

Monitoring report: 23 November 2018

Overview

- Margot Bright, the Conservative Party candidate, won the Lancaster Gate ward by-election with 913 votes.
- More than 1,000 young people had the chance to brush up their business skills as part of Westminster Enterprise Week.
- Plans to ensure Westminster's street markets thrive are due to be considered next week.
- Cllr Andrew Smith, Cabinet Member for Housing, and Cllr Murad Gassanly, Deputy Cabinet Member for Housing, visited Hopkinson House to discuss the work being done on rebuilding the lives of former rough sleepers.
- WCC's drive to prevent large new property developments was intensified as it announced a new plan for Soho.

Monitoring

Overview	Detail	Action
Lancaster Gate ward by-election results (22 November)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Margot Bright, the Conservative Party candidate, won the Lancaster Gate ward by-election with 913 votes. • Despite the fact that Labour's Piddock came within almost 300 votes of winning a seat in the May elections this year, Labour's hopes of further narrowing the Conservative majority on the Council were diminished as Piddock fell short of victory with 684 votes. • Despite Bright's position as a Brexit supporter in a strongly pro-remain ward, the gap in votes between the Conservatives and Labour in Lancaster Gate remained relatively stable. • Although the Liberal Democrat's adopt a pro-remain stance, their candidate Sally Gray was only able to win 275 votes. 	None.
More than 1,000 young people had the chance to brush up their business skills as part of Westminster Enterprise Week. (22 November WCC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With 23 events hosted last week, and nine Westminster schools and colleges participating, the city's fourth annual Enterprise Week provided the next generation of entrepreneurs – for anyone aged 16 to 24 - with a rare opportunity to pitch ideas to inspiring business leaders. • Cllr David Harvey, the council's Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Education and Community, said "the Westminster Enterprise Week always provides a great 	None.

	<p>opportunity to nurture their ambitions, and proved to be highly successful as part of our ongoing commitment to entrepreneurship in the city.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Around 9 out of 10 young people who attended an event (88%) felt they had a better understanding of business and enterprise thanks to the scheme, showing its worth to young people as they begin their careers. 	
<p>Plans to ensure Westminster’s street markets thrive are due to be considered next week. (20 November, WCC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plans are set to be considered following a 12-week consultation programme with traders, residents, businesses and shoppers. • The consultation sought feedback on how to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bring more diversity to Westminster’s markets ○ Attract more visitors ○ Implement innovative technology ○ Increase sustainability • As part of the consultation, WCC revealed plans to invest more into the city’s market including four options designed to encourage a debate on how changes could be structured. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Option 1 – a standard charge of £22 per day across all markets. ○ Option 2 – a charge of £20 per day for non-food and fresh produce traders, and a charge of £25 per day for hot food traders. ○ Option 3 – an area-based charge: £21 per day for Church Street and Maida Hill, £22 per day for Strutton Ground and Tachbrook Street, £24 per day for Berwick Street and Rupert Street. ○ Option 4 – a staggered increase across all markets: a fee of £16 per day Monday to Thursday and £22 Friday to Saturday in year one, then a charge of £22 per day in year two across all days. • Of those traders who responded to the consultation, 55% favoured option 4. 	<p>None.</p>
<p>Cllr Andrew Smith, Cabinet Member for Housing, and Cllr Murad Gassanly, Deputy Cabinet Member for Housing, visited Hopkinson House to discuss the work being done on rebuilding the lives of former rough sleepers. (19 November, Twitter)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The councillors met with the site manager to discuss the work Hopkinson House is doing to help former rough sleepers rebuild their lives. • Hopkinson House is a 36-bed rehabilitative site for rough sleepers. • The site seeks to provide stability and reduce the likelihood of substance abuse. • Therapy also takes place on a weekly basis, alongside regular life skill classes which aims to reintegrate former rough sleepers back into the community. 	<p>None.</p>

<p>WCC’s drive to prevent large new property developments was intensified as it announced a new plan for Soho. (17 November, Evening Standard)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WCC has proposed a new planning policy that would restrict new-build hotels to 40 bedrooms. • It would also look to prevent companies from bulldozing through adjoining shops to create a larger store. • The proposal intends to stop the area becoming overwhelmed with chain stores, with the WCC reiterating their commitment to independent businesses. • Cllr Richard Beddoe, Cabinet Member for Planning, said “by using our planning powers to create an environment where the creative industries can thrive, we’ll create more space for modern independent retailers or new start-ups, making sure Soho remains special.” 	<p>None.</p>
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Consultations

Body	Consultation	Deadline	Action
GLA	How can we improve taxi and private hire services?	30 November 2018	To be agreed
WCC	Oxford Street District strategy	16 December 2018	To be agreed
WCC	Revision to Westminster's City Plan	21 December 2018	To be agreed
MHCLG	Planning Reform: supporting the high street and increasing the delivery of new homes	14 January 2019	To be agreed
GLA	Analysing the Mayor's Healthy Streets initiative	31 January 2019	To be agreed

Events forward planner

Date	Organisation	Event	Tickets
28 November 2018	Westminster Property Association (WPA)	<u>WPA City Plan presentation and reception with Cllr Richard Beddoe</u> Following the imminent launch of the new WCC City Plan, Cllr Richard Beddoe will speak at an evening WPA reception, which will include a presentation on the City Plan. Venue and timings tbc.	Tbc
29 November 2018	Cities of London & Westminster Conservatives (CLWCA)	<u>Gala Dinner with Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP</u> CLWCA are holding their annual Gala Dinner with former Mayor of London and Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson as the special guest. This comes as Shaun Bailey launches his campaign for the 2020 London Mayoral election, and will be an opportunity to hear from London's only Conservative Mayor to date. The location will be shared with attendees 48 hours beforehand. There will be a drinks reception from 7pm, with a three course dinner at 8pm.	Standard tickets £130 per person. Premium & Premium Plus tickets also available
4 December 2018	Cities of London & Westminster Conservatives (CLWCA)	<u>Swing into Christmas with Sir Desmond Swayne MP</u> Mayfair, Soho and West End Conservatives are hosting a Christmas party with special guest, the Rt Hon Sir Desmond Swayne. It will be held at 'Directors Lounge' Club Room (Doric Way, NW1) 7.30pm until late.	£30 per person

6 December 2018	Cities of London & Westminster Conservatives (CLWCA)	Drinks Reception with London Vice Chairman Paul Scully MP The Bryanston & Dorset Square Committee is holding a drinks reception with Paul Scully MP. Details to follow.	£30 per person, £35 for non-members
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