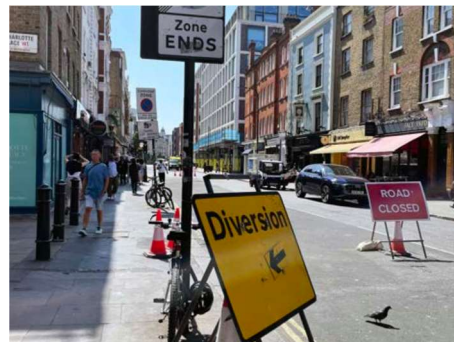# The Arc Clutter Audit – Instruction Pack

Introduction

Streets are the lifeblood of any city, serving as conduits of movement, commerce, and community interaction. However, amidst the hustle and bustle, a pervasive issue threatens to detract from the vibrancy and accessibility of our vital public spaces: street clutter.
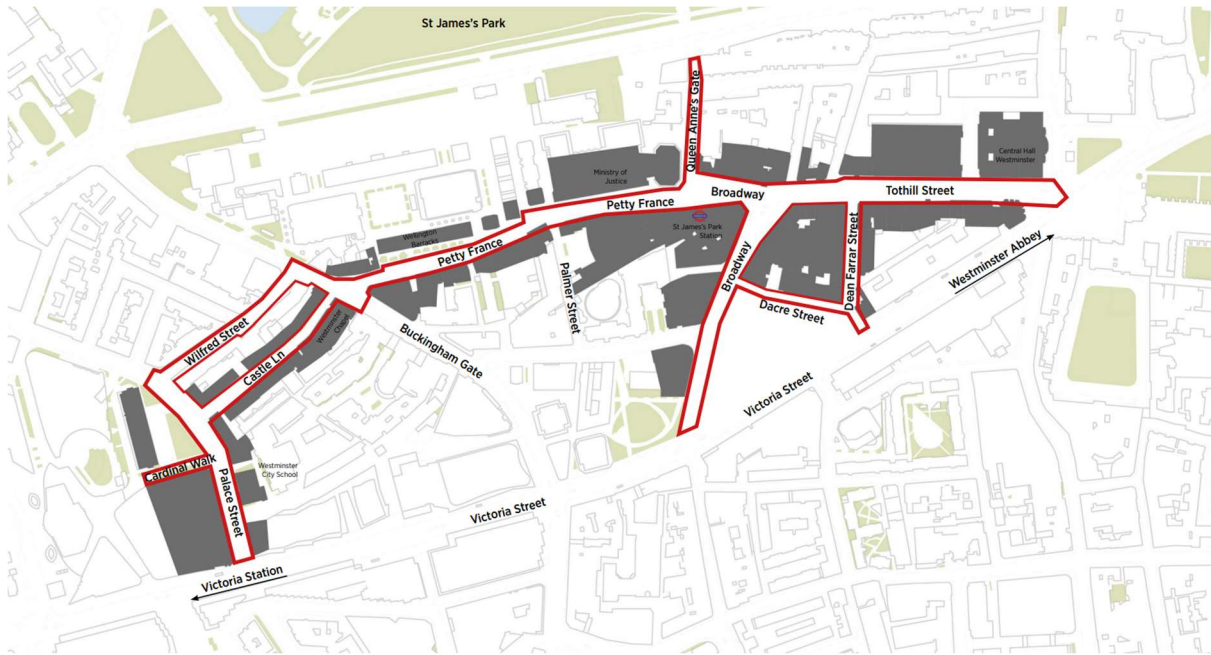
Defining Street Clutter

Defined as poorly placed or redundant objects on the pavement that impede pedestrian movement or otherwise negatively affect users, street clutter poses a multifaceted challenge. Not only does it hinder the free flow of foot traffic, but it also exacerbates difficulties for individuals with disabilities, diminishes the appeal of businesses, and makes the area less welcoming. From misplaced signage to obstructive A boards and abandoned refuse, the clutter manifests in various forms, detracting from the quality of urban life.

The Arc

The Arc is a public realm project that seeks to create an enhanced walking route between Victoria Station and Parliament Square, to increase the quantum of safe, healthy, accessible and green walking route options in the area for workers, residents and visitors. As part of this project, we wish to conduct a clutter audit on the 10 streets of the Arc. This audit will help us identify areas of clutter that we can tackle to improve the navigability and feel of the area.

The Study

We have devised an easy-to-follow step by step guide to completing a clutter audit that can be found below. Taking part in this study will help contribute to the continuing improvement of this area, providing us with the data to create a more accessible and pleasant pedestrian experience. Please allow yourself approximately 30 minutes to complete each audit of 1 street, depending of course on the length of the chosen street.

Street Clutter Audit Toolkit

Preparation and Location Choice

1. **Select a Street:** Decide on the street you wish to audit from this list:

   - Palace St
   - Wilfred St
   - Castle Lane
   - Buckingham Gate
   - Petty France
   - Broadway
   - Queen Anne's Gate
   - Dacre St
   - Tothill St
   - Dean Farrar St

2. **Gather Your Kit:**

   o You'll need a smartphone or tablet with an internet connection.

Using What3Words for the Audit

1. **Download the free** **what3words app | what3words:** Ensure the What3Words app is installed and properly set up on your smartphone or tablet, you will need to create an account with an email address.

2. **Conduct the Audit:**

   o In the app, navigate to 'saved locations' and create a 'new list' with the name of the street you have selected to audit. This will allow you to save all your observations to this list.

   o Familiarise yourself with what we consider street clutter – see below

   o Walk through the selected area slowly. Tip: it may help you to conduct your observations along one side of the pavement at a time.

   o For each instance of street clutter:

      ▪ Click on the square in the app that the street clutter sits within.

      ▪ Click 'save' and the app should automatically save the square to your new list (if not, click 'change' and select the correct list for the street)

      ▪ Add a label to the saved square and include the following information:

         1. The clutter type initial (use the initials given below)

         2. Add additional observations regarding the clutter if you'd like (see below)

         3. If there is more than one item of clutter within the same square, add the additional initials and observations to the square's label.

   o If you want to audit more than one street, simply repeat the steps above.

   o If you wish to take any photos of clutter, please send them separately via email, quoting the What 3 Words location.

3. **Send us your list:**

   o After completing the audit, select the list and click share. Change your permission settings to 'anyone with a link can access'.

   o Click the red share invite button and send your street list with any photos via email to **info@london-hq.co.uk**

   o If you have audited more than one street, please follow the same process of sharing the list.

   o For photos, attach them to an email with the What 3 Words and send them to **info@london-hq.co.uk**

Street Clutter Audit Supporting Information

Clutter Type Initial

If you think an item on the street is poorly placed or redundant and impedes pedestrian movement or otherwise negatively affect users, add the item to your street list using the initials listed below.

Clutter Type	Initial
Bollard	BL
Lamp post	LP
Signpost	S
Road Name Sign	RN
Wayfinding Signage	WS
Digital Advertising Boards	DA
Bench	B
Public Bin	PB
Utility Box	UB
Outdoor Dining	OD
Cycle Rack	CR
Bus stop	BS
Phone Box	PB
Guard Rail	GR
Road work signs, boards, barriers and debris	RW
Business Refuse	BR
Residential Refuse	RR
Vehicles on pavements (including micromobility not in designated bays)	VP

Additional Observations

If you wish, you may include some other observations, some things to consider are:

- What action would resolve the issues? remove, relocate or redesign.
- What could be driving the issue?
- How are the objects are interacting?

If you have any questions regarding this toolkit, please contact **info@london-hq.co.uk**.