

Response from Croydon residents

Resident 1

Dear Sir,

I am extremely concerned that the centralisation of the met will leave Crystal Palace vulnerable as officer hours will be lost in transit from central hubs.

The impact of these proposals on Police services for SE19 is very worrying.

It is my request that a cross border Police team is set up and run from Gipsy Hill Police station.

This will make we residents of SE19 feel much safer.

Resident 2

Dear Sirs

As a Crystal Palace resident I am concerned to hear the proposals to centralise all police at their borough towns. In an area which is on the margins of five boroughs this will have a serious negative impact. I understand that officers will need to report in at their borough towns and then travel to their beat thus greatly reducing the time they actually spend in the area.

I was burgled some time ago and the police investigating had to come from Walworth which is in no way local to me. Neighbours had CCTV footage of the incident which clearly showed the faces of the burglars. It took great persistence on my part to actually get this to police officers; they did not want me to post it but nor were they able to send an officer to collect it for days. Once it was eventually handed over I never heard anything again.

Burglaries and street crime in this area appear to be rising and it would seem obvious that for Crystal Palace and any other area located at the crossroads of several boroughs, the proposals will be detrimental. A dedicated police team is needed.

I would be grateful if you could be so kind as to acknowledge receipt of this email.

Resident 3

Dear Sir/ Madam

I hope that the issue of policing Crystal Palace, which to its detriment comprises the extreme points of 5 local boroughs, will finally be resolved in the Mayor's plan. Please can we be granted our own, dedicated police team, rather than having officers travelling in from other boroughs? Crystal Palace has for the past 150-plus years been regarded as a centre in its own right, for law-abiding residents and bad 'uns alike. It's just our bad luck that we straddle so many modern London boroughs.

I don't know what the official figures are but anecdotally, street crime and burglaries appear to be on the rise. With the closure of Gipsy Hill station - which, even if it wasn't operationally at full tilt, was at least a visible reminder of the long arm of the law - we're concerned that the situation will deteriorate further.

I'm sure you'll hear many other voices from our locality expressing the same concern. I hope we get the local, dedicated, full-time policing we need.