

REQUEST

I am sorry to have to contact you again over the matter of the proposed sale of Hornchurch Police station. The Local Tory Party have put out another leaflet claiming that the sale has been done.

These constant lies really need to be stopped as they are causing confusion and anger in our local community.

As the Hornchurch Residents Association were instrumental in obtaining signatures on a petition to save the police station both in 2012/3 when our GLA representative Roger Evans and members of the HXRA, presented our petition to the Mayor and 2017/8, I expect us to be notified when the final fate of the site is known.

I am asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act

Can you please answer the questions shown below as the Havering administration will not even give our independent councillors information that could be relayed to our members and local residents in the wards affected.

1. Are the Havering Council purchasing the freehold for the complete site, including the outbuildings and the ex-police married quarters?
2. If the full site is not being purchased, just how much of the site is being included in any sale to Havering Council?
3. If MOPAC lease back the police building with or without the full site, how much is the lease and for what length of time?
4. Will the lease be for the complete building or a part of such building?
5. If for any legal reason you cannot answer these questions, will you ensure that we are informed of all these answers when the sale has been completed.

RESPONSE

Thank you for your email of 18 October to the Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime (MOPAC). You requested the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

- 1. Are the Havering Council purchasing the freehold for the complete site, including the outbuildings and the ex-police married quarters?*
- 2. If the full site is not being purchased, just how much of the site is being included in any sale to Havering Council?*

3. If MOPAC lease back the police building with or without the full site, how much is the lease and for what length of time?

4. Will the lease be for the complete building or a part of such building?

5. If for any legal reason you cannot answer these questions, will you ensure that we are informed of all these answers when the sale has been completed.

I confirm that your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and that MOPAC does hold some information relating to your request. However, this information is exempt from disclosure under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act, since it is information which is already published, here:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/mayors-office-policing-and-crime-mopac/governance-and-decision-making/mopac-decisions-0/disposal-hornchurch-police-station>

Regarding the other matters raised in your email, as previously stated, the site has not been sold. Our previous response set out the process by which a sale could take place, repeated here for ease:

“Following the publication of this [Public Access] strategy, Havering Borough Council approached MOPAC to see if we would be willing to sell the station to them. We agreed an option for them to purchase the site – at full market value – and also lease back part of the site, at minimal cost, to the police to be used as the local DWO Hub and a location for Community Contact Sessions. This allows the Met to raise the capital they need to invest in policing, reduce running costs to support officer numbers as well as provide the accommodation needed to house neighbourhood officers, ensuring the service the Londoners is maintained and enhanced.

“It will be for the Council to decide whether to exercise their option.”

This remains the case.