

Date: 30 March 2013

Stephen Greenhalgh
Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime
Greater London Authority
City Hall
The Queen's Walk
More London
London
SE1 2AA

Dear Stephen,

Police and Crime Plan – Haringey

We were extremely disappointed with the outcome of the Police and Crime Plan and the decision to proceed with closure of Muswell Hill Police Station and front counter. As was made clear in our letter of 2 March 2013, the front counter, staffed by a team of committed volunteers, is a fantastic asset and it is a real tragedy for the community that this is being discarded. The possible contact point being considered in Muswell Hill Library, open just three hours a week, is no substitute for the current service and what is more the only space available in the Library is upstairs with no disabled access.

This change in policing from three safer neighbourhood teams patrolling from Muswell Hill to just one named constable and a community support officer guaranteed per ward will see a dramatic reduction in visible policing in the Muswell Hill area. This will inevitably result in a reduction in confidence in the police as local residents witness fewer police in the area and could potentially lead to an increase in crime.

The three ward panels for Muswell Hill, Alexandra and Fortis Green all support the need for a local SNT base with volunteer front counter. In the event that Muswell Hill Police Station is sold, we request, on behalf of the local community, that a Safer Neighbourhood Team base and Front Counter should be provided in, or very close, to Muswell Hill Broadway, through one of the following options:

1. Any new development on site should include provision for an SNT base and Front Counter
2. Money should be levied on the developer to provide this facility elsewhere in the locality
3. Part of the receipt from sale should be used to provide this facility elsewhere in the locality

We are also extremely concerned at the reduction in hours at Hornsey and Wood Green Front Counters. This leaves the whole of the west of Haringey without any nearby police station open twenty-four hours and residents are just not likely to travel to Tottenham to report a crime at night.

We look forward to hearing back from you about the opening hours for Hornsey and Wood Green and the proposals as outlined above for an SNT base and Front Counter in the Muswell Hill area.

Yours sincerely,



Cllr Martin Newton

Liberal Democrat Fortis Green and SNT ward panel member
Opposition spokesperson for Crime and Community Safety
Member Overview & Scrutiny Committee



Cllr Gail Engert

Liberal Democrat Muswell Hill and SNT ward panel member
Chair of Muswell Hill, Alexandra, Fortis Green and Highgate
Area Forum/Committee

cc. Chief Superintendent Victor Olisa, Borough Commander, Haringey
cc. Superintendent Mark Wolski, Assistant Borough Commander, Haringey
cc. Cllr Richard Watson, Cabinet Member for Communities, Haringey
cc. Cllr David Winskill, Chair, Communities Scrutiny Panel, Haringey
cc. Siobhan Coldwell, Head of Strategy, Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime (MOPAC)