

Dear Chair and Members of the Community and Protective Services Committee,

I was born in London in the mid-1980s, and like anyone who has lived here for decades, I have watched our city change. Over the years, the needs on our streets have grown and shifted, and many Londoners, myself included, have felt overwhelmed, unsure how to help, and at times helpless to make a meaningful difference.

519Pursuit has changed that.

I am writing to offer my wholehearted support for extending the outreach services contract with 519Pursuit for the 2026–2027 term.

Through my connection to 519Pursuit, I have had the privilege of meeting people of all ages and circumstances, who struggle daily to meet their most basic needs. I have heard stories of neglect, abuse, violence, and of living in a world that often feels indifferent to whether they survive. Hearing these stories changes a person. It certainly changed me, and it revealed the profound value of the work 519Pursuit does every single day.

This work is not only about keeping people safe and alive. It is about offering hope. It is about connection. It is about creating a bridge forward. When people are supported with food, water, and survival supplies, they can begin to focus on healing, stability, and next steps.

519Pursuit has grown from a grassroots initiative into a trusted and essential partner within London's Whole of

Community Response. The consistency of their outreach builds trust, and that trust is foundational to meaningful progress. Without a contingency plan for continued outreach, the absence of these services would be felt immediately and profoundly, not only by those who rely on them, but by our entire community. We are all watching and wanting change for those struggling in our city. For them, for the businesses that are most affected by this, and for the pride of our city.

I respectfully urge the Committee and Council to support the contract extension so that this critical work can continue uninterrupted.

Please accept this letter as a written submission and add it to the Council agenda in relation to the CPSC report. Please include this submission under Item 4.2: *Report Back: Basic Needs and Pathway Options Feasibility of Contract Extension – 519 Pursuit Umbrella Relief Programs Inc.*

I also provide explicit written consent for this letter to be included in the public agenda.

Please confirm receipt of this letter by email and confirm that it has been added to the Council agenda.

Thank you for your time and for your commitment to the wellbeing of all Londoners.

Sincerely,
Jenna Goodhand
Business Owner and Lifelong Londoner