



**Northern Ireland Affairs
Committee**

From the Chair
Simon Hoare MP

Mark McEwan
Assistant Chief Constable
Police Service of Northern Ireland

24 January 2023

By email only

Budgetary pressures facing the Police Service of Northern Ireland

Dear Mark,

May I thank you and colleagues at the Police Service of Northern Ireland for your recent engagement with my Committee as part of our inquiry into the effect of paramilitary activity and organised crime on society in Northern Ireland?

During our meeting, we discussed concerns regarding budgetary pressures facing the PSNI. In written evidence to our inquiry, submitted in July 2022, the Service explained how these pressures could lead to "a shortfall of approximately £226 million over three years" which would equate "to a reduction of nearly 1,000 officers and 200 police staff".¹

Six months on, it would be helpful if you could provide the Committee with an update on and breakdown of the budgetary situation currently facing the PSNI, and set out the potential effects on the Service of a shortfall in funding.

I look forward to hearing from you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Simon Hoare", with a horizontal line underneath.

Simon Hoare MP

Chair, Northern Ireland Affairs Committee

¹ Written evidence submitted by the Police Service of Northern Ireland to The effect of paramilitary activity and organised crime on society in Northern Ireland inquiry ([PNI0023](#)), p.5