

From:[redacted]  
Sent: Saturday, January 20, 2018 9:46:31 PM  
To: Matheson M (Michael), MSP  
Subject: Police Scotland

Dear Sir, By way of introduction I am a retired Police Officer having served just over 30 years with [redacted]. I retired in 2004, as head of the [redacted]. Prior to that I was [redacted] from 1997 to 2000. My son, daughter and son in law are members of Police Scotland. There used to be a good firewall between the Police and politicians which offered protection for both. I remember taking part in a debate at the Scottish Police [redacted]. Unfortunately the introduction and current set up of Police Scotland is an embarrassment to not only our decision makers but to our country. We used to lead the UK in policing practices but not now. In my day when you detected a murder, irrespective of the complexities of the case, you had seven days to submit full statements of the case to the Procurator Fiscal. In some of these cases you had to submit more than 100 statements in one week. My point! [redacted]. Add to this the fact that we are at a heightened level as regards terrorist threats and we have our best qualified officer, [redacted] and again we have several months when nothing appears to be happening. I am not particularly politically minded however I am police minded and police Scotland are an absolute shambles as is the investigative process of senior officers. You are the justice minister I have heard your response to some of these issues on the media and quite frankly you or someone in this Scottish government need to grab the bull by the horns and fix it. Policing in this country exists through an acceptance of "policing by consent" it's an acceptance which has existed for over 400 years, however it should never be taken for granted.

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Sent from my iPad

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