



Jul 12, 2018 11:01 BST

# Statement on vehicle mounted stage in Portland Place

**The Metropolitan Police Service received notification on Thursday, 5 July from the organisers of the 'Together Against Trump' protest of their intention to bring a vehicle mounted stage into Portland Place, W1A as part of their event.**

As is usual, the Met asked the organisers for a crowd management and safety plan which as organisers they have overarching responsibility for. On Monday, 9 July the Met received diagrams of where the vehicle was to be positioned, with no mention of stewarding for this particular aspect of the event. This was not a formal notification of how crowd safety would be managed.

At the heart of our policing operation is the right to freedom of speech and peaceful protest. However we equally have a responsibility to ensure the safety of the public and this current time we do not feel that the proposal from the organisers ensures safety of a crowded place.

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