden Community Security Zone

Steering Group

Meeting Notes:

Date: 9th July 2020

Time: 1400

Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Attendees:

Dan Sandford (DS) – The Fitzrovia Partnership

Nancy Rogers (NR) – The Fitzrovia Partnership

Nick Mountain (NM) – MPS

David Gregory (DG) – Facebook

Justina Wojech (JW) – Facebook

Darren Carter (DC) – Edwardian Group

Kristina Bruzgaite (KG) - Wellcome Trust

Stephanie Welch (SW) - Arup

Lisa Preiss (LP) – Bloomsbury SNT

Ziggy Szyjajder (ZS) – Fremantle

Kris Sosnowski (KS) - Derwent I Stephen Street

Apologies:

None noted.

Apologies/Introduction/Minutes of previous meeting

- Attendees introduced themselves and DS thanked all those who attended the meeting. No actions raised from the previous meeting.

Counter Terrorism/Local Crime Update

- The current threat level from international terrorism for the UK is assessed as SEVERE.
- The threat level for Northern Ireland-related terrorism is set separately for Northern Ireland and Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland). In Northern Ireland it is SEVERE and in Great Britain MODERATE. The threat from domestic extremism is MODERATE
- SEVERE means an attack is highly likely.
- Possible targets have shifted from iconic crowded sites to open spaces during lockdown, the reason being that due to social distancing people tend to be meeting in groups in parks, the areas that would normally be identified as a target areas are no longer crowded.
- PSO Shield App and the ACT App for mobiles is recommended.
- ACT Awareness via MS Team is available, this comprises 5 modules and is available for up to twenty participants. SCan (Hostile Reconnaissance - 1 hour duration) is also available.
- The Bloomsbury/Fitzrovia teams are working as usual. There has been a spike in active in rent weeks as businesses reopen however there has been a large reduction in personal thefts (bag snatches). The rough sleeper/begging community has reduced however there will be an increase once businesses reopen. DS noted that there had been an increase in Police presence in the area and thanked the policing teams.

The Fitzrovia Partnership Update

- TFP continue to keep members up to date on a weekly basis. The team have produced a document titled Reactivate, Recovery, Revive, available to members, which gives advice on the four stages of business recovery:
<https://fitzroviapartnership.com/wp-content/uploads/3-Rs.pdf>
- TFP are working with Camden and Westminster Councils to create safe public realm spaces in the area to encourage the restart the hospitality sector within the area, traffic slow is being assessed and the introduction of more hospitality businesses having tables and chairs in the public realm areas
- The contract for the provision of TFP Street Wardens within the area is under review. Any changes to the Street Warden structure will be available to business w/c 13th July 2020.

Business Update

- DC (Edwardian Group) advised that the Edwardian Group are not expected to reopen properties before September 2020, however all properties have skeleton teams operating from the property. There have been incidents involving low-level anti-social behaviour around the Grafton Hotel. The Grafton have recently given the local Police CCTV footage of incidents which have occurred on Tottenham court Road. ACT Training has been made available to all staff.
- DG (Facebook) advised that their properties have been in lockdown since March with a skeleton team operating from each premises. Currently only critical workers will be returning to the properties. Rathbone Square has reopened to the public.
- SW (Arup) advised that Arup are hoping to reopen building(s) w/c 13th July 2020 however this was primarily for staff who cannot work from home, they do not expect to reopen fully until full details of the COVID virus are known. All buildings have had a security presence during lockdown.
- KS (Derwent). 1 Stephen Street building open during lockdown however with a limited occupancy. Four retail units have now reopened. Anti-social behaviour problems have started to increase over the past two weeks however they have not reached pre-lockdown levels.
- KB (Wellcome Trust). Property remains closed with an expected reopening during September/October. They are holding a virtual workshop with occupants w/c 13.07.2020 to discuss resuming work. Camden Police and Camden Safer Streets Team have been supportive regarding rough sleepers. DG (Facebook) extended an invitation to Wellcome Trust to link in with their online training.

AOB

Date of next meeting

- Next meeting to be held in October 2020, however the group will be reconvene should there be significant changes to the current situation.