

Councillor J.Barber Liberal Councillor for East Dulwich. MD - Southwark Borough MC - Camberwell Police Station

Camberwell Police Station 22a Camberwell Church Street London SE5 8QU Telephone: 0207-232-6313 Facsimile: Email: Richard.J.Barton@met.pnn.police.uk www.met.police.uk Your ref: Our ref:

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Dear Councillor Barber

I write in answer to your question concerning Southwark Council stating in public documents that since 2010 Southwark Borough Police has lost 300 police and PCSO's.

I do not at this time have exact numbers to hand due to the tight timescale of request. However the MPS has been and continues to be restructured under the 20/20/20 plan which you are aware of.

As part of restructuring various units which would have in the past purely serviced one Borough Operational Command unit such as Southwark Borough have been centralised and therefore now serve more that one OCU.

Units such as Custody, Intelligence, Events planning/Duties and Roads Policing continue to serve the needs of Southwark OCU but the officers deployed on these units no longer belong to Southwark OCU.

Therefore the premise that Southwark has 'lost 300 officers' does not accurately convey the situation, because the 'hubbed' officers that I have mentioned above continue to perform core functions for Southwark OCU.

In relation to PCSO numbers, whilst there is now one dedicated PCSO per ward team 11 of the teams still retain two PCSO's.

Since 2010 the two Emergency Response Teams which paraded at Walworth and Peckham Police Station respectively have been amalgamated under one roof at Peckham. The CID portfolio has been centralised to Walworth Police Station. The SNT Ward teams as you are aware have been restructured. Whilst it is correct that the ward teams cover more core tasks they also have more officers to call on and are in the main no longer ring fenced to one ward.

It is also worth pointing out that Southwark is experiencing very good crime reduction levels at present.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Barton Inspector -Camberwell Police Station.