



Mark Burns-Williamson OBE
 Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire
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Office of the
**Police & Crime
 Commissioner**
 West Yorkshire

My Reference: OPCC/MBW/JAD

Your Reference:

17 December 2014

Rt Hon Mike Penning MP
 Minister for Policing and Criminal Justice and Victims
 2 Marsham Street
 London
 SW1P 4DF

Dear Minister

Further to your letter of 26 November 2014 in relation to my application for special grant funding to cover the additional costs of policing and English Defence League (EDL) demonstration in October 2013.

I would like to express my extreme disappointment with your decision not to provide a special grant as re-imbusement to West Yorkshire for policing the EDL demonstration.

Firstly, I am particularly disappointed that it has taken over a year for the decision to be made and communicated to me, despite regular and encouraging correspondence with both the Home Secretary and your staff, and every effort being made at this end to provide timely information to your office and HMIC who inspected the operation.

Secondly, whilst I acknowledge that the cost of the operation was less than 1% of the West Yorkshire Police budget, I do not accept that it does not present a serious financial or operational threat to the organisation. Given that the current budget gap is forecast to be over £162m by 2016/17, the organisation has necessarily had to shrink accordingly. The Force has suffered reductions of approximately 2,000 employees (officers and staff) since 2010/11. Coupled with other significant central demands on specialist policing from West Yorkshire, the NATO summit and the Commonwealth Games for example, both the Chief Constable and I are continually faced with ongoing challenges around the management of the remaining policing resources in order to provide an effective service to the communities of West Yorkshire.

I am deeply unhappy that each application for special grant is considered separately: West Yorkshire has recently policed two EDL demonstrations within a year of each other, the aggregate expenditure amounting to £1.005m equating to 0.25% of the overall budget. As such I would challenge the rationale behind the determination of the 1% guideline when taken on an individual event basis.

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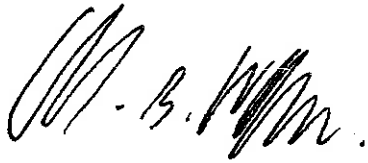
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www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk

Thirdly, the special grant guidance makes it clear that the decision to fund expenditure of less than 1% of budget is at the minister's discretion. It would appear from information provided on your website (copy attached) that only one other decision has previously been taken to turn down special grant funding on the basis of the 1% budget guidance, and that a number of decisions to support additional funding have been made which amount to significantly less than the 1% criteria. From the information provided, there are noticeable inconsistencies in the application of the guidance which result in a process which is subjective. I am unhappy that West Yorkshire has been penalised on this basis.

In a time when funding is being severely reduced, and local areas are having to suffer increased top slicing for the IPCC, HMIC and the Home Office Innovation Fund, I feel the decision not to fund the EDL demonstration impacts significantly on policing in West Yorkshire, and on this basis would ask that you re-consider your decision.

Yours sincerely



Mark Burns-Williamson
Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire

Copied to:

Home Secretary, The Rt Hon Theresa May MP
Temporary Chief Constable Dee Collins, West Yorkshire Police

Financial Year	Force	Amount of bid	Reason for Grant	Application successful? (money paid out)	Application not successful? (reason why)
2007/2008	Lincolnshire	N/A	Financial Assistance	3,400,000	
2007/2008	Dorset	N/A	Labour Party 2007 annual conference	5,320,000	
2007/2008	Lancashire	N/A	Conservative Party 2007 Conference	1,797,000	
2007/2008	Gwent	N/A	Care Homes Investigation	1,330,000	
2007/2008	Lincolnshire	N/A	Operation Barrage	400,000	
2007/2008	Greater Manchester	N/A	Labour Party Conference	179,000	
2007/2008	Leicestershire	N/A	Madeleine McCann investigation	525,000	
2007/2008	Bedfordshire	N/A	Yarlswood legal costs	370,000	
2007/2008	West Midlands	N/A	Labour Spring Conference	1,500,000	
2008/2009	West Midlands	N/A	Conservative Party 2008 Conference	4,500,000	
2008/2009	Greater Manchester	N/A	Labour Party 2008 Conference	6,704,000	
2008/2009	Kent	N/A	Kingsnorth climate protest	3,200,000	
2008/2009	Hertfordshire	N/A	Progressive Governance Conference	180,000	
2008/2009	Warwickshire	N/A	Depot Fire (Atherstone)	3,045,000	
2008/2009	Gwent	N/A	Care Homes Investigation	2,530,000	
2008/2009	Suffolk	N/A	Wayfarer	91,000	
2009/2010	Sussex	N/A	Labour Party 2009 conference	5,300,000	
2009/2010	Greater Manchester	N/A	Conservative Party 2009 Conference	3,781,000	
2009/2010	Leicestershire	N/A	Madeleine McCann	221,000	
2009/2010	MPS	N/A	G20-Glencoe (incBTP)	3,946,000	
2009/2010	Essex	N/A	G20-Glencoe	1,082,000	
2009/2010	Sussex	N/A	G20-Pitstone	179,000	
2009/2010	Sussex	N/A	G20-Glencoe	234,000	
2009/2010	City of London	N/A	G20- Glencoe	156,000	
2009/2010	Gwent	N/A	Care Homes	2,400,000	

2012/2013	Avon & Somerset	14,241	Badger Cull Planning costs (refunded by DEFRA)	14,241
2012/2013	West Mercia	30,119	Badger Cull Planning costs (refunded by DEFRA)	30,119
2012/2013	Sussex	2,060,000	Party Conference 2012	1,441,418
2012/2013	West Midlands	3,100,000	Party Conference 2012	1,848,781
2012/2013	Greater Manchester	1,700,000	Party Conference 2012	1,434,919
2012/2013	South Yorkshire	80,000	Ben Needham Investigation	60,476
2012/2013	Leicestershire	671,353	Op Peninsula EDL March	671,353
2012/2013	Dyfed-Powys	2,400,000	Op Tempest April Jones Search	2,400,000
2012/2013	Met	906,454	Op Grange Q4 McCann costs	906,454
2012/2013	Greater Manchester	161,991	Hillsborough - Capital	161,991
2012/2013	North Wales	683,776	Op Pallial Phase 1 costs - investigation into historic child abuse claims, care homes	579,922
2012/2013	Met	40,428	Hillsborough	40,428
2013/2014	Sussex	73,733	National Barrier Asset - storage costs	73,733
2013/2014	Sussex	1,979,148	National Barrier Asset - zaun security fencing	1,979,148
2013/2014	Lancashire	3,300,000	Op Chess, Dale Cregan Trial	798,601
2013/2014	Greater Manchester	155,373	Hillsborough	155,373
2013/2014	Cleveland	286,615	Q1 Sacristy costs	286,615
2013/2014	Met	652,237	Q1 Operation Grange McCann costs	652,337
2013/2014	Greater Manchester	462,998	Q1 Hillsborough Costs	462,998
2013/2014	Dyfed-Powys	5,477,054	Op Tempest April Jones Search	5,477,054
2013/2014	Met	38,829	Hillsborough	38,829