

## **Proposed Kensington ice rink postponed until 2024**

Organisers of a proposed Christmas ice rink next to Kensington Palace have taken the decision to postpone the event in order to prioritise public safety during a period of heightened tension in the capital.

Tamarisk announced the decision to postpone the festive event following an extensive review of the impact of these current events, taking into consideration the site's neighbours, including buildings linked to foreign embassies, high commissions and consulates.

All pre-ordered tickets will be refunded, and Tamarisk looks forward to welcoming visitors to next year's event.

### **Tamarisk founder's Robert Derry and Peter Phillips said:**

"In developing the plans for ICE at Kensington Palace, our primary concern has always been the safety and enjoyment of our visitors. In light of recent tragic events, and during a period of heightened tension and uncertainty in the area, we have taken the decision to postpone the planned event for this year as the safety and security of the public continues to be our priority.

"We are hugely grateful to the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea, our Partners, local businesses and the wider community who have worked with us over recent months, and we look forward to returning in 2024 to deliver a magical, festive experience that everyone can enjoy."

### **Deputy Leader and Lead Member for Employment, Culture and Economy, Cllr Kim Taylor-Smith said:**

"We have been so looking forward to having a new winter ice rink here in Kensington and the plans from Tamarisk were for a fantastic attraction giving local people and visitors another amazing space in the borough to enjoy over the festive period.

However, safety comes first, and I fully support and appreciate the organisers' decision to postpone the event until 2024.

*"I know it's a decision that has not been taken lightly. We'll be ready to support them to bring the event back in 2024."*

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