

PARTY : Claimant
STATEMENT OF : Sarah Deighton
STATEMENT NO : 2
DATED : 16/06/2026
CLAIM NO. : KB-2026-001615
EXHIBIT : SMD9

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

Case No. KB-2026-001615

KING'S BENCH DIVISION

BETWEEN:

THE LORD MAYOR AND THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF WESTMINSTER

THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

Claimant

-and -

- 1. Persons Unknown who participate between the hours of 6:00pm and 7:00am in a gathering of 2 or more persons within the area the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea set out in Map Exhibit 1 (attached) at which some of those present engage in motor racing or motor stunts or other dangerous or obstructive driving.**
- 2. Persons unknown who participate between the hours of 6 pm and 6 am in a gathering of 2 or more persons within the area the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea set out in Map Exhibit 1 with the intention or expectation that some of those present will engage in motor racing or motor stunts or other dangerous or obstructive driving.**
- 3. Persons Unknown promoting, organising, publicising (by any means whatsoever) any gathering between the hours of 6 pm and 6 am of 2 or more persons with the intention or expectation that some of those present will engage in motor racing or motor stunts or other dangerous or obstructive driving within the area of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea set out in Map Exhibit 1.**

Defendant

WITNESS STATEMENT OF SARAH DEIGHTON

I, Sarah Deighton, Team Leader (Neighbourhood) employed by Westminster City Council, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP, will say as follows:

1. This is my second statement in relation to ongoing car meets across Westminster Borough, in particular Exhibition Road in Knightsbridge & Belgravia ward, Waterloo Place in St. James' ward and New Bond Street in West End ward. My first statement is dated 20th March 2026.
2. In June 2025 I worked with the Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team (SNPT) for Knightsbridge and Belgravia ward to apply for council funding to increase police presence in the Exhibition Road area to address the car meets issue. This proved effective, reducing the number of car meets by around 50% in the period to March 2026, when the funding ran out.
3. The following was provided to me by PC Paul Wyllie of the Knightsbridge and Belgravia Safer Neighbourhood Team:

Without WCC funding

June 30th 2024- Feb 28th 2025

69 CAD's-(calls to police)

12 x organised car meets

With WCC funding

June 30th 2025 -Feb 28th 2026

16 CAD's-(calls to police)

2 x organised car meets

4. On Sunday 18th January at around 00:40hrs on New Bond Street a significant car meet was reported by New West End Company (NWEC), the Business Improvement District for the area. This report was sent to the West End Team Leader at Westminster City Council, which was then shared with me. They described fireworks, high levels of dangerous driving, members of the public climbing on lampposts, and a member of the public being hit by a drifting car

resulting in hospital attendance. Damage was also caused to street infrastructure.

5. PC Wyllie from the Knightsbridge and Belgravia SNPT made me aware that on Wednesday 27th/Thursday 28th May a car meet occurred in Westminster resulting in approximately 49 Section 59 warnings and 8 FPNs (fixed penalty notices) being issued to vehicles in the three prominent Westminster areas: Waterloo Place, Exhibition Road and New Bond Street. Activities captured on video in these areas include vehicle donuts, tyre skidding, exhaust popping and general dangerous driving.
6. A further meet on New Bond Street was reported to occur at around 2300hrs by NVEC which involved antisocial behaviour.
7. It is difficult for police to identify exactly when and where these meets will occur. Social media, including Instagram and X are often used to suggest a date. Exhibit SMD/10 shows an example of a car meet advertisement on Instagram. It is believed that interested parties will then have to pay via Discord and be verified by existing members to be a part of the closed network in which specific details and location are discussed. Therefore, it is extremely difficult for police to know before an event what the exact details are.
8. Until a meet occurs, the Council and the police are unable to predict the level of resourcing required. Until February 2026 a specific car meets team was in place within the Metropolitan Police, which allowed additional resourcing to undertake intelligence checks before a meet occurred (although these teams were not able to access the paid discord sites which were behind a paywall). This team has now been disbanded due to funding. The policing and street enforcement in this area has taken a significant amount of resource and without an injunction, these levels are unsustainable and untenable.
9. With the summer months coming up, it is likely that further meets will be scheduled and that the police will need to respond urgently to maintain public safety. Should an injunction be granted with a power of arrest, enforcement will be streamlined and less resource intensive.

10. I exhibit the following:

SMD/9 – 20/12/2025 – screenshot of an advert for an organised car meet in London

Conclusion

11. The Claimant is seeking an injunction to prevent individuals from engaging in the conduct described. We are also seeking a power of arrest as the individuals have behaved in an extremely dangerous and ignorant manner around residents, and we believe there is a sufficient risk of harm.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that proceedings for contempt of court may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief in its truth.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Deighton', written in a cursive style.

Date: 16/06/2026

S. Deighton

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Defendant

EXHIBIT SMD/9

4:25

5G 38



mpireuk 4h

Watch Full Reel >

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mpireuk 0:19
ALL CARS & BIKES WELCOME
THIS SATURDAY NIGHT

**MPIRE PRE-XMAS
CAR MEET & DRIVE**



**BPM - LATE
EAST LON TAKEOVER**

TUNNEL RUN, REV BATTLES, DRIFT AREA, BATH DRIVE + MORE

SATURDAY 20TH DECEMBER
ALL CARS & BIKES WELCOME

MESSF... LUND... WPTRE

TONIGHT

Send message...

