

Your reference:

Our reference: CAD 9534/8SEP

Date: 1 October, 1996



## Metropolitan Police Service

*Bromley & Orpington Division*  
Penge Police Station

Mr A. Baron  
93c Venner Road  
Sydenham  
London  
SE26 5HU

175 High Street Penge  
PENGGE, SE20 7DS  
Tel: 0181-284 8901

Dear Mr Baron

I write with reference to your letter of 9th September in which you raise concerns about the actions of my officers on the evening of the 8th September.

As a result of your correspondence and the explanation of events contained therein, I initiated enquiries with the two officers concerned in this incident. Police action on this evening was the result of a telephone call from a distressed female stating that she had been followed in Alexander Park. Police units attended the Park and spoke to this woman who then identified yourself to the officers as the male concerned.

In these circumstances the officers have a duty to investigate the incident by appropriate questioning and the use of information from police or other sources. Whilst it is of course possible that your behaviour within the Park may have been misinterpreted by the woman, I believe that police action in this case was justified and reasonable. The advice given by the officer is also entirely reasonable given the lateness of the hour and the fear expressed by many women of sexual attack in such circumstances.

I hope that this provides a satisfactory explanation of police actions in this case.

Yours sincerely

  
David Chichen  
Sector Inspector, Penge