



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

### Coronavirus – Anticipated gatherings on 16 May 2020

15<sup>TH</sup> M A Y 2020

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

- We are aware that groups intend hold gatherings in various parks across London on Saturday 16 May 2020 and have advertised online to that effect.
- The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) Regulations 2020 remain in place to control the spread of Coronavirus remain in place. Following the amendments on Wednesday 13 May 2020, a number of these restrictions have been altered slightly. Whilst the changes to the legislation impact on what is and is not permitted, our approach will remain entirely the same.
- The Regulations in question relate specifically to Restriction on Movement and Restriction on Gatherings. There is no exemption within the Regulations for protest activity. Therefore, the proposed activity may be in breach of the Regulations and the Metropolitan Police will fulfil its responsibilities to engage, explain and encourage, to disperse any groups and take enforcement action by issuing fines and making arrests if necessary.
- A dedicated command team has been put in place with a proportionate policing plan to enforce the Regulations. The focus of our policing role will need to remain focused on any larger gathering and groups where the risk to health would be at its greatest.
- We are also aware of a national plan by Extinction Rebellion to widen cycle lanes by using paint and stencils. We have no specific intelligence that any activity will take place in London, however we are aware and will be incorporating this in to our patrolling on Saturday.

#### 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 1300hrs, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2020 the advice is:

#### **STAY ALERT, CONTROL THE VIRUS, SAVE LIVES**

People and employers should stay safe in public spaces and workplaces by following “COVID-19 secure” guidelines [link](#). This should enable more people to go back to work, where they cannot work from home, and encourage more vulnerable children and the children of critical workers to go to school or childcare as already permitted.

You should stay alert when you leave home [link](#): washing your hands regularly, maintaining social distancing, and ensuring you do not gather in groups of more than two, except with members of your household or for other specific exceptions set out in law.

You must continue to stay home unless necessary to go out for specific reasons set out in law, but - in line with scientific advice - can take part in more outdoor activities.

It is still very important that people **STAY HOME**. Reasons of necessity include:

- for work, where you cannot work from home;
- going to shops that are permitted to be open – to get things like food and medicine, and to collect goods ordered online or on the phone;
- to exercise or spend time outdoors for recreation;
- any medical need, to donate blood, avoid injury or illness, escape risk of harm, or to provide care or to help a vulnerable person.

Full information can be found [on this link](#). For more about when you can leave your home, see: [on this link](#)

While everyone is being told to stay at home, it can be hard to know what to do **if you're unwell**.

- For help from a GP – use your GP surgery's website, use an online service or app, or call the surgery.
- For urgent medical help – use the NHS 111 online service, or call 111 if you're unable to get help online.
- For life-threatening emergencies – call 999 for an ambulance.

**If you're advised to go to hospital, it's important to go.**

If you have symptoms of coronavirus (a high temperature or a new, continuous cough), use the [111 Coronavirus service](#)

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 staying at home and away from others (social distancing) [on this link](#)

Guidance for households with possible coronavirus (COVID-19) infection, can be found [on this link](#).



[@metpoliceuk](#) for up to date police information across London.

[@PHEuk](#) and [@DHSCgovuk](#) for latest information from Public Health England and Department for Health and Social Care, respectively.