



September to December 2025—Q4

MPS
Edition 6

West End Town Centre Team Quarterly Newsletter

Welcome to the last edition of the West End newsletter for 2025, we have had so much great work take place in the West End that we have done a bumper edition for you showcasing some amazing arrests and good news stories!

Emergency Services Day 2025!

CI Milton represented the West End teams at Westminster Abbey upon invitation from the Mayor of Westminster for Emergency Services Day 2025, this is an opportunity for all of the blue lights services to come together and remember those lost and honour the great work that goes on everyday in the emergency services across the UK.



Partnership — Joint Patrols

We have conducted numerous joint patrols with Westminster Council and our partners from My Local Bobby, New West End Company, HOLBA, London Heritage Quarter and Saber Security.

During one of the operations we had:

- One community resolution was issued for possession of cannabis.
- Police conducted one stop and search for stolen goods, but fortunately, nothing was found.
- There were three satisfactory e-bike stops.
- Two individuals from the street population were given verbal warnings for begging.
- We successfully deterred two known shoplifters from committing offences.



West End Town Centre Team

Burglary - Mobile Phone Stores

In September, we had an incident whereby a group of 9 juveniles rushed a mobile phone store and trying to steal display phones by jumping on the counters and kicking them off on Oxford Street.

It was terrifying for the staff and other customers in the store.

The West End Town Centre Team alongside colleagues from our Emergency Response Team rushed to the store as did the security team from the New West End Company (NWECC) who did a brilliant job in the initial detention of the suspects prior to Police arrival.

All 9 suspects were arrested for various offences.

On the West End, we work closely with our partners and take all kinds of retail crime seriously, we will use all of legal powers to arrest criminals and get them in front of a court to face justice.



Live Facial Recognition

We continue with regular LFR—Live Facial Recognition operations in the West End, we have great success with an average of 8 arrests per deployment and across the met over 1000 people have been arrested since the technology was introduced!

During one of our last operations, a male was arrested for being wanted for a robbery, he was further arrested on the scene for possession of a knife and then assaulted arresting officer in custody by kicking him in chest, further arrest for Assault on emergency worker.



Theft Arrests

Officers were tasked with investigating what appeared to be a series of shopliftings in the West End by a group suspected to be Asylum Seekers. Officers managed to identify venues and were able to collect evidence promptly, with the investigation growing as more venues were identified. Officers progressed this and entered the Arrest phase. This was risk assessed as the suspects resided in a Migrant hotel which has seen numerous protests. Police effected the arrest at the location and managed to arrest two suspects.

The hotel room was searched and officers recovered a £1000 Moncler Jacket which was seen to be stolen from Liberty London. Other stolen items recovered. One suspect charged and remanded, awaiting sentencing. Other suspect on Bail pending further enquiries.

Commissioner and MP Visit

In September, The Commissioner and Minister for Policing, MP Sarah Jones visited the West End and patrolled with Officers from West End TCT B, these joint patrols allow for officers on the frontline to give their views and to discuss recent issues and good news stories straight to the top.



Officer Assaulted

In September, PC Mason O'Connor and PC Ravi Kerai from West End TTC B were on patrol in Adelphi Terrace following reports of ASB caused by the street population, PC O'Connor conducted a stop and search on a male who became violent as he wanted by the courts, he grabbed a hold of PC O'Connors arm and dug his nails in causing a deep scratch, the male was further arrested for assault on Police.

This incident highlights the dangers your Officers face every day when patrolling and policing the West End.



Honeymoon Saved!

Officers from West End Town Centre Team A were on a plain clothes pickpocketing operation, they arrest a female for pickpocketing who also had a passport and other documents belonging to someone else, the Officers found the victim and contacted them to return their goods, they received a thankful email from the victim:

Dear Sergeant Corcoran, We have got the passport back from Officer Pullen, and thanks so much again for getting the passport back to us! You have no idea how much this helped us. You and the officers saved our honeymoon. Best, Shanlin

Did somebody say...

Officers from the West End Town Centre Team and West End SNT's conducted a joint operation targeting illegal delivery drivers who cause obstruction to the pavement, anti social driving / parking and can become aggressive when challenged.

They stopped a delivery driver on Wardour Street in Soho who was acting suspiciously, in his delivery bag he had a knife and multiple snap bags of Class A and Class B drugs, he was duly arrested and has since been charged with multiple offences!



Burglary Arrest

Officers from West End Town Centre Team B took lead on an internal theft investigation from a large retailer in the West End, the investigation was through and required hours of CCTV investigating and statement taking, the officers conducted arrest enquires and arrested 2 males involved, over £20,000 in cash was found at the home address, both males were arrested and charged.



Retail Crime Training

In September, Officers from the West End Town Centre Teams had training run by Safer Business Network and Selcta DNA focusing on new technologies to combat retail crime and how DNA technology on products can assist in identifying offenders and linking them to other crimes.



This Is Oxford Street

In September, Officers from the West End Town Centre Teams support New West End Company (NWECC) with the launch of This Is Oxford Street and the pedestrianisation of the Marble Arch end of Oxford Street



Retail Crime Awards

In October, our partners from Safer Business Network attended the Retail knowledge Fraud Awards in Leicester, the team from Westminster were nominated for the policing collaboration award due to the excellent partnership approach and joint working with the Westminster Town Centre teams.

The Westminster SBN team received a highly commended award!

Congratulations to Rachelle, Taylor and the team!



Operation Baseline

For the winter months, we have been running Operation Baseline to strengthen visible policing across the West End and setting out plans for the launch of the new West End teams with an additional 80 officers planned for the teams.

At the launch, we also saw first-hand how Live Facial Recognition (LFR) technology can deliver tangible impact, resulting in 8 arrests and the LFR operation was attended by Deputy Assistant Commissioner Louise Puddefoot and Lucy Mitchell, the COO of New West End Company.

The future of the West End with the additional posts will be safer for all who visit, reside, work and commute here.



Commendations!

In October, Officers from the West End Town Centre Team attended the Westminster policing commendation award ceremony where multiple officers received awards for all of their actions in the last year, additionally Petros and Charlie from My Local Bobby also received awards for their actions at a stabbing in Leicester Square.

PC Marc Forrester received 2 awards this year, receiving a commendation for his actions at a serious assault in Soho and a second commendation for a lengthy foot pursuit and taser red dot challenge on a machete carrying male in Piccadilly Circus.

Great work and rightly commended for their actions!



International Police Ties

In November, Officers from the West End Town Centre teams hosted an Officer from the Gendarmerie in Switzerland, she was shown around the West End and volunteered to patrols on a night shift in Leicester Square! Some great idea sharing and problem solving ideas shared between the Officers.



Sgt Ratana Memorial

On September 25th , Officers from the West End teams attending the Police Memorial on The Mall to lay flowers and have a moment of reflection for the 5th anniversary of the murder of Sgt Matt Ratana in Croydon Custody Suite.

Lead by Ci James Johnson, at 11am, the Officers laid flowers and bowed their heads in silence for a minute.

Matt was known to many of us in the West End for his humour, warmth, professionalism and dedication to policing the communities in London and he is truly missed everyday by those who knew him.

Thanks to PS Russell Easterbrook for arranging and managing the event every year.



West End Town Centre Team



Partnership In Action

Really great partnership working following a violent assault on Oxford Street, the West End Town Centre Team set up the crime scene and dealt with the victim and suspects, it was great to see the professional security team from New West End Company stepping in to assist us with the cordons and crowd control

We really appreciate all of the great work you that NWEK in the Oxford Street, Regent Street and Bond Street district, we can't do it alone but together we are making the West End a much safer place for all who visit, reside, commute and work here



West End Town Centre Team



Inspector David Hunt

Town Centre Team A

PS Dom Corcoran
PS Ashley Squire

PC Mark Avery
PC Rhys Dance
PC Ben Farley
PC Archie Ganasooriar
PC Sophie Hull
PC Ben Pullen
PC John Redmond
PC Jake Shepherd
PC Jack Sibley
PC Albie Stapleton
PC Lewis Taylor
PC Nadine Von Seller
PC Matthew Wells

Town Centre Team B

PS Russell Easterbrook
APS Ollie Clenaghan
APS Oli Fox

PC Adam Balog
PC Nicola Eades
PC Marc Forrester
PC Phoebe Gibson
PC Mason O'Connor
PC Angus Reeves
PC Callum Scutt
PC Ben Talbot
PC Matt Taunton
PC Chris Warrilow

Town Centre Team C

PS Laura Matthews
APS Edward Lucas

PC Alex Akhtar
PC Ben Brasher
PC Jack Coggins
PC Jack Fardell
PC Nish Gokul
PC Jamal Ibrahim
PC Tibor Kovacs
PC Ashley Llewellyn
PC Evan Purchase
PC Freddie Smith
PC Rory Young

