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Mr Martin Richards
Chief Constable
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Our ref: MW/sh

1 June 2011

Dear Sir

We are sure by now you are aware that at the Police Federation's annual conference in May, a motion was passed instructing our Joint Central Committee to write to Sir Hugh Orde expressing our lack of confidence in ACPO. The letter was circulated last week and I am taking this opportunity to furnish you with a copy of it.

The Winsor, Hutton and Neyroud reports together constitute the greatest attack on the pay and conditions of rank and file officers in history. At times like these, we believe that our members have a right to expect that ACPO show solidarity with, and support their officers and are seen to stand up to the Government

The letter was not a step which was taken lightly but reflects the lack of tangible support which rank and file officers feel they have been given by ACPO. This is seen as being in stark contrast to the support given to the military by their senior commanders. It seems to us and our members that unlike the military, there has been an inability or unwillingness by ACPO to throw their support behind police officers.

Whilst expressing disappointment at Sir Hugh Orde's decision not to attend our conference, the letter is not aimed at specific ACPO members but at the organisation itself, which at the time of greatest need to its officers in our opinion, has been found to be lacking.

Yours faithfully

Mark White
Secretary

Bob Brown
Chairman

Encs.