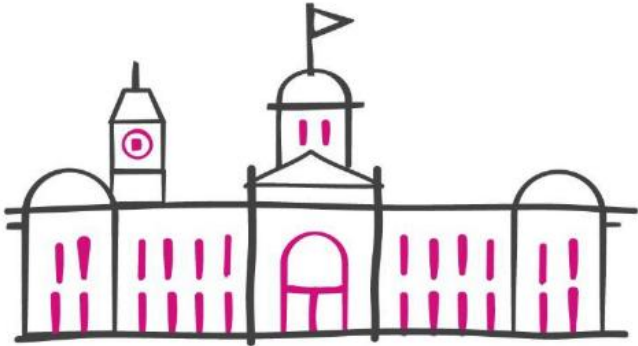


OPERATION BELFRAY

11th March to 9th April 2024



 **RESET**

 **RESHAPE**

 **RESTART**

Planning

- Following recommendations from the previous year, Police and BCC began planning for Operation Belfray in September 2023.
- Weekly meetings were held with BCC and Police. Joint objectives were agreed.
- Weekly meetings were also held with BCC, Police and Community Members including BCC Councillors.
- Discussions around the development of the plan and community concerns were discussed in detail.

BCC Aims & Objectives

- To continue to work in partnership with police colleagues and the local community to ensure residents and worshippers across the city can observe Ramadan in peace and safety.
 - **Community Engagement** – working closely with the community by liaising with councillors, key community members and traders/businesses.
 - **Partnership Working** - To take a collaborative approach with relevant partners to ensure the community is able to come together and mark the month of Ramadan in a safe environment.
 - **To provide a robust service to the community we serve.** Adopted from policing objective, this includes **Engaging** with the Community, **Educating** the Community, **Encouraging** to stop any non-compliance, and where necessary, **Enforcing** appropriate legislation and taking appropriate action.

Resource – Coventry Road (Ramadan)

- Police – an appropriate and robust number of Sergeants and Police Officers to cover every day of Ramadan with increased presence and availability at weekends.
- BCC – an appropriate and robust number of officers which was adapted as activities and times of illegal activities changed (inc. Bank Holidays)
- BCC Resource including Trading Standards, Environmental Health, Licensing (Street trading), Private Sector Licensing, Community Safety Partnerships ASB Officers, Highways, Parking Enforcement and Waste Management
- Each TOD consisted of one Head of Service and at least one Operations Manager.
- On average, 10 BCC officers were out each night including Parking Enforcement.

Resource – Chaand Raat

- Area covered: Alum Rock Road, Coventry Road and Ladypool Road
- 34 BCC staff deployed including 2 x Heads of Service and 3 x Operational Managers.
- West Midlands Police ensured there were Sgts and multiple Police officers at each location.

Method Adopted

- BCC staff to attend BCC briefing followed by briefing with West Midlands Police
- BCC staff to work alongside Police at all times
- Advise and engage with traders. Moving henna artist to one location where available, keeping the highway clear.
- Non-compliant Traders – gathering evidence.
- Evidence including photographs, videos and Police support via PNC checks/ local officer knowledge.
- Take enforcement action as appropriate, seize goods if necessary, immediate and retrospective action.

Review – Throughout the month

- Daily written update between BCC and Police
- Twice weekly or daily meeting between police and BCC strategic leads to alter plans if necessary.
- Communications before and during Operation Belfray to advise wider community of plans.
- Monitoring social media to understand community feeling.
- Weekly meeting with Police and BCC Head of Service/Ops Managers to review objectives and discuss best practice
- Weekly meeting with Police, BCC and Community Members – positive feedback to discuss any concerns raised. Ongoing media interest , interviews and briefings.
- Briefing held with Senior Officers and BCC Councilors
- Initial tour of duty for BCC staff – 1500 x 2300 hours (1 week)

Review – Throughout the month (continued)

- Reviewed and based on new intel/evidence
- Tour of duty changed to 2000 x 0100 hours
- Invites to community and religious leaders to join the patrols to evidence the impacts.

Results

- 1412 PCN's issued
- 1238 vehicles moved on
- 6 vehicles seized by Police
- One trailer seized by BCC, two towed off the highway.
- One Arrest made for Street Trading, Bail conditions applied
- One Voluntary Interview arranged – Street Trading
- Two Street Trading Licences issued
- Counterfeit items seized
- Other items seized that were in breach of food/labelling legislation including abandoned food (public health concern)

Results (continued)

- A number of illegal traders stopped and moved on for failing to have the requisite authority or permits to trade.
- Hot food sellers stopped from trading due to obstructing the Highway, Health and Safety grounds and poor food management and hygiene issues.
- A number of traders stopped from trading due to contravening licensing legislation by serving hot food/drinks after 11pm without appropriate consent.
- Charity Collectors challenged and moved on
- Clear Highway

Ramadan 2023



Crowds surround police and Trading Standards teams as they patrol street vendors

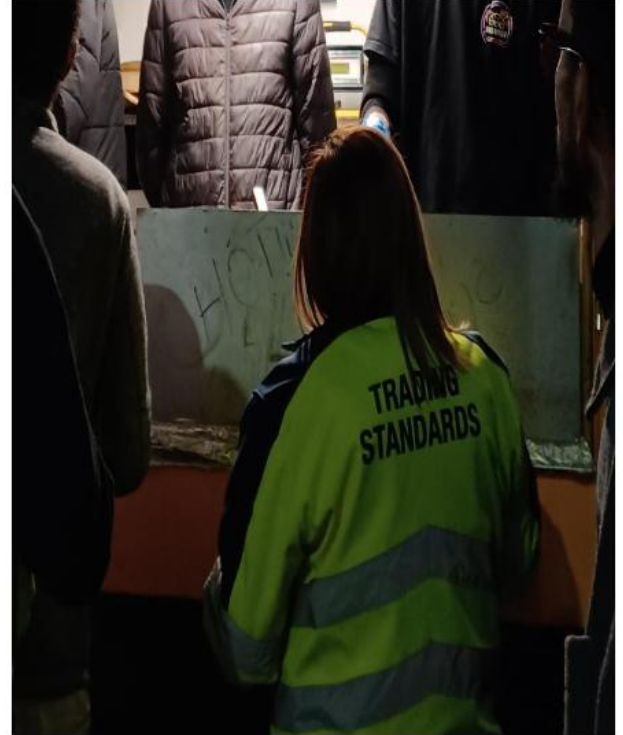
Ramadan 2024 Weeks 1 and 2



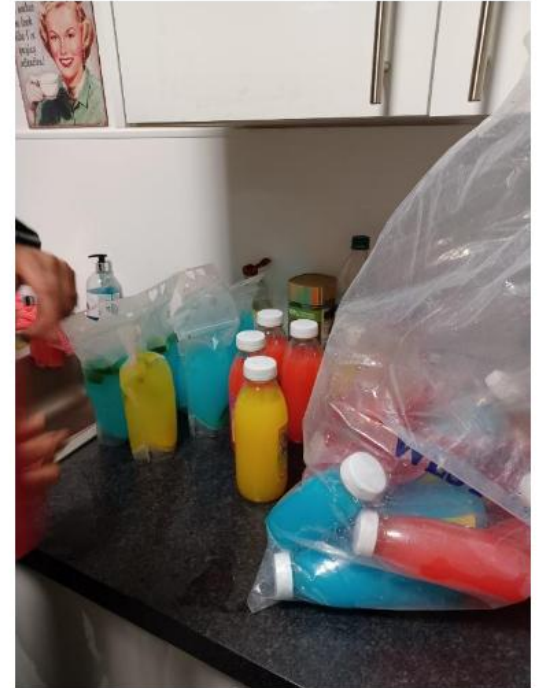
Ramadan 2024 Weeks 1 and 2



Results – Trailer Removed



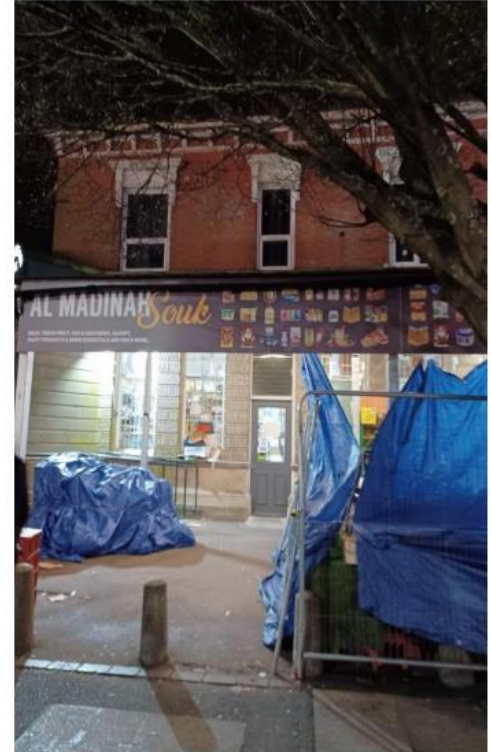
Goods seized



Ramadan 2024 – Partnership Work



Ramadan 2024 – End result





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