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**Mr Andrew Dilnot CBE**

Chair  
UK Statistics Authority  
1 Dummond Gate  
London SW1V 2QQ

**Date:** 19 March 2013

Dear Mr Dilnot

**POLICE OFFICER STRENGTH STATISTICS FOR LONDON**

Thank you for your letter in respect of questions raised by Joanne McCartney AM relating to police numbers laid out in my draft Police and Crime Plan.

I am happy to provide further information on the numbers referred to and will do so as part of the Police & Crime Plan, due for release later this month. I will ensure that you receive a copy upon publication.

It is important to restate that that the numbers referred to in my draft plan are budgeted numbers and are completely consistent with the projected numbers for 2015. These numbers differ from the actual numbers published by London Datastore (and to which Joanne McCartney refers). As you rightly point out, there are many reasons for this including considerable turnover on local borough operational command units from month to month which inevitably means there are overlaps between new staff arriving and those departing. Datastore numbers also include posts paid for out of other budgets.

I am considering carefully the wider point you have made in respect of publishing statistics and how best to incorporate this advice into the work of my various functional bodies including the Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime (MOPAC).

Yours sincerely



**Boris Johnson**  
Mayor of London