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Alex Cunningham MP
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Thank you for your letter of 13 February on behalf of Mike Hill, Andy McDonald, Paul Williams, Anna Turley, Barry Coppinger and yourself regarding funding for Cleveland Police. I am very sorry for the delay in replying.

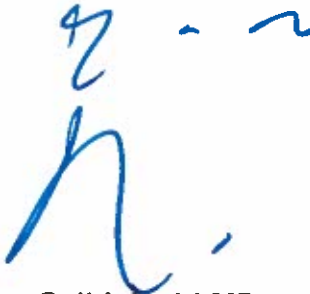
I note your concerns and understand the pressures being faced by Cleveland Police and other forces. This is why we are enabling the biggest increase in police funding since 2010 with more money for local police forces, counter terrorism and tackling serious and organised crime.

I believe that Cleveland are receiving £132.7m in funding in 2019/20, an increase of £7.3m on 2018/19 and a total of £9.5m compared to 2017/18. The funding is already enabling the police to recruit and fill key gaps, such as on detectives, and to meet their financial pressures.

We have further supported Cleveland Police with just under £3 million in Special Grant funding in 2018/19 to assist with the additional costs of Operation Pandect, which is the investigation of several historic homicides.

I note your points about the way in which the police funding formula disadvantages Cleveland Police. The Policing Minister has made clear that this issue will be looked at again in the context of the next Spending Review. It is right that we first consider what the overall envelope of funding is to the police before leading an exercise to determine how it should be distributed.

Concerning your request for a meeting I consider it would be appropriate for you to meet the Minister for Policing and the Fire Service in the first instance, subject to his diary demands.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'S' followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish.

Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP