

ANDY BURNHAM

**MAYOR OF
GREATER
MANCHESTER**

Dr Carolyn Wilkins
Chief Executive/Accountable officer
Oldham MBC
By email

5th September 2018

Dear Carolyn,

Re: Council Resolution – Policing

Thank you for your letter that sets out Oldham Council's Resolutions following the full Council debate on the 11th July 2018. The debate highlights the significant challenges that Greater Manchester Police are facing on a daily basis.

My new police and crime plan highlighted since 2010 the Government has cut the amount of money provided to GMP by more than £200 million which, as your letter highlights, has resulted in the loss of 2000 police officers and almost 1000 police staff and PCSOs.

In addition, the police are dealing with ever increasing serious and complex crimes such as cyber-crime, terrorism, child sexual exploitation and human trafficking. This creates increasing demands and pressures on the police with fewer frontline resources.

That said, I am committed to fighting for increased funding for our police service and also recognise the important role of local authorities and other organisations in tackling crime and anti-social behaviour through partnership approaches and integrated place based teams.

I have made a commitment to put additional investment in the areas of the 101 response and the recruitment of additional police officers over the next 2 years with at least 50 additional officers recruited in 18/19.

The recruitment of additional officers is a key priority for me, I know how important this is to local residents. I am able to confirm that recruitment is progressing well and I am confident that the required number of officers will be recruited.

Improvement to the 101 service is a regular discussion item in the Deputy Mayor's meetings with the Chief Constable and I am encouraged that there is some improvement but am very clear that there is still a long way to go. Bev and I are working with GMP to monitor the effectiveness of an action plan to reduce call waiting times. It is important to me that there is an acceptable 101 response to calls made by the public.

Bev wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andy', with a large, stylized initial 'A'.

Andy Burnham
Mayor of Greater Manchester