

Rt. Hon. Mike Penning MP
Minister for Policing, Crime and Criminal Justice and Victims
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13 November 2015

Dear Policing Minister

We are writing following your welcome announcement of a delay to the funding formula process.

We recognise the Government's desire to replace the old formula and agree that it is not fit for purpose. However, to proceed with a new formula that does not enjoy the confidence of PCCs and Chief Constables would be a mistake and thus we welcome your decision to pause and reflect.

We feel that while final decisions on funding will always be for Ministers there would be considerable merit in ensuring a strong independent view on the construction of a new formula. We would therefore propose that you appoint an Independent Board to produce a new set of formula proposals. The Board could comprise relevant experts and take evidence before coming to a view on a revised formula. In our view, this process would not need to take any more than 12 months and could be put in place for next year's budgetary round. A further advantage of this delay would be that the Board could consider the work being undertaken by the College of Policing and the London School of Economics which promises to be the most detailed piece of work on modern policing demand ever produced.

The product of an Independent Board would have the in-built advantage of independence and could more readily refute any claims of partiality.

We do hope that you will recognise the intent of this letter as being for the benefit of the police service nationally to find a way through the difficulties that we have faced over the past few months.

Yours sincerely

Police and Crime Commissioners

Sue Mountstevens	Avon and Somerset
Richard Rhodes	Cumbria
Tony Hogg	Devon and Cornwall
Ron Hogg	Durham
Martin Surl	Gloucestershire
Ian Johnston	Gwent
Clive Grunshaw	Lancashire
Jane Kennedy	Merseyside
Julia Mulligan	North Yorkshire
Vera Baird	Northumbria
Anthony Stansfeld	Thames Valley
Ron Ball	Warwickshire