



Stockton-on-Tees

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Councillor Steve Nelson

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Your ref: JC/IR/FB

4 July 2012

Dear Mrs Cheer and Mr Drummond

Review of Service Delivery

I have had sight of your letter of 18 June to Neil Schneider. Thank you for letting us have this early indication of your thoughts. We recognise that all public sector organisations are facing budget pressures and have to look to their cost base, including their staff structures.

However, when you refer to changing “our supervision and management structures” we would be very concerned if this were a veiled reference to departing from the four BCU structure. We place a high value on our relationship with successive District Commanders and their management teams, and we believe that co-terminosity, not just between Police and Council, but also with Cleveland Fire Brigade and Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust (at Directorate level) has been a major factor in our collective success in reducing crime and anti-social behaviour over recent years.

Furthermore, when Cleveland Police last made a major reduction in PCSO numbers, in early 2011 (we appreciate that neither of you occupied your current roles at that time) 42.5% of the reductions were borne by Stockton District. We made representations at the time that this was disproportionate, unfair and not based on either population or the number of Wards. ACC Dave Pickard came to a meeting of the Safer Stockton Partnership and put the distribution of cuts in the context of the continuing viability of the four BCU structures. If there were to be a move away from the BCUs then we would need to re-visit the question of the distribution of PCSOs and, more generally of NPT personnel.

I trust that this is helpful in terms of giving you an early indication of our thinking and we look forward to working with you on these difficult issues.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S Nelson".

Cllr Steve Nelson
Cabinet Member for Housing & Community Safety

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



2007-2008
Emergency Planning