



Rt Hon Mike Penning MP
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Date: 19 November 2015

By email only to: Eleanor.Jolly@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Mr Penning,

I write further to your announcement in the House of Commons last week to delay the revision of the Funding Formula for 2016/17. The delay is welcomed and is in fact a necessity in my view, as the process adopted to date has been less than satisfactory.

I fear however that there has been a significant loss of trust in the Government through the recent funding formula process. I recognise the Government's desire to replace the old formula and agree that it is not fit for purpose. However, it is essential that any future new formula has the complete confidence of PCCs and the service, and to do otherwise would be a mistake.

In looking ahead, I would strongly urge the Government to consider carefully how transparency and openness can be achieved in the new review process.

I am aware that you have received differing views on the way forward however, I firmly believe that government should create an independent board to produce a new formula. The Board could comprise 12 individuals - 4 Police and Crime Commissioners (representative across the country); 4 Chief Constables (representative across the country and different from the PCC's) and 3 relevant experts and a representative from the Home Office team. The Board could receive evidence from Forces and PCC's where appropriate on relevant proposals if this would assist. The Board could take into account the work being undertaken by the College of Policing and the London School of Economics on modern policing demand as well as the findings of the Home Affairs Select Committee on Policing chaired by Keith Vaz MP. In my view, this process could be completed in 12 months

As the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire I would be willing to participate in such a Board. I am also, more than happy to send you the details of the statistician experts from Lancaster University utilised by us in making our submissions to you through the consultation process if this would assist.



I do hope that you will recognise that the intent of this letter is for the benefit of the police service nationally whilst also potentially offering a way forward through the difficulties faced over the past few months.

Yours Sincerely

Clive Grunshaw
Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire