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## NEW PARTNERSHIP ON ROUGH SLEEPING

The City of London Corporation along with St Mungos is supporting a new service called Streetlink. It provides a national service to ensure rough sleepers are quickly referred to local services. By contacting Streetlink you can help to connect the person to services that are available. Streetlink offers the public a means to act when they see someone sleeping rough, providing the first step to providing support and hopefully getting them into accommodation. The service is funded by the Government as part of its commitment to end rough sleeping. It is run in partnership with St Mungos.

If you see a rough sleeper, there is no need to approach them, or ask them about their situation. Please contact Streetlink on 0300 500 0914 or via [www.streetlink.org.uk](http://www.streetlink.org.uk) giving the location; for example the road name and building number, and their sleeping bag or hair colour, if easily visible. If a person needs urgent medical assistance, always call 999.

Please note that it is inadvisable to give money to anyone sleeping rough - instead donate to registered charities such as St. Mungo's: [www.mungos.org](http://www.mungos.org) and StreetLink: [www.homeless.org.uk](http://www.homeless.org.uk).

## TRAFFIC CONGESTION

The area in the ward around Ludgate Circus and Unilever House near Blackfriars is one of the most highly congested and polluted areas in London.

Since 2014 traffic congestion in London has worsened despite the volume of traffic declining. Work on the new Thames Tideway Tunnel at Blackfriars which will commence shortly is likely to make matters worse locally. Traffic congestion and the resultant air pollution are serious City and London wide issues which need urgent remedial action.

In the City we have several possible courses of action to address these problems both locally and London wide, and your ward members would welcome your views on which of these we should pursue.

We have posted an on-line survey on our team web site. This should take less than 5 minutes to complete and we would value your input as this will help ensure that we are reflecting your priorities when we work with our officers to make improvements. We will post the summarised results of the survey on our website in February. The survey can be found at the following location:

<http://castle-baynard.org.uk/traffic-congestion-in-the-city-survey/>

## BANK JUNCTION

Residents will be aware that taxi drivers have been demonstrating at Bank junction by parking in the junction and bringing traffic in the area to a standstill. This action is in protest over the City's recently agreed experimental plans to restrict access to the junction to buses and cycles (excluding taxis), between 7am to 7pm Monday to Friday starting in April for a period lasting up to 18 months.

The scheme (which is supported by your members) has an overriding objective of achieving a significant (50-60%) reduction in casualties in what is a notorious black spot where there have been 2 cyclist fatalities at the junction in recent years. Also as a result of the change journey times for buses are expected to be reduced on a number of the routes in the area.

Regrettably the inclusion of black taxis in the scheme would mean a significant loss of the expected benefits to bus passengers, by increasing journey times and a reduction in the scheme's safety benefits. To mitigate the impact on taxis, new taxi ranks and an extension of existing taxi ranks will be provided. There will also be no impact for those who travel with accessibility issues. Vehicles will still be able to drop off people near the junction, just as they can do at the moment with the existing road barriers.



Check out our website for other news of the ward and further details on newsletter topics!

[www.castle-baynard.org.uk](http://www.castle-baynard.org.uk)

Your voice on  
Common Council:



Ian Luder



Chris Boden



Nigel Challis



Emma Edhem



Michael Hudson



Catherine McGuinness



Graham Packham



Henrika Priest



Jeremy Simons

Find our details on:

[www.castle-baynard.org.uk](http://www.castle-baynard.org.uk)

[www.cityoflondon.gov.uk](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk)

## IMPROVING THE CITY'S AIR QUALITY

The Mayor of London has recently published proposals to improve Air Quality. He has recently consulted on a proposed Emissions Surcharge scheme to be introduced prior to the introduction of an ultra-low emission zone (ULEZ) in central London. He would like to introduce the ULEZ in 2019, a year earlier than originally planned. The recent consultation focusses on whether to introduce a £10 Emissions Surcharge in addition to the current Congestion Charge.

The surcharge would apply to the worst polluting vehicles (vehicles that do not meet Euro 4/IV standards) from October 2017. The City's response, supported by your ward members, agrees with the Mayor's proposals, but also suggests that taxis and private hire vehicles (PHVs) should be included in the scheme. We wish to see measures taken as soon as possible that will meaningfully reduce levels of NOx and particulates in the City, and hence reduce the adverse impact of pollution on residents' and workers' health.

Given the serious pollution caused by diesel taxis, we support the City's wish to see incentives introduced to promote zero emission taxis, with the aim of achieving an all zero emission fleet by 2025. Jeremy, as Deputy Chairman of the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee, worked with the City's officers to ensure the City's response also included calls for restrictions on diesel private hire vehicles, currently growing at a rapid rate.

The City's response to the Mayor now calls for a cap the total number of PHV licenses, with no further diesel PHV licenses issued and the phasing out of all diesel PHV licenses from 2020.

## SHOE LANE QUARTER HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS

The City of London Corporation intends to enhance a significant area of the Shoe Lane Quarter in the vicinity of key new developments at 1 New Street Square and the London Development.

The first phase of the project, around the 1 New Street Square development, has now been implemented.

The highway works were completed in September 2016 and delivered new York stone paving around the building and a raised carriageway on Little New Street in granite setts.



Proposal for Stone Cutter Street

Phase 2 of the project involves a wide range of measures on the highway around the London Development that enhances the public realm on Stonecutter Street, Shoe Lane and Plumtree Court to provide an improved environment for the high number of workers, residents and visitors expected in the area, by:

- enhancing provision for pedestrians by providing widened footways and raised carriageways
- enabling access to the new building for people and vehicles
- providing a secure line of building protection measures on the footway

The City is currently undertaking an appraisal of the possible design options before it begins the detailed design stage. As part of the detailed design process, consultation will be undertaken with local residents, businesses and the wider public on the measures proposed. Elected members will keep this under close review.

See our website: [www.castle-baynard.org.uk](http://www.castle-baynard.org.uk) for further information.