



Keeping our communities  
safe and reassured



From the office of Chief Constable Gareth Morgan

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Our Ref:

Date: 07 July 2017

Dear

Mark

#### Review of Injury Benefit Pensioners

I write to you concerning the review of injury benefit pensioners currently being undertaken by the Force. I have undertaken to review the decision of my predecessor Jane Sawyers, and to clarify my own position on the process which I know is of significant interest to a range of colleagues.

I have personally reviewed the processes and documents being used and I am satisfied that the approach is legal, consistent with the Regulations and that due diligence is being applied. In my discussions with colleagues overseeing the reviews on my behalf I have underlined my expectation that the process is fair and balanced, with each review being proportionate and undertaken in a timely way. This last point is critical and acknowledges that embarking on this process will be for some a cause of concern and anxiety. Therefore expediting the process is vital.

I am very mindful of the expectation outlined in Regulations that injury pensions are reassessed. I have a duty to ensure that the use of public money is justified and necessary and this needs to be balanced with the recognition that these benefits were awarded following injury in the course of duty to the public. I am clear that Staffordshire Police will meet its legal commitments to honour injury benefit payments at a level to which each pensioner is entitled.

The process is not a cost-saving exercise and will not be a factor in any force savings target required by the ongoing budgetary challenges. Neither does the Force have a predetermined aim to reduced bandings.

[www.staffordshire.police.uk](http://www.staffordshire.police.uk)

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The ongoing review will provide half-yearly progress reports (duly anonymised) to the Police Pensions Board, which will provide you with an opportunity to challenge and question as necessary.

We will have the opportunity to discuss further as part of our regular meetings, however if you wish to discuss in the interim please do not hesitate to get in touch direct.

Yours sincerely,



Gareth Morgan  
Chief Constable

Mark

Looking forward to meeting up in August.

