

residential block in Jerome Crescent around the time of the assault at 7.10am on November 22.

Detectives are looking to speak to a black man in his thirties, with a muscular build and about 6ft 10in tall. He was wearing a light hooded top and black trousers. The woman, thought to be from the local area, is white, in her early thirties, with red hair, 5ft 9ins tall and of a thin build. She was wearing a yellow coat and carrying a large black bag. Anyone with information can call Westminster CID on 020 7321 7589.

Mayor's £45m fund to tackle knife crime and youth violence

Martin Bentham Home Affairs Editor

A NEW £45 million "Young Londoners Fund" to tackle rising knife crime and youth violence in the capital has been announced by Mayor Sadiq Khan.

It will be spent over the next three years on educational, sporting and cultural activities, with the aim of diverting young people away from the risk of getting involved in crime by offering them positive alternatives.

Knife crime in London has been rising. The Mayor has blamed government cuts for contributing to the problem. He accused the Government of "abdicated its responsibilities" through cuts to council funding that had led to the closure of youth services, with 30 centres closing since 2011. His fund would seek to plug these gaps.

He added: "I know from personal experience that for many young people, particularly those from deprived

and disadvantaged communities, activities and services for young people offer support at crucial times, have a really positive impact and help keep them on the straight and narrow.

"I want to end the scandal of young talent going to waste, and give all Londoners the chance to fulfil their potential."

The fund, to be paid for out of council taxes and business rates, will be spent from April.

Two-thirds of it will fund new schemes and the rest will pay for the expansion of existing projects.

A man was critical in hospital today after being stabbed outside Harrow-on-the-Hill Tube station. Police were called to reports of a fight at 8.15pm last night in College Road but found that the victim had been driven away. A man, believed to be the victim, later arrived at a nearby hospital suffering from "life-threatening" knife injuries.

Dr Nigel Kennea, chairman of the mortality monitoring committee at St George's, said "exceptional winter pressures" had contributed to a higher number of deaths.

Barts Health chief medical officer Dr Alistair Chesser said: "We are ensuring that all deaths in the trust are discussed. Of the 410 deaths we looked at, nine were potentially avoidable. I would be worried if we were reporting zero. Every trust has risks attached to it."

The maternal deaths happened at St George's, Barts, Guy's and St Thomas, and University College Hospital.



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