



Castle Baynard

Looking out for Rough Sleepers in the Ward –

What can you do to help?



Rough sleeping is the most acute and visible form of homelessness, and an issue that remains a challenge for the City of London and in the ward. Those who find themselves homeless on the streets are intensely vulnerable to crime, drugs and alcohol and at high risk of physical and mental illness and premature death.

The City is part of a pan-London approach to getting rough sleepers off the streets and into accommodation, being able to access healthcare, and advice about substance misuse services. The Rough Sleeping Strategy Group was set up by the City to ensure the overall delivery and responsiveness of the various commitments around this issue, bringing together key internal and external partners including the City of London Police, adult Social Care, the City's outreach provider, local clergy and health partners. The current position as of Quarter 4 2017 saw 135 individuals recorded as sleeping rough in the City of which:

- 35 were new rough sleepers, a decrease of 2 on the previous quarter
- 40 were longer-term rough sleepers, known as living on the streets, 9 less than the last quarter
- 61 were intermittent rough sleepers, 4 less than in the previous quarter

What can you do? In the first instance, please contact the StreetLink

help line, which is the pan-London reporting mechanism. Be aware that begging doesn't mean that someone is rough sleeping and that giving money to someone sleeping rough can have dangerous consequences. If you wish to give money donate to registered charities such as St. Mungo's or StreetLink.

The information that you give to StreetLink goes to the City of London Corporation's outreach team which responds to all new information with immediate effect. It is important to remember that it can take a long time before the right assistance, measures and way forward have been agreed for each individual case, something that may take several visits by the Outreach Team.

Please feel free to contact us directly, should you have any queries – we have worked closely with both residents and businesses to provide information and assistance:
henrika.priest@cityoflondon.gov.uk,
or for more information, please go to
www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/roughsleepers.

Any issues concerning anti-social behaviour should be reported directly to the City of London Police: 0207 601 2606. Cleansing issues should be reported to the City of London Cleansing Team: 0207 606 3030, please ask for the Cleansing Team or email: SEOteam@cityoflondon.gov.uk.

Ward Mote

The annual Ward Mote was held at Shoe Lane Library on March 21st attended by residents and local businesses. Alderman Ian Luder re-appointed Catherine McGuinness as Deputy of the Ward and Louise Lake as Honorary Ward Clerk for the ensuing year. A briefing in relation to current policing issues affecting the City was given by Alderman Luder.

The Deputy of the Ward, Catherine McGuinness, introduced members

of the Ward team and outlined the Committee responsibilities that the Members undertake. Graham Packham and Henrika Priest then updated attendees on what the elected members and the City Corporation were doing on their behalf.

A full description of proceedings is available on the ward team web site at:
<http://castle-baynard.org.uk/ward-news/>

Super-Fast Broadband Switch-On in the Ward



On Tuesday May 15th Ward Deputy and Policy Chairman Catherine McGuinness completed the first connection of Openreach's Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) service in the City. FTTP connects fibre optic cables directly from a local exchange to a home or business premises, giving more reliable and also (crucially) high capacity fast broadband connections to internet-based services.

Catherine is pictured outside 21 Whitefriars Street with Clive Selley Openreach CEO prior to the switch-on. This building has recently been refurbished by the City Corporation for letting to business occupiers.

Connections to buildings are available at no cost to landlords but now the major obstacle to accelerating the roll out is identifying building owners to gain their agreement for the necessary work. This should prove to be appealing to owners as the improved connectivity increases a building's attractiveness for prospective tenants.

Given the poor availability of high speed broadband in the City, Catherine and ward members had previously raised concern at the rate the project was moving forward but are pleased to report that the City had benefited from an effective collaborative approach with Openreach. Catherine said "Highly innovative SMEs in the city need this sort of facility. They need to be able to connect, it's how we all do business these days."

FTTP is now available to City businesses and residential apartment blocks. Building owners and occupiers can get in touch to request installation at the website address below:
<https://communityfibre.openreach.co.uk/cityoflondon>

Aldgate Square is open for business (and pleasure)



By the time this ward newsletter is distributed, the new-look Aldgate Square will be open to the public, ahead of its formal public opening on 4 July.

This project has taken several years and involved major changes to the highway layout and public realm improvements. The main aim was regeneration of the

area for the benefit of business and the local community. And the area has had more greenery introduced alongside a new public space and improved lighting – making the area more inviting – a place for people to linger, socialise and enjoy. Safety for road users has been enhanced including new cycle routes and pedestrian access.

A significant new addition is the Portsoken Pavilion, a steel and glass building housing a social enterprise café operated by Kahaila and providing a new hub promoting events, leisure and play.

While Aldgate Square is the centerpiece of this transformational scheme (sitting between Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School and St Botolph without Aldgate Church), it has been joined by an

eastern public space at the junction of Middlesex Street and St Botolph Street.

Changes to the traffic layout were completed early in the project timeline. The finished area provides new pedestrian crossing points and allows easier navigation of bus services.

The project has introduced two-way traffic on Aldgate High Street, St Botolph Street, a section of Middlesex Street and Minories. It has already had a significant impact by helping to bring air pollution at the nearby Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School below the legal annual limit for the first time since monitoring began in 2003.
cityoflondon.gov.uk/aldgatearea

Stop press: An Aldgate Square Festival will be held on 15-17 June celebrating all the area has to offer including music, activities, talks, performances and a children's area.

It's free to enter and open to all.
cityoflondon.gov.uk/aldgatesquarefestival



City small businesses: do you qualify for rate relief?

The City Corporation is encouraging small businesses to check if they are missing out on business rate tax relief.

If you're a City business whose sole or main property has a rateable value of £12,000-£15,000 you could be eligible to get a reduction in your business rates of up to 100%. Properties with a rateable value of £12,000 or less get a 100% reduction in their rates bill.

If you meet the eligibility criteria and aren't currently in receipt of rate relief, please contact the City Corporation business rates section.

Find out if your business qualifies and apply via:
cityoflondon.gov.uk/raterelief



General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Data Protection legislation in the UK has changed, with the introduction of the GDPR on 25 May 2018 and a new Data Protection Act. This new legislation is designed to enhance the rights of individuals regarding the use of their personal data by bringing data protection compliance into the modern digital age.

It also introduces new, rigorous, requirements for all organisations, in relation to the reasons for processing personal data, and the manner in which it is processed.

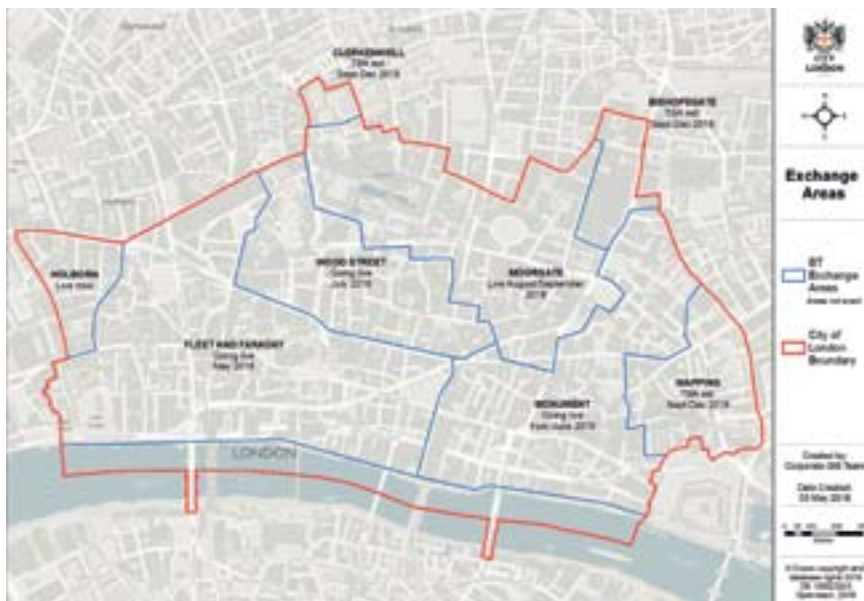
The City Corporation has been busy over the last few months, reviewing and updating its data protection policies and procedures, and taking all necessary steps to ensure it fully complies with the new legal requirements for processing the personal data of its customers, clients and staff (data subjects).

Updated information, including our new data protection policy and full privacy notice, is available at:

www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/dataprotection
www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/privacy
or by emailing information.officer@cityoflondon.gov.uk



High fibre for the City



Until recently broadband speeds in the City have been amongst the slowest in the UK, affecting small business tenants who cannot afford dedicated fibre optic leased lines.

However Openreach is now seeking to roll out "Fibre To The Premises" to every building in the Square Mile **at no cost to the landlord**, offering faster speeds of up to 1 gigabit per second at affordable prices for businesses and residents.

Openreach will use existing ducting to access buildings, avoiding street works to install the new fibre infrastructure into basements. This work will require landlord consent in the form of wayleave and Openreach will need to undertake a quick building survey.

Openreach will undertake a phased roll out across the City shown on the map.

Residents and business tenants interested should visit
cityoflondon.gov.uk/fibrebroadband
or contact cpat@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Car park spaces at Smithfield Rotunda

Did you know? You can hire car parking spaces during weekdays and weekends at a reasonable cost.

Smithfield Rotunda, located in West Smithfield is manned 24 hours per day, with good lighting and within easy walking distance for most of the recipients of this newsletter.

For more information on hiring and pricing details, please contact the Smithfield.Market@cityoflondon.gov.uk





Castle Baynard

Who We Are



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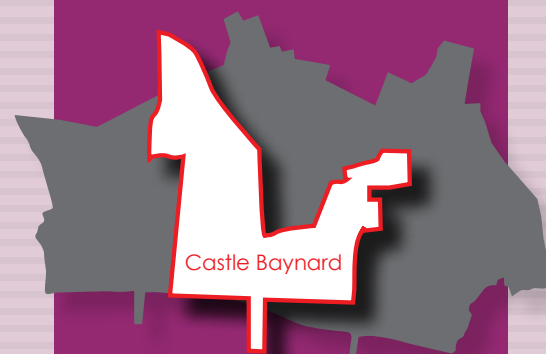
Check out our website for other news of the ward
www.castle-baynard.org.uk

CONTACT US

To write to any of your Members, to let us know if you wish to receive this newsletter by email in future, or to inform us if you wish to be taken off the distribution list write c/o

Member Services
City of London
Guildhall
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or email
col-eb-fc@cityoflondon.gov.uk



We are always happy to talk to workers and residents within the Ward about any issues you may wish to raise. Please contact us if you would like to arrange a meeting.

COMMUNICATING WITH THOSE WHO LIVE AND WORK IN THE CITY OF LONDON

Dragon Café in the City @ Shoe Lane Library – Release the Pressure!

The City of London's "Release the Pressure" campaign was launched in the summer of 2017, designed to help City workers and residents open up about mental health challenges and to release the pressure that builds as a result of work and life stresses. Dragon Café in the City builds on this initiative and is located in the Shoe Lane Library, giving people a physical space to unwind and release the pressure welcoming anyone living or working in the Square Mile who is feeling the pressures of work or life.



Dragon Café in the City runs fortnightly on Thursdays at Shoe Lane Library between noon and 8:30pm, offering a range of free activities and events to promote and support mental wellbeing and provides an open, quiet and calm environment, to reflect or to practice mindfulness on your own – a space to look after your own wellbeing – mind, body and soul.

A sample of activities available include; short massage and complementary therapy sessions, creative workshops and talks on a wide variety of subjects, Tai Chi, Yoga and movement workshops, mindfulness. The next sessions are on June 14th and 18th and July 12th and 26th.

For programme details and information on how to enrol see
<https://dragoncafeinthecity.com/programmes/>

Gas Leaks in Tudor Street

Residents and businesses will be aware of repeated gas main repairs in the City and in particular Tudor Street which have necessitated the street's closure for extended periods.

Typically, many of the pipes are made of metal and some were laid nearly a century ago – these are replaced with polyethylene pipes which do not corrode and can sustain higher pressures. Whenever these works occur, there is a significant volume of reinstatement to be completed including duct repairs, rebuilding of boxes and the curing of low level concrete. Unfortunately, these reinstatements take time to complete because of the complexities of these issues and the presence of other utility pipes which are adjacent.



The photograph above highlights the scale of the latest excavation. Given the age of the gas mains and the fact that there have been several serious gas leaks in Tudor Street recently, Cadent have agreed to bring forward their mains replacement programme on the street to minimise the risk of emergency works in the future.