



cc Police May '79  
Public Sector Police Forces

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WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AT

14 May 1979

The Rt Hon William Whitelaw CH, MC, MP  
Secretary of State  
Home Department  
Queen Anne's Gate  
LONDON SW1

Dear Willie,

POLICE PAY

Thank you for sending me a copy of your minute to the Chancellor of the Exchequer of 8 May about the payment of the second stage of the Edmund-Davies recommended pay increase, with effect from 1 May.

There are a number of other public sector Police Forces, of which the Ministry of Defence Police and the British Transport Authority Police are the largest, whose pay prior to the Edmund-Davies Report had been linked either directly or indirectly with that of the Civil Police, and the previous Government set up a small Inquiry under Mr Eric Wright to examine the relevance of the Edmund-Davies Committee's recommendations on the pay and conditions of service and responsibilities of these public sector Police Forces and to recommend for each of them what the appropriate pay relativity should be with the Home Departments' Forces.

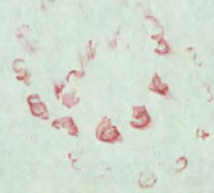
The announcement of the immediate payment of the second instalment to the Home Department Police Forces will increase the pressure on us to do something for these other Police Forces who have only so far been offered an interim increase of 5% from 1 September 1978. However, my officials have discussed the position with the Chairman of the Inquiry who has undertaken to produce his Report early in June and I therefore consider that we should await the Report before taking any action, but promise to give its consideration priority.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretaries of State for Defence, Employment, the Environment, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Trade, the Minister of Transport and Sir John Hunt.

Yours ever

Christopher

15 MAY 1979



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2ffs Police

QUEEN ANNE'S GATE  
LONDON SW1H 9AT

24 May 1979

Thank you for your letter of 14<sup>th</sup> May about the effect of our decision to implement the Edmund-Davies recommendations in full with effect from 1st May on the police forces which were not covered by the Edmund-Davies inquiry.

I recognise that this decision will increase the pressure for action on behalf of these forces, but I agree that, with the Wright Committee so close to completing its task, its report should be awaited before any action is taken.

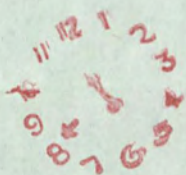
I am sending copies of this letter to the recipients of yours.

R

W. Whitelaw

The Rt. Hon. Lord Soames

24 MAY 1979





MINISTRY OF DEFENCE WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

TELEPHONE 01-218 9000  
DIRECT DIALLING 01-218 2111/3

MO 4/4/3A

22nd May 1979

Dear Christopher,

Thank you for copying to me your letter of 14th May to Willie Whitelaw, about the pay of the non-Home Department Police.

The Ministry of Defence Police is the largest of the forces under consideration, and I feel that colleagues would wish to be aware of the anxiety which has been expressed to me about the effects of the continuing delay in settlement.

The Force is at present over 14% below its complement, and since September last there has been a significant and increasing rate of resignation particularly by younger and better qualified officers, many of whom have left to join Home Department forces where the Edmund-Davies rates are being paid. The Force already has a preponderance of older men, and the effects of lost recruitment and increased wastage are exacerbating an already difficult situation. Indeed, the Chief Constable has expressed his concern that lasting damage to manpower and morale may already have been sustained.

I fully agree that, at this stage of the Wright Committee's deliberations it would be unwise to take any action beyond what you have proposed. I hope, however, that the Police representative bodies of the non-Home Department Forces can now be informed of our determination to achieve a very early settlement, and that there will be no delay in putting the Committee of Inquiry's findings to them as soon as these are available.

I am copying this to the recipients of your letter.

*Francis Pym*  
Francis Pym

22 MAY 1979

