From: newham.gov.uk

Sent: 20 April 2017 08:29

To:
Cc: newham.gov.uk

Subject: RE: 26th April raid

Thanks for this

Please do send over your draft PR and I will send a quote over to you asap.

Best wishes,

From: [mailto: london.gov.uk]

Sent: 19 April 2017 15:26

To: Cc:

Subject: RE: 26th April raid

Hi

Apologies for not coming back sooner, I was awaiting clarification that purdah will in fact be Thursday 4 May. I think that means we are good to go.

As discussed last week, we will speak to BBC and ITV about pooling coverage on the morning, and invite LBC and a PA photographer to keep numbers down.

I am working on a press release, which it would be great to get a quote from Sir Robin on – I shall send a draft over as soon as possible.

Many thanks,

From: newham.gov.uk [mailto: newham.gov.uk]

Sent: 18 April 2017 16:00

To: newham.gov.uk
Subject: RE: 26th April raid

Thanks for this

Just to clarify - purdah starts on 27<sup>th</sup> so that will impact media follow up on the visit, we are fairly heavily restricted and cannot make any political statements or communicate along political lines. What guidance have you been given?

Given the raid was a media hook and ultimately aimed at influencing the Minister it will be difficult to call on a non-existent Government to act/support our submission. We also now can't submit until after the GE as there is technically no government to receive it and by then we may well have a new Minister/Sec of State in place.

If that is acceptable from your side we can press ahead but just want to outline that we will be limited and the visit will no longer be in line with our submission.

Thanks.

From: [mailto: london.gov.uk]

Sent: 18 April 2017 15:50

To:

Cc: Subject: RE: 26th April raid

Hi

[Intro not relevant to request]

In terms of the visit, I think we'd still like to press ahead and do it as we've got time booked in the mayor's diary and he's committed to attending. I wouldn't think today's announcement will impact to greatly on media attendance or attention.

Hope that's okay.

Best,

Mayor of London's Press Office 0207 983

@LDN\_PressOffice

Out of hours: 020 7983 4000

www.london.gov.uk
GREATERLONDONAUTHORITY

From: newham.gov.uk [mailto: newham.gov.uk]

Sent: 18 April 2017 15:30

To: newham.gov.uk

Subject: 26th April raid

Hi and and I hope you both enjoyed the bank holiday and today wasn't too much of a shock!

Given the GE announcement with purdah likely to start on 27<sup>th</sup> April what do you think about postponing Sadiq's visit until after the GE in June? This would allow us to capitalise media wise and also influence the potentially new Minister.

Happy to chat over the phone if you would like and let me know your thoughts.

Best,

I Parliamentary and Public Affairs Manager Strategic Policy & Research I Strategic Services Directorate London Borough of Newham

Newham Dockside I 1000 Dockside Road I London E16 2QU

www.newham.gov.uk I Follow us on Twitter @newhamlondon and @hannahclifs

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From:

20 April 2017 16:52

Sent: To:

Cc:

newham.gov.uk newham.gov.uk;

newham.gov.uk

Subject:

Re: GLA press announcement



Thanks for your email.

I will ensure you have sight of the press release at some point tomorrow, even if it is in draft form as I fully understand you will want to brief Sir Robin and key people at your end. Please also rest assured that whilst we will be using the press release to announce the 'name and shame' landlord database, we are also focusing our attention on licensing and the Mayor's support for your scheme. This will most definitely also be fully reflected in the press release.

Clearly, the intention of the raid next week is to highlight your great work and the mayor's support for the renewal of your license, which will be the focus of media work on that morning. We will also talk about the database, which I know Newham is one of six councils helping us with, and that will be reflected in our bid to make Londoners aware of measures being introduced to improve private renting in the capital.

I will get the release over to you as soon as possible.

Many thanks,



Sent from my iPhone

On 20 Apr 2017, at 16:40, "

newham.gov.uk"

newham.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear

I hope you are well. We have just received the following e-mail via our officers regarding a press announcement planned for the raid next week. This isn't something that was mentioned previously, are you able to provide some more details?

We are obviously extremely supportive of the London Criminal Landlords Database as one of the boroughs participating in the first wave, but it would be really good to have some more information about what you plan on announcing so that we can make sure all messages align. This is the first time we have heard that there was a planned launch on the visit and the branding of the database to "watchlist" is slightly different to what we are aware of before so it would be good to have a briefing/chat so we can ensure Sir Robin is well briefed.

Is it also possible to have a draft press release before Tuesday (which is what is mentioned in the attached) – ideally tomorrow so that we can provide the quote that ties in with this from Sir Robin? We are obviously very keen to emphasise the importance of our borough wide licensing scheme (which is how we collate the data that we will be providing for the watchlist) and which is at risk of not being renewed so would be keen for this feed into the text of the press release.

Are you also able to provide an update on the media attending and overall numbers please as per email? This is so we can arrange transportation.

I appreciate this is quite a few queries over e-mail so would it be helpful to have a phone conference tomorrow morning?

Many thanks and kind regards

Senior Public Affairs Officer
Strategic Policy & Research Strategic Services Directorate

London Borough of Newham

Newham Dockside I 1000 Dockside Road I London E16 2QU

**DDI**: 020 3373

www.newham.gov.uk | Follow us on Twitter @newhamlondon

From: [mailto: london.gov.uk]

**Sent:** 20 April 2017 14:16

Subject: Steering group - actions, next steps and press announcement

Good afternoon all,

Thanks for coming to the steering group meeting this morning. Please find attached a write up of the meeting covering key points and actions. One thing we forgot to mention this morning is that we have decided to call the database the **London Criminal Landlords and Letting Agents Watchlist** - it would be great if all of your comms could use this name too.

## Information sharing procedure

I have made some tweaks to the information sharing procedure following our discussion this morning, latest version attached. Please forward this on to your legal/info governance colleagues for their comments. We agreed that comments on this draft will be received before the next steering group meeting (18 May).

#### **Press announcement**

The Mayor is going on a raid with Newham on Wed 26 April. This will be used as a press announcement for the London Criminal Landlords and Letting Agents Watchlist and the London Boroughs PRS Partnership. As discussed this morning, we will be sharing our press release with you but it's unlikely to be ready until Tuesday. In the meantime, please find attached a briefing on the announcements which can be used to brief your internal stakeholders and prepare any press work of your own, but please don't share this document any more widely at this stage.

Thanks again for this morning and I will see many of you on Tuesday.





I Senior Projects Officer I 020 7983



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From:

24 April 2017 17:04

Sent: To:

Cc:

newham.gov.uk' newham.gov.uk'

Subject: RE: Quote from Sir Robin - Press Release

**Thanks** 



much appreciated.

From:

newham.gov.uk [mailto:

newham.gov.uk]

Sent: 24 April 2017 16:59

To:

Cc:

newham.gov.uk

Subject: Quote from Sir Robin - Press Release

Many thanks



As promised, please find below the quote from Sir Robin:

"Newham has pioneered the fight against rogue landlords and were the first authority to introduce borough-wide licensing to protect vulnerable tenants. I am proud that Newham is responsible for 70% of all criminal landlord prosecutions across London and we are determined to continue to tackle the scandal of sub-standard and dangerous accommodation, illegal evictions and extortionate rent rises. "

"We have shown that with political will, local knowledge, and robust enforcement we can safeguard residents and drive criminal landlords out of business."

"The Mayor of London's new database, alongside our licensing scheme, will play a key role in helping to improve the sector. We look forward to working with him, and other London boroughs to make the Capital a no-go area for criminal landlords".

Many thanks and kind regards,



















I Senior Public Affairs Officer

Strategic Policy & Research Strategic Services Directorate

London Borough of Newham

Newham Dockside | 1000 Dockside Road | London E16 2QU

DDI: 020 3373

www.newham.gov.uk I Follow us on Twitter @newhamlondon

From:

[mailto:

london.gov.uk]

Sent: 24 April 2017 16:46

Subject: RE: SADIQ KHAN VISIT DRAFT comments

Sorry I missed your call.

Can we stick with 6 as mentioned, and I will confirm as soon as I know. ITV would be in addition to BBC, but will confirm in the morning.

In terms of the running order, I think we'd prefer to keep it as we discussed in the phone conference this morning. Many thanks,

newham.gov.uk] newham.gov.uk [mailto From: Sent: 24 April 2017 16:38

To:

Subject: RE: SADIQ KHAN VISIT DRAFT comments

Dear

Thank you for this – this is really helpful for transport purposes.

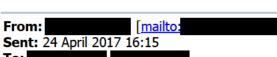
If you could let me know the media numbers when you know them that would be great. In terms of ITV, are they therefore taking over the pool?

I also wondered if you had had a chance to discuss the possible slight alteration to the event agenda with the Mayor's office that we discussed this morning? I would be very grateful if you could let me know.

london.gov.uk]

Thanks again for all your help.

Kind regards,



To: Cc:

Subject: RE: SADIQ KHAN VISIT DRAFT comments

In terms of media numbers, I think we are looking at 6 as a maximum. ITV have decided they would like to come and will confirm first thing in the morning – I shall update you as soon as I can.

Job titles:

James Murray, Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development Sarah Brown, Senior Adviser to the Director of Communications Anna Wright, Head of Operations Chris McQuiggan, Sernior Aide to the Mayor City Hall photographer

Mayor's press office

Thanks,

From: <u>newham.gov.uk [mailto</u> newham.gov.uk]

Sent: 24 April 2017 13:07 To:

Cc: newham.gov.uk; <u>newham.gov.uk</u>

Subject: SADIO KHAN VISIT DRAFT comments

Dear and

Thank you very much for your time this morning to go over the arrangements for Wednesday. As promised, we will send you over a copy of the finalised briefing and a quote from Sir Robin by the end of the day.

In our conversation this morning, we also discussed some possible minor changes to the attached press release. Please find some suggestions attached. These suggestions include the latest PRS figures (we have just had confirmation that we have now prosecuted over 1,100 landlords) and we have adapted the description of our scheme subtly as the legislation was different when it was first introduced - it was Newham that introduced the scheme rather than it been granted by DCLG (we didn't have to apply for their permission at the time). We have also put a line outlining why the Mayor is visiting Newham. I hope that this is ok. Please do let us know your thoughts.

It would be really helpful if you could provide the job titles for all of the GLA staff attending and the media numbers as soon as they are available for transport purposes.

Thank you again for all your work in arranging this visit!

Many thanks and kind regards,



I Senior Public Affairs Officer

Strategic Policy & Research Strategic Services Directorate

London Borough of Newham

Newham Dockside I 1000 Dockside Road I London E16 2QU

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From:	
Sent:	24 April 2017 09:20

To: newham.gov.uk'; 'newham.gov.uk';

newham.gov.uk'

Subject: Press release for Wednesday

Hi all,

Please see a draft version of the release, which is yet to be fully cleared and therefore remains subject to change. Hopefully it provides some context for your quote. Are you able to send something before the end of the day? Many thanks,

# Mayor to 'name and shame' criminal landlords

- Sadiq sets out partnership with councils as part of a crackdown on rogue landlords and letting agents in London
- Mayor visits Newham to back licencing scheme that has resulted in more than 1,000 prosecutions

Criminal landlords and letting agents who exploit their tenants will be 'named and shamed' on a new online database to protect the hundreds of thousands of private renters in the capital, the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, announced today.

The new database, to be built in partnership with London Boroughs and to published on the Mayor's website, will 'name and shame' criminal landlords and letting agents who have been successfully prosecuted for housing offences. The Mayor believes it will give Londoners greater confidence in renting in the capital, allowing them to check a prospective landlord or letting agent before moving into a property, and acting as a deterrent to the minority of landlords and agents who behave dishonestly.

Due to launch in the autumn, the database will enable councils London-wide to easily share information on landlords' criminal history and provide details of enforcement activity and investigations. As part of this new initiative, Londoners will be able to search the online database and report suspected criminal landlords or letting agents through London.gov.uk.

The 'name and shame' database will be developed in the coming months with information from six councils – Newham, Brent, Camden, Southwark, Kingston and Sutton – with other boroughs across London set to join following its public launch in the autumn.

The Mayor made the announcement as he joined a criminal landlord enforcement raid in Newham, carried out under the council's borough-wide licensing scheme for private rented properties. Newham Council was the first local authority in the capital to be granted a borough-wide selective licensing scheme in 2013 and has been very successful in tackling criminal landlords, brining 1,000 prosecutions – more than any other local authority in London - and banning 28 of the very worst from operating.

The council's licensing scheme – initially consented for five years - is due to expire in December, and Sadiq has written to the government to support its renewal.

Alongside the Mayor's efforts to improve conditions in the private rented sector, he also today announced plans for a new Homes for Londoners property portal on City Hall's website, which aims to bring together in one place affordable homes to buy and rent in the capital.

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, said: "I refuse to stand by as thousands of Londoners suffer high rents and horrendous living conditions in a city they call home.

"Today I have seen first-hand the abysmal conditions that some of London's private renters are forced to endure as a result of rogue landlords. I want to be clear that the vast majority of landlords treat renters well – but a minority are exploiting their tenants and it's simply unacceptable. This must stop now.

"To help renters, I will be working in partnership with London Boroughs to launch my new 'name and shame' database of criminal landlords and letting agents to help Londoners before they rent a property, and to deter dishonest landlords and agents from operating.

"I fully support the excellent work councils like Newham are doing to target the worst offenders in their borough. I will continue to support them and other boroughs who use licensing schemes effectively to drive up standards in the private rented sector."

Sir Robin Wales, Mayor of Newham, said: "COMMENT TO COME"

Seb Klier, London Campaigns Manager at Generation Rent, said: "For renters to get a better deal in London, it's vital that we have a London-wide approach to dealing with rogue landlords, which is why the Mayor's 'name and shame' database is so important. At the moment, renters sign a tenancy with no information about whether their landlord has a good record in the market.

"This new initiative will empower renters by allowing them to check if a landlord has committed a recent housing offence, and it will put the capital's worst offenders on red alert, letting them know that if they mistreat their tenants, they will be exposed."

Association of Residential Letting Agents "COMMENT TO COME"

Citizens Advice "COMMENT TO COME"

Shelter "COMMENT TO COME"

- Ends -

## **Notes to editors:**

## 'Name and shame' online database

The 'name and shame' online criminal landlord and letting agent database will provide details of landlords or letting agents who have been successfully prosecuted by a London borough for a housing offence. Renters will be able to check a prospective landlord before moving into a property. They will also be able to report suspected criminal landlords or letting agents. The database will be hosted on the Greater London Authority website at London.gov.uk this autumn.

This will be available in the autumn with records provided by six boroughs: Camden, Newham, Brent, Southwark, Kingston and Sutton.

Records provided by the other boroughs in London will then be added and made available early next year.

The database will also be accessible to local authority enforcement teams and the GLA. This part of the database will contain more detailed history of enforcement activity taken against a landlord or agent to support joint working across London.

## **London Borough Private Rented Sector Partnership**

The Partnership, made up of every borough across London, will improve coordination, joint working and information sharing to drive forward improvements in private rented sector enforcement across the capital. The first meeting of the Partnership was held at City Hall on Tuesday 25 April.

# **Homes for Londoners Property Portal**

City Hall is launching the procurement of a London-wide property portal on the Greater London Authority website to advertise affordable homes to buy and rent, including those for shared ownership and London Living Rent.

It will also support boroughs who have established social lettings agencies by offering them the opportunity to advertise their properties.

It will provide information to advise Londoners on their housing options, bringing together all of the affordable home ownership offers for Londoners into one place and allowing housing providers to upload properties to the portal with the required information. It will also allow build-to-rent providers to advertise properties for discounted rent.

## Borough-wide licensing scheme

Selective licensing allows councils to license all types of privately rented properties that are not Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs). HMOs are covered by separate licensing regimes.

In 2015, the previous government revoked the 'general consent' which previously allowed councils to introduce a borough-wide scheme providing they had consulted locally and secured consent from their own cabinet. Now local authorities must seek Secretary of State permission if they wish to introduce a scheme that covers more than 20 per cent of their borough.

Mayor of London's Press Office 0207 983

@LDN\_PressOffice Out of hours: 020 7983 4000

www.london.gov.uk GREATER**LONDON**AUTHORITY

From: Sent: 24 April 2017 09:01 newham.gov.uk'; To: Cc: newham.gov.uk'; newham.gov.uk' Subject: RE: Monday phone conversation - PRS visit arrangements (10am?) Just about to send over a draft release. Can we call you? I'm going to call from a conference phone in a different room. Many thanks, ----Original Message---newham.gov.uk [mailto: newham.gov.uk] Sent: 24 April 2017 08:35 To: newham.gov.uk Cc: newham.gov.uk; Subject: RE: Monday phone conversation - PRS visit arrangements (10am?) and Dear number (0207 983 if that works for you both? I will give you both a call at 10am via I also wondered if there had been any update on the draft press release? Many thanks and kind regards, l Senior Public Affairs Officer Strategic Policy & Researchl Strategic Services Directorate London Borough of Newham Newham Dockside I 1000 Dockside Road I London E16 2QU DDI: 020 3373 www.newham.gov.uk I Follow us on Twitter @newhamlondon ----Original Message-----From: Sent: 21 April 2017 14:30 Cc: Annie Mulhall; Subject: RE: Monday phone conversation - PRS visit arrangements (10am?) Dear and Thank you for this. We are looking forward to welcoming you all to Newham. I was also wondering whether you would you be able to give me everyone's job titles so I can add these to our briefing for Sir Robin? Is there a number we can call you both on for Monday for the conference call? Alternatively, my number if 020 3373

1

I will send through a separate diary invitation.

Many thanks and kind regards,

I Senior Public Affairs Officer Strategic Policy & Researchl Strategic Services Directorate London Borough of Newham Newham Dockside I 1000 Dockside Road I London E16 2QU DDI: 020 3373
www.newham.gov.uk I Follow us on Twitter @newhamlondon
Original Message From: [mailto   [mailto   ]   Iondon.gov.uk] Sent: 21 April 2017 14:24
To: Cc: Cc: Cc: Cc: Cc: Cc: Cc: Cc: Cc: Cc
Subject: RE: Monday phone conversation - PRS visit arrangements (10am?)
Sorry - just one correction. It will be Debra Levison attending not me, but I'll join the call on Monday.
Original Message From: Sent: 21 April 2017 14:22
To: newham.gov.uk';  Cc: newham.gov.uk; newham.gov.uk  Subject: RE: Monday phone conversation - PRS visit arrangements (10am?)
Hi Thanks very much for your email and confirmation of the meeting point.  I think 10am on Monday would be great - send me the details and we'll call you.  I have a working draft of the release and I'm hoping to be in a position to get it to you by the end of the day to add your quote from Sir Robin.
In terms of numbers and names, as it stands, this is the list from the Mayor's office: Sadiq Khan, James Murray, Ann Wright, Chris McQuiggin, Sarah Brown,
I will be speaking with media this afternoon and Monday morning to confirm, but this is who we are targeting for numbers: BBC London (pool) reporter and camera LBC reporter PA photographer
In terms of the what's interest and what is he looking to do?
Many thanks,
Original Message From: newham.gov.uk [mailto: newham.gov.uk] Sent: 21 April 2017 14:10

Cc: newham.gov.uk; newham.gov.uk Subject: Monday phone conversation - PRS visit arrangements (10am?) Importance: High
Dear and and
I hope you are both well! Thank you for your update yesterday. I thought I would drop you an e-mail to update you that we have spoken with our PRS team and the meeting point for Wednesday's visit has now been confirmed as Plaistow station at 7.30am on Wednesday morning.
I was wondering if it would be possible to get a phone conference call in the diary for Monday morning so we can go over arrangements and then we will send over a full briefing (including property details etc on Monday afternoon). Would 10am work? We can then talk you through the properties and confirm all the necessary arrangements.
I also wondered if you would be able to let me know if total numbers had now been confirmed and if we could have a named list of everyone who will be attending from the GLA and also from the media side as well so that we can make all the transport arrangements. Also, further to e-mail, we have had interest from young jouno we wondered whether it be possible to invite him on the raid?
Thank you for all your help. Please do let me know if there is any information that you need from our end.
Many thanks and kind regards,
I Senior Public Affairs Officer Strategic Policy & Research! Strategic Services Directorate London

I Senior Public Affairs Officer Strategic Policy & Research Strategic Services Directorate London Borough of Newham Newham Dockside I 1000 Dockside Road I London E16 2QU DDI: 020 3373

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Best.

From: newham.gov.uk Sent: 26 April 2017 16:26 To: Subject: RE: Raid this morning Ok, really not a problem just wanted to check if there was something I'd missed/wasn't aware of. Ultimately there has been good media coverage so not an issue and just a mistake by the sounds of it - thanks From: london.gov.uk] [mailto: Sent: 26 April 2017 16:24 To: Subject: RE: Raid this morning I really apologise for that - I hadn't noticed that had not accepted the changes. I will raise it with him. Sorry about that, I expect it was due to poor version control rather than anything deliberate, but either way that's our bad. From: newham.gov.uk [mailto: newham.gov.uk] Sent: 26 April 2017 16:01 To: Subject: RE: Raid this morning Yes great, and the Standard and City AM – all really good! Also a good shot in the Newham Recorder: http://www.newhamrecorder.co.uk/news/crime-court/plans-to-name-and-shame-rogue-landlords-announcedduring-raids-in-newham-1-4991898 Also, I wanted to mention that some of the factual corrections we made to the press release about licensing and mentioned on the phone to weren't taken on board in the final version. Obviously I don't expect any stylistic suggestions to be taken on board necessarily but was there a reason the more factual ones weren't accepted? I.e. it was described as 'granted' when actually the scheme wasn't granted first time around. Tiny and techy I know but wanted to mention to you just in case I had missed something? [mailto: london.gov.uk] From: Sent: 26 April 2017 14:46 To: Subject: RE: Raid this morning Did you see the BBC London coverage? I thought it was really excellent. Couldn't have gone better. newham.gov.uk [mailto: newham.gov.uk] From: Sent: 26 April 2017 14:45 To: Subject: RE: Raid this morning as and when we submit to DCLG (post GE) we will let you know! **Thanks** 

From: [mailto: london.gov.uk]

Sent: 26 April 2017 11:06

To: Ellie Robinson; Chris McQuiggin

Cc: Subject: RE: Raid this morning

Hi

I spoke to this morning, but just want to pass on a huge thanks from everyone here for organising what I understand was a very successful visit. We really appreciate your help – here's hoping for some good coverage to highlight the excellent work that Newham and the GLA are doing together on this issue, and to win more support for your licensing renewal.

Do continue to keep us in the loop re: your discussions with DCLG, and good luck.

Best wishes,



I Private Rented Sector Programme Manager I 020 7983

#### GREATER**LONDON**AUTHORITY

City Hall | The Queen's Walk | London | SE1 2AA

From: newham.gov.uk [mailto: newham.gov.uk]

Sent: 26 April 2017 10:47

To: Ellie Robinson; Chris McQuiggin

newham.gov.uk; newham.gov.uk; newham.gov.uk

Subject: Raid this morning

Hi all,

Many thanks for your time this morning and I hope you've all started to warm up by now!

Robin was really pleased that Sadiq was able to come along and see the work we do alongside our police. I think the whole operation went smoothly and I hope you found it an interesting experience. From what I understand the media got the shots and lines they wanted too.

As soon as I receive the photos from our photographer I will send them over. The media FAQs are attached but if you have any further questions of course just let me know.

Thanks again for your help with planning/logistics.

Best wishes,

I Parliamentary and Public Affairs Manager Strategic Policy & Research I Strategic Services Directorate London Borough of Newham

Newham Dockside I 1000 Dockside Road I London E16 2QU

Internal email not relevant to request

From: newham.gov.uk [mailto: newham.gov.uk]

**Sent:** 24 April 2017 13:07

To:

**Cc:** newham.gov.uk; newham.gov.uk

Subject: SADIQ KHAN VISIT DRAFT comments

Dear and

Thank you very much for your time this morning to go over the arrangements for Wednesday. As promised, we will send you over a copy of the finalised briefing and a quote from Sir Robin by the end of the day.

In our conversation this morning, we also discussed some possible minor changes to the attached press release. Please find some suggestions attached. These suggestions include the latest PRS figures (we have just had confirmation that we have now prosecuted over 1,100 landlords) and we have adapted the description of our scheme subtly as the legislation was different when it was first introduced - it was Newham that introduced the scheme rather than it been granted by DCLG (we didn't have to apply for their permission at the time). We have also put a line outlining why the Mayor is visiting Newham. I hope that this is ok. Please do let us know your thoughts.

It would be really helpful if you could provide the job titles for all of the GLA staff attending and the media numbers as soon as they are available for transport purposes.

Thank you again for all your work in arranging this visit!

Many thanks and kind regards,



# Mayor to 'name and shame' criminal landlords

- Sadiq sets out partnership with councils as part of a crackdown on rogue landlords and letting agents in London
- Mayor visits Newham to back licencing scheme that has resulted in more than 1,1000 prosecutions

Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, visits Newham, the first borough to introduce PRS licensing, to launch a new a new online database to 'name and shame' ceriminal landlords and letting agents who exploit their tenants will be 'named and shamed' on a via new online database. to protect the hundreds of thousands of private renters in the capital., the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, announced today.

The new database, to be built in partnership with London Boroughs and to published on the Mayor's website, will 'name and shame' criminal landlords and letting agents who have been successfully prosecuted for housing offences. The Mayor believes it will give Londoners greater confidence in renting in the capital, allowing them to check a prospective landlord or letting agent before moving into a property, and acting as a deterrent to the minority of landlords and agents who behave dishonestly.

Due to launch in the autumn, the database will enable councils London-wide to easily share information on landlords' criminal history and provide details of enforcement activity and investigations. As part of this new initiative, Londoners will be able to search the online database and report suspected criminal landlords or letting agents through London.gov.uk.

The 'name and shame' database will be developed in the coming months with information from six councils – Newham, Brent, Camden, Southwark, Kingston and Sutton – with other boroughs across London set to join following its public launch in the autumn.

The Mayor made the announcement as he joined <u>Newham Council on</u> a criminal landlord enforcement raid in <u>Newham</u>, carried out under the council's borough wide licensing scheme for private rented properties. <u>Back in 2013</u>,

Newham Council was the first local authority in the capital to introduce be granted a borough-wide selective licensing scheme in 2013 and has been very successful in tackling criminal landlords, prosecuting over bringing 1,000 100 criminal landlords prosecutions — more than any other local authority in London - and banning 28 of the very worst from operating.

The council's <u>five year</u> licensing scheme <u>initially consented for five years</u> is due to expire in December, and Sadiq <u>has written</u> is <u>urging</u> to the government to support its renewal.

Alongside the Mayor's efforts to improve conditions in the private rented sector, he also today announced plans for a new Homes for Londoners property portal on City Hall's website, which aims to bring together in one place affordable homes to buy and rent in the capital.

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, said: "I refuse to stand by as thousands of Londoners suffer high rents and horrendous living conditions in a city they call home.

"Today I have seen first-hand the abysmal conditions that some of London's private renters are forced to endure as a result of rogue landlords. I want to be clear that the vast majority of landlords treat renters well – but a minority are exploiting their tenants and it's simply unacceptable. This must stop now.

"To help renters, I will be working in partnership with London Boroughs to launch my new 'name and shame' database of criminal landlords and letting agents to help Londoners before they rent a property, and to deter dishonest landlords and agents from operating.

"I fully support the excellent work councils like Newham are doing to target the worst offenders in their borough. I will continue to support them and other boroughs who use licensing schemes effectively to drive up standards in the private rented sector. The Government must allow this great work to continue."

Sir Robin Wales, Mayor of Newham, said: "COMMENT TO COME"

Seb Klier, London Campaigns Manager at Generation Rent, said: "For renters to get a better deal in London, it's vital that we have a London-wide approach to dealing with rogue landlords, which is why the Mayor's 'name and shame'

database is so important. At the moment, renters sign a tenancy with no information about whether their landlord has a good record in the market. "This new initiative will empower renters by allowing them to check if a landlord has committed a recent housing offence, and it will put the capitals worst offenders on red alert, letting them know that if they mistreat their tenants, they will be exposed."

Association of Residential Letting Agents "COMMENT TO COME"

Citizens Advice "COMMENT TO COME"

Shelter "COMMENT TO COME"

- Ends -

### **Notes to editors:**

## 'Name and shame' online database

The 'name and shame' online criminal landlord and letting agent database will provide details of landlords or letting agents who have been successfully prosecuted by a London borough for a housing offence. Renters will be able to check a prospective landlord before moving into a property. They will also be able to report suspected criminal landlords or letting agents. The database will be hosted on the Greater London Authority website at London.gov.uk this autumn.

This will be available in the autumn with records provided by six boroughs: Camden, Newham, Brent, Southwark, Kingston and Sutton.

Records provided by the other boroughs in London will then be added and made available early next year.

The database will also be accessible to local authority enforcement teams and the GLA. This part of the database will contain more detailed history of enforcement activity taken against a landlord or agent to support joint working across London.

## London Borough Private Rented Sector Partnership

The Partnership, made up of every borough across London, will improve coordination, joint working and information sharing to drive forward improvements in private rented sector enforcement across the capital. The first meeting of the Partnership was held at City Hall on Tuesday 25 April.

## **Homes for Londoners Property Portal**

City Hall is launching the procurement of a London-wide property portal on the Greater London Authority website to advertise affordable homes to buy and rent, including those for shared ownership and London Living Rent. It will also support boroughs who have established social lettings agencies by offering them the opportunity to advertise their properties. It will provide information to advise Londoners on their housing options, bringing together all of the affordable home ownership offers for Londoners into one place and allowing housing providers to upload properties to the portal with the required information. It will also allow build-to-rent providers to advertise properties for discounted rent.

## Borough-wide licensing scheme

Selective licensing allows councils to license all types of privately rented properties that are not Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs). HMOs are covered by separate licensing regimes.

In 2015, the previous government revoked the 'general consent' which previously allowed councils to introduce a borough-wide scheme providing they had consulted locally and secured consent from their own cabinet. Now local authorities must seek Secretary of State permission if they wish to introduce a scheme that covers more than 20 per cent of their borough.

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