



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

November 2018

Dear Constituent,

Thank you for contacting me about police funding.

As you may be aware the responsibility for determining the deployment of resources to manage and respond to crimes and local community priorities rests with Chief Constables, Police and Crime Commissioners, operational leaders and local representatives.

I know the Government understands that police demand is changing and becoming increasingly complex. You may be pleased to know that the Minister of State for Policing and the Fire Service spoke to every force in the country before reaching a comprehensive funding settlement. This settlement includes an increase in total investment in the police system by over £460 million in 2018/19 and includes £280 million from increases in Council Tax precept income. I understand that PCCs are using this precept flexibility and have presented plans to protect or improve frontline policing. In Northamptonshire the precept was raised this year to give the Chief Constable £8 million to invest in priority areas, which included funding 50 additional frontline staff to provide a direct service to the public.

The Home Office is working with the police in order to put forward evidence for the next Spending Review to ensure they receive the resources they need to complete their vital work in the future. Currently public investment in policing is growing by over £1 billion from £11.9 billion in 2015/16 to £13 billion in 2018/19. This funding includes investment in counter-terrorism policing, local policing and funding for national programmes.

A Royal Commission into policing would be a significant undertaking, requiring a great deal of time and resource. Instead, I think it is right that the Home Secretary supports the police sector to set its own strategic direction.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris'.

CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY

Tel: 020 7219 7048 Fax: 020 7219 1375
Email: chris.heatonharris.mp@parliament.uk
Website: www.heatonharris.com