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Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Commissioner,
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COMISIYNYDD
HEDDLU A THROSEDDU
DYFED-POWYS
POLICE AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER

Rt Hon Theresa May MP
Home Secretary
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

21 August 2014

Dear Home Secretary,

As required within Section 55(5) of the Police Act 1996, I write in response to the recently published findings of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC), "*Responding to austerity.*"

The report presents a fair reflection of what has been achieved in Dyfed-Powys to manage ever decreasing budgets whilst most importantly protecting the frontline. This is evidenced by having one of the smallest reductions¹ in police officer numbers in England and Wales, whilst also increasing levels of police community support officers.

The report also accurately captures our plans for the future including a full roll out of officer mobile technology and a rationalising of the police estate.

Whilst there are undeniably greater efficiency gains to be achieved within policing, the real challenge for us locally is beyond 2016. Considering the steps taken thus far to meet the financial challenge, our ability in continuing to protect the frontline will become more challenging in the longer term. This is not helped by the uncertainty of central government funding.

A copy of this response is published on my website.

Christopher Salmon
Police and Crime Commissioner

Cc: Drusilla Sharpling
HM Inspector of Constabulary
Wales and Western Region

¹ When comparing the change between 2010/11 to 2014/15.

