# TeamLondonBridge MPS & BTP Report

# March 2025

Nick Morant - Directory of Security & Community Safety

March 2025 was an incredibly busy month for our funded officers. Two significant police operations were executed within the BID area that resulted in multiple arrests and several weapons taken off the streets. Also, a prolific offender was arrested and charged for multiple offences leading to a substantial custodial sentence. PC Mannings addressed stalking issues affecting a London Bridge business, with reassuring outcomes already in sight. Collectively, these initiatives underscore the dedication and impact of our funded officers, extending beyond traditional crime management to become an integral, well established, part of safety and security within the London Bridge area.

#### **Proactive Police Operations:**

PC Noble led two operations in London Bridge with over 50 officers deployed, including uniformed officers, plain-clothes officers, dog units, social services, immigrations services and private security personnel. On the 6th March, PC led officers in London Bridge Station resulting in 11 arrests, including a male carrying two swords. On 29th March, PC led officers around the wider London Bridge area, arresting two males for possession of offensive weapons after three knives were found on them. In addition to these arrests, officers stopped over 130 people, seizing drugs and issuing summons for offences including fare evasion and possession of class B drugs.

#### Arrest of a Prolific Offender

PC Mannings and PC Noble spotted a prolific offender loitering near a retailer in More London. He then proceeded to steal over £70 worth of goods and was arrested immediately by PC Tom. He was eventually charged for 23 offences, including multiple breaches of his Criminal Behaviour Order. To ensure he remained in custody, PC Tom worked a 20-hour shift, having to interview the male in his cell when he refused to cooperate. The extra work paid off and the offender received a hefty 12 month prison sentence, safeguarding multiple retailers from further offending.









#### **Reducing Violence Against Women and Girls**

PC Mannings has been investigating a case of stalking against a vulnerable employee in the BID area. The investigation is still on-going, but the outcome is looking very positive. Following police intervention, the behaviour has now ceased. This allowed the employee to feel safer in their work environment. Once again, this is excellent work from our funded officers, and this shows that they have to deal with more than just the obvious crimes, like theft, that take place inside the BID.

#### **Bag theft**

Our crime statistics have continued to fall, with theft now at its lowest level since January 2022, a fantastic achievement for Team London Bridge. Both PC Mannings and PC Noble have been relentless with trying to reduce crime in the area. PC Mannings has taken on several investigations and has been building a large evidential picture with statements, CCTV, images and case files ready for the CPS to review for court. Several suspects have been identified, and action will be taken against them imminently.

On Thursday 20th March, PC Noble and Nick Morant were conducting evening visits to businesses in the area. Whilst leaving one venue, PC Noble spotted two potential bag thieves. After calling in plain clothed officers, the males were stopped and searched. Empty backpacks, an empty laptop bag and linen bags all raised suspicion. Officers also contacted local security teams to ensure their description was fully recorded and shared amongst businesses. This is just one example of the coordinated approach we take in the BID area, with Team London Bridge, Police and security working together to reduce crime and make the area safer.

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### **Anti-Social Behaviour**

Officers moved quickly to reduce ASB around the BID after a male set up camp in Gibbons Rents, a popular community garden. Despite having access to housing and funds, the male set up camp and caused harassment alarm and distress to those wanting to use the garden. Drug offences were also present. PC Mannings, Nick Morant and his colleagues from Team London Bridge ejected the male and seized several items that were causing a nuisance to the public. Bolt cutters were also seized, preventing potential theft and burglary related offences. The action gave local residents and businesses a great sense of relief, with written thanks received.

## Team London Bridge Ballot

Over the next 5-years, we're aiming to make London Bridge the capital's safest night out — ensuring the area stays welcoming for everyone. We will;

- Fund a full-time Metropolitan Police Officer, dedicated to the London Bridge area.
- Fund a full-time British Transport Police Officer, dedicated to London Bridge Station.
- Allow retailers to predict, prevent and protect with safety intelligence using Shop Safe.
- Alert businesses to security incidents and updates by continuing to operating a Mass Notification Platform.
- Reinforce our commitment to keep the community safe by being the first Business Improvement District to gain a 'Secured Environments' accreditation.
- Build relationships, share insights and best practice by coordinating the Southwark Safety and Resilience Forum, Pub Watch and Shop Watch groups.
- Improve resilience by providing crisis and business continuity training.
- Support vulnerable people and explore opportunities for a dedicated accessible Safe Space.
- Continue to protect property by hosting free bike and property marking events.

To allow us to continue to make London Bridge safer, businesses within the BID area participate in a ballot process, with ballot papers sent to eligible businesses by post. The upcoming ballot will take place from April 28 to June 5 2025, and our proposal for 2026 - 2031 is now available for review online. Please visit our website at teamlondonbridge.co.uk/ballot to explore all the exciting plans for London Bridge over the next five years.

We would love to discuss our plans with you, so don't hesitate to reach out to <u>nick@teamlondonbridge.co.uk</u> to arrange a meeting and have any questions addressed.





