

Rt Hon Andy Burnham MP

Shadow Home Secretary

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Sir Andrew Dilnot CBE
UK Statistics Authority
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11 February 2016

Dear Andrew,

POLICE GRANT 2016/17

Yesterday, the House of Commons debated the Police Grant Report (England and Wales) for 2016/17.

In November, the Chancellor told the House in his Autumn Statement and Spending Review that:

“I am today announcing that there will be no cuts in the police budget at all. There will be real-terms protection for police funding. The police protect us, and we are going to protect the police.”

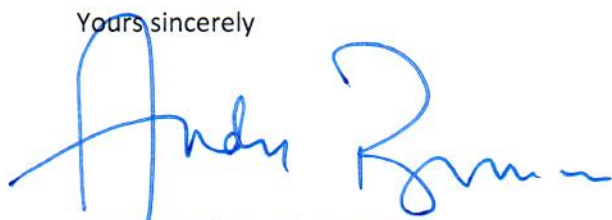
Analysis by the House of Commons' Library casts doubt on the Chancellor's claim. It shows a reduction of 2.1% in real-terms in 2016/17 compared to 2015/16.

Police grant report settlement 2015/16	Police grant report settlement 2016/17	% change	Real terms % decrease	Real terms decrease - cash
£7,452,619,732	£7,421,588,629	-0.4%	-2.1%	-£159,216,162

While I understand some of the gap could be made up by local precept, it still appears to me that this will not be sufficient to make up the shortfall.

With this in mind, could you provide urgent advice as to whether the Chancellor's statement promising "real-terms protection for police funding" is accurate?

Yours sincerely



Rt Hon Andy Burnham MP
Shadow Home Secretary