

COUNCIL MEETING – 5 FEBRUARY 2020

NOTICE OF STRATEGIC MOTION – WIMBLEDON POLICE STATION

Council notes:

- 1) In 2018, in response to Government cuts to the Metropolitan Police budget, the Mayor of London conducted a review of the Met's entire estate and subsequently concluded that Wimbledon Police station would be closed and the site sold.
- 2) The Mayor's decision was reversed by the High Court in *R (Kohler) v MOPAC* following a Judicial Review application crowd funded, primarily, by the residents of Wimbledon.
- 3) Because of this, Wimbledon police station currently remains open to the public for the reporting of crime, unlike 36 other police stations across London that have now been sold, waiting to be sold off, mothballed or otherwise had their front desks closed in the wake of the Mayor of London's review. However no statement on Wimbledon police station's long term future has yet been made.
- 4) The BCU Commander Chief Superintendent Sally Benatar reported to the OSC on 25 April 2019 that, following the amalgamation of the Merton, Wandsworth, Richmond and Kingston BCUs and "11 months of working at greater scale across the boroughs", an internal review was taking place that included the possibility that Wimbledon Police station would be retained in the long term.

Council welcomes: the statement in her report by Leonie Cooper, London Assembly Member for Merton & Wandsworth at the Wimbledon Community Forum, on Wednesday 29 January that "[t]here is no plan to close Wimbledon Police Station" and her further suggestion that its long term future is now secure.

Council resolves: to ask the Leader of the Council to write to the Mayor of London for confirmation that Wimbledon Police station will not be sold and its long term future is now secure.

Councillor Paul Kohler Councillor Hina Bokhari Councillor Anthony Fairclough

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