

Complaints Support Team

22nd floor Empress State Building

Lillie Road, London SW6 1TR

24 April 2016

**QPARA Concern with Policing**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I represent Queen's Park Area Residents' Association (QPARA), which has tasked me to make a formal complaint about the policing of our area.

With the rundown of Kilburn police station and the reduction in size of the Safer Neighbourhood Team – not to mention its imminent removal to Willesden Green – we note that the uniformed police presence is, with the exception of main roads, absent. Our view is that this has encouraged criminals to declare open season in Queen's Park. The crime statistics submitted to QPARA do not include reported serial attempts to break into vehicles and, for February, record only one third of the crimes listed in the Met's own on-line figures.

It took a resident – not the police – to disrupt a gang storing a stolen motorcycle for use in crime; for his trouble he was assaulted and, a week later, had his own motorcycle trashed in apparent revenge. He and others in the same street are seriously considering employing a private security firm to do the job the police should be doing.

Soon our 'local' police station will be Wembley – an hour away by public or private transport; local knowledge acquired by those who were based at Kilburn will be dissipated and eventually lost. The concept of prevention seems to have been abandoned despite Band F council taxpayers (the majority in the area) paying close on £300 per household for a service we don't receive.

We believe that strong community policing is the foundation of any effective service and we believe that this is being undermined by a "short term'ism" which is hollowing out our service and selling off too many of our police buildings. We have witnessed different so-called policing "strategies" come and go (eg Local Policing Model) without any evaluation of impact and effectiveness. What we now see appear to be ad hoc decisions made without any real strategic thinking and any consultation of local communities.

We ask for real information and reassurance from those who are leading on this process of decline.

Yours faithfully,



Janis Denselow

**QPARA** Chair (30 Montrose Ave, Queen's Park, London NW6 6LB)

CC: Mayor's Office for Policing, Tulip Siddiq MP, Cllr Muhammed Butt (Leader of Brent Council), Cllr James Denselow, Cllr Neil Nerva, Cllr Ellie Southwood (Queen's Park Councillors)