



**Message from BCU Commander, Helen Harper**

**Message Thursday, 14 May 2020**

Dear all,

I hope you are well.

I wanted to update you on our plans to continue suppressing violent crime, a reminder of our commitment to prioritise Domestic Abuse and details of support for vulnerable people.

**Plans to continue suppressing violent crime**

As the Government begins to ease some lockdown restrictions, the Met is continuing to proactively bear down on violence in all its forms. As part of this commitment, dedicated teams have been established to spearhead suppression activity at a local and neighbourhood level. More than 620 officers will make up new Violence Suppression Units (VSU).

Officers have also identified up to 1,000 of London's most prolific violent offenders and are personally targeting each one of them. The Met is offering every individual support and help to take this opportunity to turn their lives around.

Analysts have also identified up to 250 "micro hotspots", small areas disproportionately affected by street violence and robbery. Innovative tactics, including short bursts of police activity at random times, will be deployed to drive out offenders at these locations.

**Domestic Abuse**

We continue to urge victims of domestic abuse, and people who suspect that friends and family members might be suffering at the hands of an abusive partner while COVID-19 restrictions are in place, to please speak out.

Across London, the Met continues to prioritise and respond to domestic abuse calls. We continue to work closely with partners to ensure victims receive the support and service they need.

Please do widely share the helpline details below.

The 24/7 National Domestic Abuse helpline, which offers support to victims and people affected by domestic abuse, is free to call on 0808 2000 247.

The Respect Phonenumber provides confidential advice and support to help perpetrators stop being violent and abusive, and is free to call 0808 8024040

Men's Advice Line: 0808 801 0327 a confidential helpline for male victims of domestic violence and those supporting them [www.mensadvice.org.uk](http://www.mensadvice.org.uk)

Karma Nirvana: 0800 5999 247 Mon to Fri 9am–5pm supporting victims of honour based abuse and forced marriage [www.karmanirvana.org.uk](http://www.karmanirvana.org.uk)

Hour Glass: 0808 808 8141 challenging the abuse of older people in all its forms  
[www.wearehourglass.org](http://www.wearehourglass.org)

Galop LGBT+ Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0800 999 5428 [www.galop.org.uk](http://www.galop.org.uk)

Childline: 0800 1111 If you're a child or young person and domestic abuse is happening in your home or relationship.

For more information about support services that are available, go to  
<https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/daa/domestic-abuse/>

For government guidance for people in danger of domestic abuse during coronavirus, go to  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-and-domestic-abuse>

### **Support for Vulnerable people**

If you know someone who is extremely vulnerable to coronavirus because they are elderly or have underlying health issues, you or they can register them for the government's coronavirus support service. The service can help with delivering essential supplies and any extra care they might need.

Call [0800 028 8327](tel:08000288327) or register on the government website address  
<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus-extremely-vulnerable>

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,



Helen

BCU Commander Central West BCU and Royal Parks

