



Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria

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Sent via email

03 August 2022

Dear Home Secretary,

I am writing to you in support of a fair pay settlement for police staff.

On July 19th this year you authorised a £1,900 pay rise to all police officers, the equivalent of, on average, a 5% pay rise.

This award is a welcome step in recognising the hard work of serving police officers, and the actions they take to keep us all safe.

However, policer officers are only one part of the team that works hard to prevent crime and support victims. Your pay award did not cover the police support staff, those who serve the public with equal dedication and whose work is vital to our success.

Prior to the 5% police officer pay award, police staff received a 2.1% pay rise. At any time, such a pay difference would be hard for staff to accept, but at a time of rising inflation and a cost of living crisis, the pay division is immoral. Both sides of the policing workforce commit to keeping us safe, both are struggling with rising bills. Both sides deserve to be treated fairly.

As you will know, the collective bargaining agreement outlined in the Police Staff Council Joint Circular No 123 states that the employer's side may reopen negotiations if the PRRB annual award agreed from 1 September 2022 is in excess of a 3% award, as has happened.

A fair pay offer, fully funded by the Home Office, is the least these staff deserve. I caution against passing this cost on to local council taxpayers via the police precept, and would urge you to honour this agreement, reopen negotiations and find a timely solution to this.

Yours,

Kim McGuinness

Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner