

BEV HUGHES

**DEPUTY MAYOR
OF GREATER
MANCHESTER**

Ms Pam Smith
By email

Our Ref: #CO3482/cw/Pam Smith
29th July 2019

Dear Pam

Thank you for your recent letter dated 15th June that outlined the resolution "Ensuring Stockport gets a fair share of police resources" which Stockport Council adopted at its Full Council meeting on the 28th March.

As you know, we made the difficult decision to raise the police precept in April this year by £24 per year for a Band D household. This decision had to be taken in light of the Government's continued failure to fund Greater Manchester Police (GMP) fairly and shamefully pass the financial burden of local policing onto local taxpayers, at a time when threat levels are severe and crime continues to rise. It left us with very little choice but to ask residents to pay a little more tax to ensure we can keep our communities safe.

The recruitment of the new officers will unfortunately not be realised immediately and it will take some time for these officers to be trained up and become ready for deployment. As and when these officers are qualified, it will be for GMP to review the force-wide threat, risk and harm intelligence and decide how those officers are most effectively deployed. Myself and the Mayor are in constant dialogue with the Chief Constable and I can assure you that we will be looking to see a fair and equitable deployment of officers across all of the ten local authority districts.

Additionally, in the last week, the Government has announced plans to start the recruitment of 20,000 police officers across the country 'within weeks'. Whilst the 20,000 new recruits identified will only replace the number of police officers lost nationwide since 2010, this is a welcomed announcement and I will be working with the Chief Constable and the Home Secretary to understand in more detail what this announcement will mean for officer numbers in Greater Manchester Police in the next few years.

Thank you for writing to me raising the concerns of Stockport Council and I would like to once again assure you that myself and the Mayor will be working to ensure all of Greater Manchester's communities have the necessary level of policing resource to ensure they are safe and secure.

*Kind regards,
Bev Hughes*

Baroness Beverley Hughes
Deputy Mayor of Greater Manchester
Policing, Crime and Criminal Justice

This page is intentionally left blank