

Committee(s):	Date(s):
Markets	20 November 2013
Subject: Christmas 2013 – Smithfield Market Trading Hours and Traffic Management Plan	Public
Report of: Superintendent - Smithfield Market	For Decision
<u>Summary</u>	
This report is to seek members' approval to the proposed Christmas trading and traffic arrangements for Smithfield Market.	
Recommendations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. That the Markets trading hours are varied as requested under paragraph 1 b. The Committee approve the proposed traffic plan shown as Appendix A to this report 	

Main Report

Background

Christmas Trading Hours

1. An application has been received from the Smithfield Market Tenants' Association (SMTA) to vary the trading times over this period and details of these are set out below:

- Saturday 14 December 2013 - open 3 am to 10 am
- Sunday 15 December 2013 - open 3 am to 10 am
- Saturday 21 December 2013 - open 3 am to 10 am
- Sunday 22 December 2013 - open 3 am to 10 am
- Wednesday 25 December 2013 - Market closed
- Thursday 26 December 2013 - Market closed
- Wednesday 1 January 2014 - Market closed

Traffic flow around the Market

2. During Christmas week last year the City of London Police complement was one sergeant, five constables and two motor cycle officers. This latter provision was used for the first time and was very effective in preventing vehicles being improperly parked.
3. Even with this level of police presence there was significant build-up of traffic during Christmas week last year with, at peak times, congestion and some grid locking around the Market.

Current Position

4. A meeting was held on Tuesday 17 September 2013 and it was agreed by all parties that the 2012 Christmas Traffic Campaign had been a success in no small part due to the level of City Police presence keeping traffic flowing around the Market. It was also agreed that similar arrangements to last year should be put in place for 2013, and in particular the City of London Police complement. However, we have now been informed that, due to the recent reduction in staff following the Comprehensive Spending Review, and the number of other events occurring over the Christmas period, it will not be possible for the City of London Police to provide the full complement of resources requested by the Market. The complement which has been designated for this Christmas is one sergeant, three constables and cycle officers (wherever possible). Accordingly a revised Operational Plan for Christmas 2013 is attached as Appendix A to this report.

Conclusion

5. It is, therefore, recommended that the Committee approve the proposed traffic plan shown as Appendix A to this report and that the Markets trading hours are varied as requested under paragraph 1 above.

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OPERATIONAL PLAN

Smithfield Market Christmas Campaign 2013

Intention

1. The aim of this plan is:
 - To keep traffic moving
 - Minimise the levels of vehicle congestion
 - Prosecute offenders as appropriate
 - Prevent crime
 - Provide community reassurance

Method

2. A robust policing policy will be carried out in the vicinity of the following junctions:
 - Charterhouse Street / East Poultry Avenue
 - Charterhouse Street / St Johns Street
 - Charterhouse Street / Lindsey Street
 - Lindsey Street / Long Lane
 - West Smithfield / East Poultry Avenue
3. One Sergeant, three Constables and cycle officers (wherever possible) from the City Police will be engaged in directing and regulating traffic and preventing unauthorised obstructions. Officers will work in partnership with the Market Constabulary, together with Civil Enforcement Officers from the City of London and the London Borough of Islington.
4. The two teams of Civil Enforcement Officers will provide regular patrols of their respective parking areas around the Market. They will enforce parking regulations and deter unauthorised obstructions at the direction of the City Police.

Resources

5. a) City of London Police – 1 Sergeant, 3 constables and cycle officers (wherever possible), together with Police response as and when required.
b) London Central Markets Constabulary – 1 sergeant and 5 constables (available to assist as and when required).

- c) City of London Traffic Management Section – 3 Civil Enforcement Officers on a roving patrol for the three nights from Thursday 19/Friday 20, Sunday 22/ Monday 23 and Monday 23/Tuesday 24 December.
- d) London Borough of Islington Parking Services – still awaiting definitive plan.

Timetable

6. Dates of operation:

- Tuesday 17/Wednesday 18
- Wednesday 18/Thursday 19
- Thursday 19/ Friday 20
- Sunday 22/ Monday 23
- Monday 23/ Tuesday 24

Briefing each night at Snow Hill Police Station at 2245 hours with a representative from each of the partner organisations present.

The operation to commence at 2300 through to 0700 or as directed by the City of London Police Officer in charge.

7. **Additional Provisions**

- i) The Superintendent of London Central Markets will have a leaflet prepared and distributed informing customers and drivers (particularly of private vehicles) of the traffic and parking arrangements over the Christmas period. Subject to approval of the Markets Committee this will also include details of any discounted parking rates, as approved by the Markets Committee in a separate report for this meeting, and will include a map of the car park location. The leaflet will be distributed from Monday 2 December 2013 by the Market Constabulary as directed by the Superintendent.
- ii) The City of London Corporation will site 15 portable notices/stands at strategic junctions around the Market from Monday 2 December 2013 informing motorists of possible delays in the market area.
- iii) 100 “no parking” cones will be placed out each night of the operation under paragraph 6 above at strategic locations and junctions in order to deter illegal parking.
- iv) Superintendent of London Central Markets to continue to liaise with representatives of the Smithfield Market Tenants’ Association regarding the proposed implementation of the operational plan.
- v) Corporate Communications will be asked to distribute appropriate press release for inclusion in various traffic reports and other media.