

TeamLondonBridge

MPS & BTP Report

January 2025



Nick Morant - Directory of Security & Community Safety

The year has started on a very positive note with several good arrests as we continue to build on the impressive crime reduction figures seen in December. PC Tom has made several excellent arrests while PC Lee continues to lead proactive police operations in London Bridge Station. We also saw our first awards event, recognising exceptional work in safety and security. Our dedicated officers, supported by valuable collaborations with private security services, have continued to create a safer environment in the London Bridge BID area. This positive trend is a testament to the dedication and hard work of our officers, who are committed to protecting the community and making London Bridge a safer place for all.

Arrest of a Phone Snatcher on Tooley Street:

On January 12th, PC Mannings witnessed a suspect fleeing the scene of a recent phone snatching incident. He and his colleagues from the Metropolitan Police immediately gave chase in their vehicle, before PC Mannings exited to continue the pursuit on foot. PC Mannings successfully tackled the suspect and made an arrest before his colleagues arrived. This swift action was followed by exemplary collaboration with private security services, who provided crucial CCTV footage that aided in securing charges against the suspect. Most importantly, the victim, who had left the scene before speaking with officers, was located and reunited with his stolen phone, wallet, and bank cards. PC Mannings personally drove to Oxford to deliver the recovered items, demonstrating a commitment to serving the community and restoring trust in the police. This incident highlights the positive impact of swift police action, collaborative efforts, and a dedicated officer's willingness to go the extra mile. The successful arrest and restitution of stolen property, coupled with the victim's gratitude, represent a significant win for both the police and Team London Bridge.

Arrest of a prolific offender in Wasabi:

After a recent string of thefts targeting a popular restaurant on Tooley Street, PC Mannings was patrolling the area when he spotted five individuals wearing balaclavas entering the restaurant. They proceeded to steal items and intimidate the female staff members working there. PC Mannings immediately gave chase, tackling the main suspect to the ground and making an arrest. The stolen goods were recovered and returned to the restaurant. The staff were particularly grateful as they continually felt harassed and threatened by groups of youths entering the store, dressed all in black, hooded and wearing balaclavas. The ongoing theft issues were previously unreported but had totalled over £2000 in losses. The suspect was taken into custody and all relevant evidence gathered from the scene including witness statements and CCTV. The quality of this evidence mean a conviction is likely. In addition, the suspect has been issued with bail conditions requiring him to present proof of purchase for any items he may be carrying if stopped by police in the future.

Bag Theft from a University Student:

PC Mannings responded to the theft from a student who attends university in London Bridge. The bag theft had only just occurred and inside there was a laptop and an iPad. PC Mannings and his Metropolitan Police Service colleagues picked the victim up and then drove on blue lights and sirens towards North London whilst tracking the iPad before it stopped emitting a signal. PC Mannings continued to wait with the victim in case the iPad emitted a signal again before conducting a full investigation by gathering statements, collecting CCTV and building a full report. Suspect images have been circulated and stored for a potential arrest in the future. PC Mannings also emailed the student's tutor to ensure a deadline for their dissertation was extended. Written thanks was received stating *"Toms understanding and support were truly appreciated. I sincerely want to extend my gratitude to Tom and his team for their efforts and professionalism. Their kindness and dedication made a significant difference"*

A Proactive Approach: Visiting a Prolific Offender in Wandsworth Prison

PC Lee Noble recently undertook a proactive visit to Wandsworth prison with lead officer PC Parkes from the Met. Police London Bridge Safer Neighbourhood Team. The target: a prolific offender who had been repeatedly targeting local retailers.

The goal of the visit was to gain a deeper understanding of the offender's motivations. PC Noble sought answers to key questions: Why did this individual repeatedly return to the area? What specific targets did he seek out? What factors might deter him from future offending? The visit also provided an opportunity to gain insight into the offender's health issues, which had been a contributing factor to his criminal activity. This information helped to develop further work aimed at addressing his underlying health concerns and preventing future offending. This involves collaboration with healthcare professionals, drug and alcohol support workers and Southwark Council.

The meeting was deemed a resounding success. Security teams and retailers have been briefed to report any sightings. Since the offender's release, there have been no reported instances of further criminal activity. We hope this continues and officers will take action if required. This positive outcome demonstrates the effectiveness of a proactive approach, combining a focus on understanding the individual's circumstances with a commitment to addressing underlying issues and connecting them with necessary support services.

Operation Defiant: A Successful Strike Against County Lines at London Bridge

On Friday 31st January, BTP officers, including the County Lines Task Force and Violent Crime Task Force, were joined at the station by officers from the Metropolitan Police service, and by officers and passive drug detection dogs from City of London Police and Kent Police. Four men were arrested on suspicion of various drug offences during the operation to identify passengers travelling who might be involved in County Lines drug dealing at London Bridge. The amount of work it takes to deliver these operations should not be underestimated, however the results are certainly worth it. This operation resulted in such a strong yield that it needed to be ended an hour early, due to the amount of officers that were pulled off it due to processing positive stops. PC Lee Noble said: "I'm extremely pleased with the success of the operation, which saw us identify and apprehend people involved in County Lines activity." "Our dedicated team works across the rail network throughout the country to tackle this exploitative activity, making critical interventions to safeguard vulnerable people from predatory and ruthless gangs. "These operations can take place at any time and anywhere, and we will continue to work closely with our partners to make our communities and the railway network safer

A Great Place to Work Awards:

Team London Bridge businesses come together to celebrate achievements at the 'A Great Place to Work' awards event on 29th January. Employees in London Bridge have told us that it makes them happy, energised and excited to come to work in our area. The 'A Great Place to Work' Awards 2025 focused on three themes that are at the core of what makes it such a brilliant place to be based; Sustainability, Social Impact and Safety.

The additional security and safety services provided by Team London Bridge require strong partnerships with our many stakeholders. Fortunately, the area has outstanding expertise, both organisationally and individually, which allows the community to provide a robust response to the challenges of keeping a busy, central London district safe.

Winners from the Safety and Security sector this year were chosen from five categories and are listed below:

- Outstanding Security Team of the Year - **Tower Bridge**
- Security Officer of the Year - **Steven Caris, London Bridge City**
- Community Engagement Award - **Paul Clarke, EY**
- Best Innovation in Security Practices - **Guy's & St Thomas' Hospital NHS Foundation Trust**
- Life Saver of the Year - **Mate Toth, Shard Quarter**

Congratulations to all our worthy winners. We are already planning ahead for next year and look forward to showcasing even more examples of the exceptional work that goes into making London Bridge a safe and secure place to live, work and visit.



BID Consultation

The BID consultation is now live. Every five years, London Bridge businesses vote on whether to continue Team London Bridge's services, without a YES vote, the additional security services will cease. The next ballot process runs from 28 April to 5 June 2025 based on a proposal shaped by your feedback in our BID Consultation. The consultation ends Friday 14th February.

To take part in the consultation click here - Have Your Say – [Survey](#)

Or visit our website www.TeamLondonBridge.co.uk and click on Have Your Say.



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