

27 April 2021

Dear residents and business owners,

Sadly two teenage girls, aged 16- and 17-years-old, suffered stab injuries during a violent incident at Norwood Road, West Norwood on Sunday, 25 April at around 4.40pm in the afternoon. The younger victim's condition has been assessed as serious but stable, while the second victim's injuries are not life-threatening. By Monday afternoon the Metropolitan police had made three arrests in relation to the incident.

This shocking incident has rightly caused serious concern in the local community, and we acknowledge the trauma that this attack has caused the many people who were witness to it, as well as the victim's families, friends and wider community. I wanted to write to you with a message of reassurance that the council is working with the police to understand the circumstances of what happened, and that their investigation are proceeding at pace.

Lambeth Council is committed to giving the emotional and mental support to the local community needed to deal with this incident, and has services available for anyone who feels affected by this attack or the wider issue of violence in our communities. These **free online and telephone-based support services** are listed below, and we ask you to share this with friends and family:

- **Young Minds** provide support for young people experiencing loss and offers advice for parents (call **0808 802 5544** or visit **youngminds.org.uk**).
- **Kooth** is Lambeth's new **online support service for young people** offering support at weekends, and live chat support with professionals until 10pm.
- **Mind Ed** (**minded.org.uk**) provides support and guidance for parents.
- **Victim Support** (**0808 168 9291**) has support line and online support for parents, professionals and young people who have witnessed crime. Victim Support also have live online chat: **victimsupport.org.uk/help-and-support/young-victims-crime**
- Call **Refuge** on **0808 2000 247** if you're suffering from domestic abuse and need help.

As a council we are determined to support our community in the wake of traumatic incidents of this kind, as well as work on longer terms projects to help cut serious violence in our borough. Our **Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy** and our **Lambeth Made Safer** initiative are two significant pieces of work aiming to reduce harm in our communities.

Despite the progress that has been made in Lambeth, incidents of the kind that have left these two teenage girls with serious injuries are still occurring. We are determined to do all we can to put an end to violence and support our communities while we do that.

Anyone with information about the incident in West Norwood on Sunday incident is asked to **call police via 101 quoting reference Cad 4970/25Apr**. To remain anonymous, **contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111**.

Yours sincerely,

**Cllr Jacqui Dyer**

Lambeth Council's Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Jobs, Skills and Community Safety

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