

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
Markets	29 January 2014
<b>Subject:</b> Christmas 2013 – Smithfield Market Traffic Management Plan update	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Superintendent – Smithfield Market	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
<p>This report is to update Members on the outcome of the 2013 Christmas Traffic campaign and confirm an impending de-brief meeting to be held of all interested parties on 28 January 2014 to discuss all aspects of the campaign and to identify possible improvements for future campaigns.</p>	
<b>Recommendation(s)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is recommended that Members note the content of this report</li> </ul>	

## Main Report

### Background

1. At your meeting on 20 November 2013 the Committee approved a report incorporating a Traffic Management Plan for the impending Christmas period at Smithfield Market, where the Operational Plan agreed is attached as Appendix A to this report. Within paragraphs 2 and 3 of the previous report it was stated that during Christmas week 2012 the City of London Police complement was one sergeant, five constables and two motor cycle officers. It was mentioned that this latter provision had been used for the first time and had been very effective in preventing vehicles being improperly parked. It was also mentioned that even with this level of police presence there was a significant build-up of traffic during Christmas week 2012 with, at peak times, congestion and some grid locking around the Market.
2. Within paragraph 4 of the previous report it was mentioned that at a meeting of all interested parties held on Tuesday 17 September 2013 it was agreed that the 2012 Christmas Traffic Campaign had been a success in no small part due to the level of City Police presence keeping traffic moving 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, due to the recent reduction in staff following the Comprehensive Spending Review, and the number of other events occurring over the Christmas period, it was not

possible for the City of London Police to provide the full complement of resources requested by the Market. The complement which had been designated for Christmas 2013 was one sergeant and three constables (cycle officers wherever possible). This formed the basis of the Operational Plan for Christmas 2013 which is attached as Appendix A to this report. Subsequent to the report there was the addition of one motor cycle officer added to the City Police complement for each of the operational nights in question.

3. During the four nights of the Christmas Traffic campaign there were periods of high traffic flows, resulting in congestion and even grid locking particularly on the nights of Thursday 19/Friday 20 and Sunday 22/ Monday 23 December 2013. At times on these nights the level of congestion caused City Police officers to implement road closures and direct vehicles away from the Market.

### **Current Position**

4. A de-brief meeting has been set up for Tuesday 28 January 2014 with representatives from all parties and agencies concerned in the 2013 Christmas Traffic campaign (including the Chairman of the Markets Committee) to discuss all aspects of the campaign and in particular to identify lessons to be learnt, and required improvements in future campaigns.

### **Proposals**

5. The Superintendent will provide a verbal update at your Committee meeting of the contents of the de-brief meeting being held the previous day, with a subsequent full report to be presented to your Committee on Wednesday 5 March 2014.

### **Appendices**

- Appendix A – Smithfield Market Christmas Campaign 2013 – Operational Plan

### **Background Papers:**

Markets Committee Report 20 November 2013 Agenda Item 8 Christmas 2013 – Smithfield Market Trading Hours and Traffic Management Plan

### **Contact**

Robert Wilson  
Superintendent, Smithfield Market

T: 020 7332 3747

E: [Robert.wilson@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:Robert.wilson@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

**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.