

Cllr Ian Adams  
Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Licensing  
Westminster City Hall  
64 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1E 6QP

Dear Cllr Adams,

20 June 2018

**Urgent Request for Regulation of Street Performance in 2018**

We are writing further to the report submitted to the City Management and Public Protection Policy and Scrutiny Committee in which you state you will be 'exploring ways' to balance the needs of residents and businesses where, 'street entertainment can prove a nuisance'. We wholeheartedly welcome that commitment.

Our organisations represent over 1,000 businesses and property owners across the West End. We are proud of the West End's reputation for being a vibrant and lively hub of art, entertainment and culture and we would like to keep it that way. To do this, we must attract the best buskers to our streets and remove inordinately high noise levels and pavement obstruction.

For many years, our businesses, customers, and residents have complained that street performance activity can be extremely disruptive. Previous voluntary schemes have proven to be well-intentioned, but, woefully ineffective at managing the space and curbing the worst noise excesses.

Given the legislative framework, any move to control or regulate street performing requires you as the local authority to bring forward proposals which we would hope to see imminently. Considering the council's previous commitments to tackle this issue, we are calling for a scheme to be in place by the end of 2018.

Within any scheme, we would like to see licenses for individual acts, designated performance areas and times, and rules of conduct, at minimum within and around Leicester Square, Piccadilly, Piccadilly Circus, Bond Street, Oxford Street and Regent Street.

We will fully support you in any way we can to tackle noise pollution, street obstruction and blatant flouting of good practice by some street performers. We would also like to protect and promote the outstanding buskers that we already have in our area. It is our considered view and experience that the only way to achieve this is through regulation. We are keen to work with you to achieve the optimum result.

Yours sincerely,



**Ros Morgan**  
Chief Executive,  
Heart of London Business Alliance



**Jace Tyrrell**  
Chief Executive Officer  
New West End Company

Sackville House, 40 Piccadilly, W1J 0DR  
T. 020 7734 4507  
E. [info@heartoflondonbid.co.uk](mailto:info@heartoflondonbid.co.uk)  
Registered in England No: 04293930

Heddon House, 49-151 Regent Street, London W1B 4JD  
T. 0207 462 1100  
E. [info@newwestend.com](mailto:info@newwestend.com)  
Registered in England No: 04039488

West End business community support, including the undersigned:



**BAFTA**  
Julian Shaw

**Capital Arches Group**  
Claude Abi-Gerges

**Edwardian Group**  
Ray Newton

**Fortnum & Mason**  
Ewan Venters

**Gascoyne Estates**  
Adam Wiles

**Great Portland Estates**  
Rob Russell-Smith

**Grosvenor Casinos**  
Delaney Gordon

**LandSec**  
Christine Clarke

**McAleer & Rushe**  
Angus Monteith

**Odeon Cinemas**  
Tessa Street

**Old Park Lane Management**  
Tim Sketchley

**Soho Estates**  
John James

**Standard Life Aberdeen**  
David Stewart

**The Crown Estate**  
Oliver Smith

**The Hippodrome Casino**  
Simon Thomas

**The Ritz (Ellerman Hotels)**  
Ciaran Fahy

**The Ritz Club**  
Andrew Love

**The Royal Academy of Arts**  
Will Dallimore