



# NEW SCOTLAND YARD

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## **Westminster protest organiser facing £10,000 fine**

**The organiser of a protest that endangered the health of Londoners on Saturday, 19 December, is facing a £10,000 fine.**

She was identified as the organiser of a protest in Parliament Square which was attended by approximately 150 people, and has been reported for consideration of a £10,000 fixed penalty notice.

A total of 29 people were arrested at the protest. Five officers were injured; none seriously.

Three of those arrested have been charged under Health Protection Regulations with participating in a gathering of two or more people. All three men were also charged with assaulting an emergency worker.

They are: [A] Christmas Fallah, 35, (25/12/84) of Parkhurst Road, N22; [B] Joss Lillis, 27, (14/3/93) of Walsingham Road, Enfield and [C] Leon Larose, 28, (23/2/92) of Uplands Road, N8.

They have been bailed to appear at a London magistrates' court in the new year.

The majority of the other 26 people arrested were issued with fixed penalty notices for breaching Health Protection Regulations. A number of other people attending the protest were also issued with fixed penalty notices but were not arrested.

This enforcement action was taken after numerous attempts by police officers to engage with those who attended the protest and explain the regulations that are in place.

**Commander Alex Murray said:** "This protest was organised and took place just hours before further restrictions were put in place in London. Such action during an ongoing health emergency is reckless and we will enforce the law without hesitation in these circumstances.

"Most Londoners, while frustrated with the restrictions that we are all facing, will be disappointed that we are having to deal with such gatherings, and indeed with assaults on police officers who are working to keep the public safe.

"I hope these fines and criminal charges will send a strong message to anyone intent on selfishly endangering the health of others at this crucial time.

"The rules are very clear and our collective actions over the next fortnight will have a direct impact on how quickly our city recovers. If people make reckless decisions that risk lives, I make no apology for the enforcement action that will follow."