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**OXFORD
CITY
COUNCIL**

Rt Hon Andrew Smith MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

5 November 2007

Our ref: SK/Streetwardens
Your ref: SB/wilk04004/04072918

Dear Andrew

Ms Wilkinson, Rose Hill Tenants and Residents Association

Thank you very much for your letter of 8th October relating to Ms Wilkinson's concerns about the Street Warden service in Rose Hill. I apologise for the delay in replying.

I am very pleased to hear Ms Wilkinson's support for the Street Wardens scheme and would like to reassure her through you that it is not my intention to reduce the number of Street Wardens that are patrolling in Rose Hill, or indeed in other areas on a permanent basis.

I am pleased to say that following a detailed review of the establishment in Neighbourhood Renewal, a decision has been made to allow recruitment of two wardens. This should relieve the short term pressure on the service and we will continue to monitor the budget situation between now and next April to see if replacements for the three remaining vacancies can be funded.

I am conscious of the representations such as those presented by Ms Wilkinson and yourself, and these will indeed help inform final decisions to be taken. I do understand that if Wardens are not replaced when resignations take place, then the service will have to be reduced, either by reducing the number of patrols, or by reducing the areas in which they work.

The Street Warden management team have been working with the Police to agree a temporary deployment plan that provides the best possible coverage and concentrates on areas with the greatest need. We will keep this under review and in the short term will aim to continue patrols in Rose Hill (concentrating on the area near the Church)

Yours sincerely

Peter Sloman
Chief Executive

cc R Hindmarsh
V Johnson
M Lawrence
M Newman