



Home Office

Kit Malthouse MP  
Minister of State for  
Crime and Policing

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Ms Jennette Arnold OBE AM  
Chair of the London Assembly  
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11 May 2020

Dear Jennette,

Thank you for your letters of 20 February and 26 March to the Home Secretary regarding funding for the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS). I am replying as the Minister of State for Crime and Policing. I am sorry for the delay in responding to your letters.

I welcome your support for the 20,000 police officer uplift programme. I recognise that the demand on the Police is changing and becoming more complex, that is why we are committed to supporting the Police and giving them extra resources to protect the public and keep us safe. The Government will provide a total police funding settlement of up to £15.2 billion in 2020/21, which is an increase of up to £1.121 billion compared to 2019/20, including main grant, council precept and national priorities.

The MPS will receive £2,939.9 million in funding for 2020/21 including council tax, which is an increase of £193 million on 2019/20.

In regards to your query on future funding settlements, it is expected that the next Spending Review will set budgets for 2021/22 and beyond.

Intense pressure on the Special Grant budget means I have had to take a more stringent approach when assessing applications against the existing framework. However, Special Grant remains an option for the Force to apply for additional funding in the event of unexpected events and planned operations.

For the MPS, I recognise that full application of the criteria creates difficulty for the Force in accessing Special Grant funding. I therefore decided that for the majority of their funding requests I would not strictly apply the full criteria, instead asking the Force to make a reasonable contribution to their additional costs, significantly below the normal one per cent of core funding. Special Grant funding totalling £15 million has therefore been provided towards the additional costs of the Extinction Rebellion protests, as well as funding for a number of other events and operations. Total Special Grant funding for the MPS in 2019/20 will be in excess of £20 million.

My officials will be undertaking a full review of the Special Grant and, as part of that, will be considering how thresholds should be applied to the MPS going forward.

I understand your concerns around the National and International Capital City (NICC) grant for the MPS. It is important to note that the NICC grant to your Force has been protected in cash terms since the Spending Review in 2015 and we increased the NICC by £12 million to reflect your Force's unique funding pressures in 2019/20. However, it should be noted that NICC funding is a reallocation from the Police's core funding settlement and that any increase in the NICC will have the effect of decreasing core funding for all Forces in England and Wales.

Decisions on the level of the NICC must therefore be taken pragmatically, taking into account the funding position for all Forces. We are providing extra Government funding for counter-terrorism policing that will help protect Londoners.

I hope this alleviates any concerns you may hold regarding this matter.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kit Malthouse', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Kit Malthouse MP**