



Durham Police Authority

PRESS RELEASE

Durham Police Authority supports Association of Police Authority's letter to Home Secretary on Police Reform

Further to his previous comments made yesterday in response to the Home Secretary Theresa May's speech, Chair of Durham Police Authority, Mr Peter Thompson has also responded to a letter sent from the Association of Police Authorities (APA) to Theresa May.

The letter which addresses the speech on the APA's opposition for 'The urgent need for Police Reform' includes their views on the lack of public support, the politicisation of policing and the huge financial implications Police and Crime Commissioners will bring.

Furthermore, the letter also gives insight into the dedication of police authority Chairs and Members nationwide in their support for both the members of the public and the police during the riots just last week.

In response to the APA's letter, Mr Peter Thompson said:

"I wish to draw attention to editors and to all media in general, to the APA's official response to the Home Secretary, of which I fully support and agree".

Within the APA's letter sent on Wednesday, the APA's leaders have stated:

"Police authority members have not only given dedicated service but helped deliver results to the public, namely; falling crime, rising public trust and confidence and meeting or exceeding of every government efficiency target to date. As the recent HMIC inspections made clear, of the 22 of 43 authorities inspected by HMIC, none failed and over 97% of 110 HMIC assessments were scored Excellent, Good or Adequate".

END

Notes to Editors

- APA Letter enclosed
- Previous Police & Crime Commissioner press release enclosed

Durham Police Authority is an independent body responsible for ensuring Durham Constabulary delivers an efficient and effective police service. It is

made up of 17 local people who include 9 councillors, 8 members of the public who are the independent members.

The Authority ensures that the Constabulary is accountable to the people of County Durham and Darlington and ensures that citizens have a say in how they are policed.

The Authority is responsible, amongst other matters, for setting the budget for the Constabulary and, following consultation with local communities, mapping out the strategic direction of policing. This includes agreeing policing priorities and setting the Constabulary challenging targets to drive performance higher.

The Authority's Vision

“To ensure that policing in County Durham and Darlington is fair, effective and visible”

The Authority's Mission

“To be the effective voice of our communities in securing the delivery of high quality policing by:

- Exercising strong & effective leadership
- Engaging positively with communities to build confidence in local policing
- Strengthening partnership working
- Promoting equality, tolerance & respect for human rights
- Scrutinising and challenging police performance to secure continuous improvement
- Scrutinising and challenging business systems and processes to ensure effective use of resources

For further information or comment, please contact Durham Police Authority:

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