



ASSOCIATION OF CHIEF POLICE OFFICERS

27 May 2010

Paul McKeever
Chairman
Police Federation
Federation House
Highbury Drive
Leatherhead
Surrey
KT22 7UY

Dear Paul and Ian,

The strength of ACPO lies in the collective knowledge, experience and endeavour of the leadership of the police service, across all forces in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Your role is to represent your members – ours is to lead. I can say with absolute certainty that every chief officer team is working tirelessly within their force, bearing in mind the very difficult financial situation we are presented with, to cut budgets while preserving the critical service we deliver to the public.

The reality is that this is extremely challenging: and a number of forces have had to take drastic action to balance budgets. We must be entirely clear about this with our public, with government and with all those who work within the service. Each force is impacted in different ways and many chiefs have articulated this both in public and in private. Without question, the service overall will suffer and reduce. As chief officers our job is to lead policing through these difficult times, remaining focussed on keeping communities safe from harm.

We all share a passion for the British model of policing, admired and imitated across the world; it is a model you and I seek to preserve. With this in mind we continue to inform and engage during the passage through Parliament of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill. In our professional view, clear and strong checks and balances are a crucial element of any reform, in order to preserve impartiality, the freedom to deliver policing without political interference, and the Office of Constable which we consider so precious.

We are mindful always of the painful impact of budget cuts on our workforce. The Winsor, Neyroud and Hutton recommendations are all subject to consultation and we are determined that the outcomes of these processes should recognise and reward officers fairly for the difficult, dangerous and critical job that they do. I feel we can best do this by recognising our different roles but more importantly reinforcing our desire to serve our communities.

ACPO was very strongly represented at your conference by Peter Fahy, Mick Creedon, Adrian Lee, Phil Gormley, Francis Habgood and Nick Gargan on the agenda and many others in attendance. In our many conversations beforehand, in response to my question, you clearly indicated that my own unavailability was not of particular concern to you. Having had the privilege to stand toe to toe with the outstanding members of the Service I led in Northern Ireland, I find some of your personal comments disappointing and unnecessary. As President, I have never declined an invitation when

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possible to meet and engage with you and your members, and I restated that commitment in my letter to you of 12 May, which I requested that you share with your members.


I therefore repeat the suggestion I made then of an early meeting, with you and as many of your colleagues as you would like to be present.

I have shared this letter with chiefs and commissioners across England, Wales and Northern Ireland, who have elected to add their signatures. We speak with one voice, and will continue to lead this great institution with huge pride.

Yours sincerely



Sir Hugh Orde OBE, QPM
President of ACPO



Mr Tim Hollis CBE, QPM
CC Humberside



Sir Norman Bettison QPM
CC West Yorkshire



Miss Sara Thornton CBE, QPM
CC Thames Valley



Sir Paul Stephenson
Commissioner MPS



Mr Adrian Leppard
Commissioner City of London



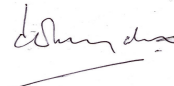
Mr Tim Godwin OBE
Deputy Commissioner MPS



Mr Simon Parr
CC Cambridgeshire



Mr Matthew Baggott QPM
CC PSNI



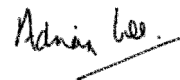
Mr John Yates QPM
DAC MPS



Mr Meredydd Hughes QPM
CC South Yorkshire



Mr Jon Stoddart
CC Durham



Mr Adrian Lee
CC Northamptonshire



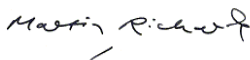
Mr Mick Creedon
CC Derbyshire



Ms Heather Valentine
A/CC Hertfordshire



Mrs Sue Sim QPM
CC Northumbria



Mr Martin Richards QPM
CC Sussex



Mr Sean Price QPM
CC Cleveland



Mr Paul West QPM
CC West Mercia

Mr Martin Baker QPM
CC Dorset

Mr Alfred Hitchcock
CC Bedfordshire

Mr Simon Ash
CC Suffolk

Mr Brian Moore
CC Wiltshire

Mr Ian Arundale
CC Dyfed Powys

Mr Keith Bristow
CC Warwickshire

Mr James Barker-McCardle
CC Essex

Mr Simon Cole
CC Leicestershire

Mr Richard Crompton
CC Lincolnshire

Mr Mark Polin
CC North Wales

Mr Steve Finnigan QPM
CC Lancashire

Mrs Carmel Napier
CC Gwent

Mr David Whatton QPM
CC Cheshire

Mr Ian Learmonth
CC Kent

Mr Stephen Otter
CC Devon and Cornwall

Mr Craig Mackey
CC Cumbria

Mr Peter Fahy
CC Greater Manchester

Mr Grahame Maxwell
CC North Yorkshire

Mr Alex Marshall
CC Hampshire

Ms Julia Hodson
CC Nottinghamshire

Mr Peter Vaughan
CC South Wales

Mr David Thompson
A/CC West Midlands

Mr Tony Melville
CC Gloucestershire

Mr Colin Port OBE
CC Avon and Somerset



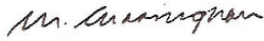
Mr Phillip Gormley
CC Norfolk



Mr Jon Murphy QPM
CC Merseyside



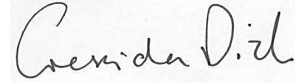
Mr Ian McPherson QPM
AC MPS



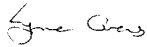
Mr Michael Cunningham
CC Staffordshire



Mr Chris Allison MBE
AC MPS



Ms Cressida Dick
AC MPS



Mrs Lynne Owens
AC MPS



Mr Mark Rowley QPM
CC Surrey



Mr Andy Trotter, OBE, QPM
CC British Transport Police