

Fitzrovia News

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Man killed in collision with truck driver from construction site

Police are appealing for witnesses and carrying out an investigation after a cyclist riding a Lime hire e-bike died in a collision with a driver of a lorry on Charlotte Street, on the morning of Wednesday 24 May. The crash happened at the junction with Howland Street, writes *Linus Rees*.

A London Ambulance Service spokesperson said: “We were called at 7.41am to reports of a road traffic collision on Fitzroy Street [sic].

“We sent two ambulance crews, a medic in a fast response car and an incident response officer to the scene. We also dispatched London’s Air Ambulance.

“Sadly, despite the best efforts of our crews, a person was pronounced dead at the scene,” said the statement.

The driver of the 32 tonne tipper truck was leaving a Keltbray construction site, the Network Building, 95-100 Tottenham Court Road, which is being

developed by Derwent London, and proceeded west along Howland Street before turning left into Charlotte Street — a route that should not have been used.

According to the construction management plan agreed with Camden Council, lorry drivers leaving the site should continue along Howland Street, then on to New Cavendish Street, then turn right towards the Marylebone Road. And vehicle movements from the site should not take place before 9.30am.

Questions will now be asked about why the construction management plan — which requires numerous safety requirements to protect pedestrians and cyclists — was not adhered to with regard to the time of the vehicle movement and the route taken.

Keltbray have been instructed to stop work on the Network Building site while an investigation is carried out.

In a statement Keltbray said: “Keltbray is aware that during Wednesday 24 May, a road traffic accident [sic] occurred on the public highway near Keltbray’s Network Building project site in central London, involving one of its sub-contractor’s lorries and a cyclist, in which the cyclist tragically sustained fatal injuries.

“The thoughts of the Keltbray leadership team and the entire workforce at Keltbray’s Built Environment Division are with the family and friends of all those involved at this very difficult time.

“Keltbray is supporting the police, emergency services and our subcontractor in their investigations as required. While investigations are ongoing, it would be inappropriate to comment further.”

A Derwent London spokesperson said: “We were deeply saddened to learn of the fatal road traffic accident [sic] in

Fitzrovia West businesses to vote on new business improvement district

The largest businesses in Fitzrovia West will be asked to vote this month on whether they want to create a business improvement district (BID), writes *Linus Rees*.

The Fitzrovia Partnership, which has run a BID in Fitzrovia East since 2012, has published its business plan for “West Fitzrovia”, setting out its priorities for the district, and has been busy cajoling business owners to part with their money.

Ballot papers will be sent out on Tuesday 13 June and must be returned by 5pm on Tuesday 11 July. The ballot will be administered by Westminster Council’s electoral services and the results will be announced on Wednesday 12 July. The five-year BID term will run from 1 August 2023 until 31 July 2028.

If successful, all business rate payers in West Fitzrovia with a property rateable value above £160,000 (using the 2017 list for all eligible ratepayers) will be compelled to pay the BID levy of one percent of their rateable value — whether they voted for it or not.

The BID proposal was approved by Cllr Geoff Barraclough, Westminster Council’s cabinet member for planning and economic development. BIDs operate in a public-private partnership with local government.

David Whittleton of Arup is the current chair of the board of directors of The Fitzrovia Partnership, and its chief operating officer is Lee Lyons.

For residents in Fitzrovia West, a business improvement district will mean a change in the character of the neighbourhood — increased commercial activity, and an expansion of the evening and night time economy which will spill over into its hitherto quieter streets.

Amy Lamé, the Mayor of London’s champion of a 24-hour city, has endorsed the plans, saying: “I welcome the formation of the new West Fitzrovia Business Improvement District, which will use expert local knowledge to further connect businesses to those who use the area. I look forward to working with them in their efforts to support a thriving round-the-clock offer, including tackling violence against women and girls.”

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Collision on Charlotte Street

Fitzrovia on Wednesday. Our condolences and sympathies go to the individual's family and friends. A full investigation is underway and we are liaising with all parties, including Camden Council."

Camden Council said: "Our thoughts and condolences are with everyone who knew the cyclist who has sadly died.

"We are working closely with the police who are investigating the incident to understand its circumstances."

The Met Police said: "The driver of the lorry stopped at the scene. There have been no arrests."

The cyclist, who is yet to be officially named, is believed to be aged in his 20s and his next of kin have been informed, said the Met Police. Messages placed at the collision site name him as Howie.

Any witnesses or anyone with media footage should contact the Serious Collision Investigation Unit on 020 8246 9820 with ref CAD 1330/24 May.

News in brief

The manager of **The Wheatsheaf** in Rathbone Place says they are still open for business and are taking bookings for next year, despite landowner **Shaftesbury Capital's** plans to create apartments on the upper floors of the pub.

The **Fitzrovia Arts Festival** will be held from 11 to 17 June and takes as its theme for this year: "Fitzrovia is a Forest. See: fitzroviaartsfestival.com

The **Fitzrovia Community Centre** is holding a number of arts events this summer fitzroviacommunitycentre.org

June is **Pride in London** month with events taking place at various locations up to the parade on 1 July.

The **London Cycling Campaign** has praised initiatives to make travel greener in London and identified the Borough of Camden as "one of the stars" in the capital.

Independent artist **Erin Bird** is holding a solo show, "Wrapped in Light," featuring her innovative waterprints at an exclusive pop-up exhibition at 67 **Great Titchfield Street** from 15 to 20 June.

Dan Carrier, author of *Untold London*, will give a talk about the background to his book and how he gathered together the "forgotten stories" of central London. 7:30-9:00pm Tuesday 20 June at **Holborn Library**. Free to Camden History Society members; non-members are welcome for £2 at the door.

The next **printed edition of Fitzrovia News** will be out during the first week of September and will be published every three months thereafter.

Planning applications

Camden Council applications during May 2023 in Fitzrovia East. In the list: signage at **36 Charlotte Street**; tables and chairs at **124 Cleveland Street, 18 Goodge Street, 46 Tottenham Court Road**; plant and equipment at **40 Whitfield Street**; signage at the Met Building **22 Percy Street**; use of first floor as Class E at Sovereign House, **19-23 Fitzroy Street**; single storey extension to the rear ground floor at **3 Colville Place** (retrospective); extraction duct and reinstatement of former windows at **53-54 Tottenham Court Road**.

See: planningrecords.camden.gov.uk for details and the latest applications.

Westminster Council applications in May 2023 in Fitzrovia West, include: extension and roof terrace at **70 Margaret Street**; roof extension at Flat 4, **146 Great Portland Street**; plant equipment at **51 Margaret Street**; alterations to **Bywell Place** elevation of **34 Mortimer Street**; external heat pump at rear of **23 Hanson Street**; tables and chairs outside **Marquis Of Granby, 2 Rathbone Street**; redevelopment to provide serviced apartments and other uses at **82 Margaret Street** (former convent); alterations to listed building at **84 Margaret Street**.

See: idoxpa.westminster.gov.uk

Advice for responding

Residents should check Camden and Westminster's sites for the latest applications.

In Westminster residents can contact licensingadvice.org for free advice, and should also email the Fitzrovia Neighbourhood Association fna@fitzrovia.org.uk

In Camden email the Charlotte Street Association at csafitzrovia@yahoo.co.uk where you can also seek advice.

It is also a good idea to contact your ward councillors well before the closing dates with your concerns about any planning or licensing applications.

Fitzrovia News publishes the latest planning and licensing applications on our website: fitzroviaanews.com

There is more news about public consultations on our website:

fitzroviaanews.com

You can also keep up with the latest news by subscribing to our free email newsletter:

fitzroviaanews.substack.com

Free housing and welfare advice for residents

The Fitzrovia Advice Service, run by Fitzrovia Neighbourhood Association, is able to help residents with private and social housing problems, housing and council tax benefits, disability benefits, Universal Credit and Job Seekers Allowance, pensions and Pension Credit, Working and Child Tax Credits, fuel poverty; and help with benefit, passport and other forms.

Advice is available to Camden and Westminster residents by telephone, email and in person, for speakers of English, Bengali, Sylheti, Urdu and Hindi.

Contact 020 3984 6364; or email: advice@fitzrovia.org.uk

Cost of living support

Camden has help at camden.gov.uk/find-support-in-camden Westminster has help at westminster.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support

Neighbourhood listings

Covid-19 vaccine information is available from Camden and Westminster councils. See camden.gov.uk/coronavirus and westminster.gov.uk/coronavirus

Local councillors serving Fitzrovia on the **Camden** side are: Adam Harrison, Sabrina Francis, and Rishi Madhani; telephone: 020 7974 2792. On the **Westminster** side they are: Paul Fisher, Patrick Lilley, and Jessica Toale; telephone: 020 7641 5377.

Fitzrovia Community Centre has activities available, and a community garden. fitzroviacommunitycentre.org Visit 2 Foley Street, call 020 7580 8680.

All Souls C of E Primary School, Foley Street takes children from ages 3 to 11. See allsoulsprimary.co.uk for more.

Fitzrovia Youth in Action is a local charity for young people. They provide a number of activities. See fya.org.uk or call at Basement 66-68 Warren Street or call 020 7388 7399.

Rainbow Angels Nursery Fitzrovia 54A Whitfield Street. More information at rainbowangels.co.uk

Age UK provides services for people over 50 years old. In Camden call 020 7239 0400 or visit ageuk.org.uk/camden; in Westminster call 020 3004 5610 or visit ageuk.org.uk/westminster

American International Church offers services including a soup kitchen for the homeless and those in need. See amchurch.co.uk, call 020 7580 2791, or visit 79A Tottenham Court Road.

Saturday morning gardening. Contact friends@crabtreefields.org.uk