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28 JAN 2013

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMBERSIDE

Mr Matthew Grove
Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside
Pacific Exchange, 40 High Street
Hull, North Humberside
HU1 1PS

Reference: M224/13

24 JAN 2013

Dear Matthew,

Thank you for your letter of 3 January to the Home Secretary, commenting on HMIC's *Revisiting Police Relations*, and setting out the action you are already taking locally. I am replying as the Minister of State for Policing and Criminal Justice.

It was encouraging to read of your plans to address any weaknesses identified in the 'health check' undertaken in Humberside Police and to appoint a Customer Service Contact, and also to learn that you are maintaining the resourcing of your Professional Standards Branch and your Anti-Corruption Unit.

The Government is committed to supporting Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) and forces in enhancing the ethical and professional standards of their forces to the levels of the best. As both the recent HMIC re-inspection report and the original *Without Fear or Favour* report note, there is a lack of consistency between forces in terms of the standards they set, how rigorously they enforce them – and how quickly they are implementing the HMIC recommendations.

We are clear that police integrity is a national issue. PCCs have a vital role to play in supporting this agenda at the local level, but the Government has a responsibility to provide the framework to enable forces to improve. We currently have a number of proposals under consideration, arising not only from HMIC's reports, but also reports from the Independent Police Complaints Commission and the Leveson inquiry, among others, and will be making an announcement on

these shortly. We look forward to discussing these proposals with you and your colleagues, and working with you to deliver this important strand of police reform.

Yours,
Damian

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