

Alex Rowley MSP Member for Mid Scotland and Fife

Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs Scottish Government, St Andrew's House Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG

Office of Alex Rowley MSP **Ore Valley Business Centre** 93 Main Street Lochgelly Fife KY5 9AF

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Dear Cabinet Secretary,

POLICE PAY

I have been contacted by a number of constituents who are serving police officers to share their concerns that a number of proposals for a pay settlement have been rejected in their negotiations and an offer has been made to police officers that my constituents describe as "derisory".

One point in particular is raised – that the police force is at a particular disadvantage in pay negotiations due to their inability to take strike action.

Serving police officers are seeing public sector workers across the country achieving increased pay offers only after taking or threatening strike action. Without the mechanism of strike action, I fear that members of the police force will be taken advantage of, being offered a lower figure without the same opportunity at recourse other public sector workers have.

There are already major concerns across Scotland with police staffing and retention – I urge you to not take advantage of the block on strike action and instead agree a fair pay award that will ensure we do not lose vital police numbers to other forms of employment.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Abx houle

Alex Rowley MSP



