



## Central West BCU Partner, Business, and Stakeholder Update

### Coronavirus – Local Update 11

27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2020

#### Current overview (subject to change or variation):

- New policing powers were provided to police forces yesterday evening (Thursday, 26 March). The MPS position is to Engage, Explain and Encourage.
- The additional powers announced by the government will make it an offence for non-essential premises to remain open, and for people to gather in groups.
- We will adopt a graduated response, with enforcement action only taking place where other less intrusive options have failed or are likely to do so in the circumstances.
- Since the Government has introduced stringent conditions the MPS policing style to help enforce these conditions should be graduated as follows:
  - Enhanced visibility in our communities
  - Engagement and Encouragement to adhere to Government direction
  - Support to Local Authorities in enforcing premises closure
  - Issue of Fixed Penalty Notices where a power exists and is appropriate
  - Use of powers when necessary and as a last resort.
- We will continue to apply our common sense and experience, taking a sensible and graduated approach to the situation.
- We will continue to work around the clock to help keep Londoners safe and they can have confidence that we are planning to ensure we maintain critical services as the virus continues to spread.
- The Met, and London is extremely resilient. Our officers are, and will continue to be out on the streets and supporting communities.
- We are here to support people and to continue to perform our primary function -to protect lives and prevent crime wherever we can.
- The public can help us by familiarising themselves with the many different ways they can contact us in non-emergency situations, such as using our website. This will help free officers and call handlers to attend to those who need us the most.
- Message from BCU Commander Chief Superintendent Helen Harper with further information attached in this email.

#### Advice to stakeholders, organisations, and businesses in Central London

Please follow the advice issued by HM Government and Public Health England, found at [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://nhs.uk/coronavirus).

As of 1500hrs, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020 the advice is:

#### **STAY AT HOME TO STOP CORONAVIRUS SPREADING**

**EVERYONE** must stay at home to help stop the spread of coronavirus.

You should only leave the house for 1 of 4 reasons:

- shopping for basic necessities, for example food and medicine, which must be as infrequent as possible
- one form of exercise a day, for example a run, walk, or cycle – alone or with members of your household
- any medical need, or to provide care or to help a vulnerable person
- travelling to and from work, but only where this absolutely cannot be done from home

#### **Important**

These 4 reasons are exceptions – even when doing these activities, you should be minimising time spent outside of the home and ensuring you are 2 metres apart from anyone outside of your household.

If you need medical help for any reason, do not go to places like a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.

If you have symptoms of coronavirus (a high temperature or a new, continuous cough), use the [111 Coronavirus service](https://111.nhs.uk)

Information on HM Government's response can be found [on this link](#).

Guidance for guidance for employees, employers and businesses can be found [on this link](#).

Guidance on social distancing and protecting older and vulnerable people can be found [on this link](#).

Guidance on staying at home, including household isolation, can be found [on this link](#).



[@metpoliceuk](#) on the day for up to date police information across London

[@PHEuk](#) for latest information from Public Health England