



Havant & District Citizens Advice Bureau

**Leigh Park Community Centre
Dunsbury Way
Havant
Hampshire
PO9 5BY**

**Tony Burton
Burton Property
5 Merlin Mews
Bishops Waltham
Southampton
Hampshire
SO32 1AR**

25 March 2015

Dear Tony

CAB offices, St Georges Walk, Waterlooville, PO7 7TU

With reference to our discussions concerning the proposed redevelopment of the above site, outlined below is the relevant background regarding our presence at this location.

We have been based in the current building at 9 St Georges Walk, known as Swiss Cottage, for over forty years. The building was adapted from domestic use, and has very small rooms, a dangerously narrow and steep staircase, and very limited access/facilities for disabled. It is now in a dilapidated state with outdated utilities, an unreliable power supply, a water logged cellar and a leaking roof.

The offices are very busy, with around 1,200 clients per annum contacting us at this location. Around one third of the population of Havant Borough is located in the Waterlooville area and there are major housing developments currently underway in the area. It is therefore important that CAB facilities continue to be offered in Waterlooville. St Georges Walk is an ideal location for a CAB office, being close to the main shops, car parks and bus stops.

The outline plans constructed for a proposed new build ground floor CAB office offer us an opportunity for a bespoke interior design and layout. We have been consulted regarding the production of a draft interior design/plan and the accessible reception, general office and client interview room layout offers us a potentially first class facility.

We are shortly to leave the St Georges Walk offices on the termination of the existing lease and we are now finalising plans for a reduced and experimental CAB service which will be based in Waterloooville Library. This move coincides with a cut in our core funding for 2015/16 by Havant BC. Our continuing presence in Waterloooville is therefore under threat. Over the past three years our funding from Havant BC has reduced from 2/3rds of our operating income down to 1/3rd from April.

We wish to work with the developer of the St Georges Walk site with a view to returning to the redeveloped building, subject to agreeing an affordable lease along with adequate Havant BC core funding.

Yours sincerely

Jon Stuart

Jon Stuart

Shared CEO, East Hampshire & Havant Citizens Advice Bureaux

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