

Southwark Liberal Democrat Group

Southwark Council
Liberal Democrat Group Room
160 Tooley Street
London SE1P 5LX

Sir Mark Rowley
New Scotland Yard
Victoria Embankment
SW1A 2JL

Dear Sir Mark Rowley,

Future of Canada Water Police Hub

We are writing following a public meeting we held last night, where the topic of the Canada Water Police Hub was raised by residents, who are outraged that promises to have a police hub in the area have not been kept.

As you will know, the police hub used to be based at the Seven Islands Leisure Centre. Due to redevelopment, the police were asked to vacate the premise from the end of March this year. Though offers of new premises nearby have been made, the Met has decided not to take any of those offers up. They are now based in Borough, a 20 minute bus ride away.

Residents are rightly furious at this outcome – particularly as part of the Canada Water redevelopment plan promised a hub for police on the site.

In London, confidence in the police to deal with crime is already far too low. This decision has only deepened the distrust people have in the police to tackle problems on the Rotherhithe peninsula.

We wrote to Sir Sadiq Khan in April about this matter, but have not had a response. We are therefore writing directly to you to seek your response, and assurances that there will be a police hub in the Canada Water area.

As I'm sure you will agree, the key to tackling crime and anti-social behaviour is to have more police embedded within the communities they serve – so having local teams based on the other side of the borough will simply not do.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Adam Hood
Surrey Docks Ward

Councillor Nick Johnson
Surrey Docks Ward

Councillor Jane Salmon
Surrey Docks Ward

Councillor Rachel Bentley
North Bermondsey Ward

Councillor Hamish McCallum
North Bermondsey Ward

Councillor Emily Tester
North Bermondsey Ward