



Home Affairs Committee

25 March 2026

Simon Ridley CB
Acting Permanent Secretary
By email

Subject: Police National Database transformation programme

Dear Simon

Thank you for your reply to our questions about the Home Office's Supplementary Estimates for 2025-26.

Following the significant change in direction of the department's approach to the Police National Database, it would be helpful if you could answer the following questions:

The PND transformation programme

1. What is the underlying cause of the apparent failure of the PND transformation programme?
2. When did it become clear to the Home Office that this programme would not be deliverable?
3. How much has been spent on the PND since the transformation programme was established in 2021?
4. Given that the programme is now being brought in house, to what extent was the failure of this programme driven by supplier performance?
5. If supplier performance was an issue, is the department able to reclaim any money from the supplier?
6. What improvements – if any – have been made to the PND as part of this programme?
7. What risks to the operation and maintenance of the PND arise from removing the current supplier, and how are these being managed?



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The future of the PND

8. What is your assessment of how much longer the existing PND system can be sustained, and at what cost?
9. How significant is the risk of a major failure of the existing PND system and what would be the operational impact of this on law enforcement?
10. What is the Home Office's long-term strategy for the PND, and what funding has been allocated to achieve this?
11. What consequences – if any – are there for the future of the PND arising from the Home Office's police reform agenda? For example, would you expect the new National Police Service to take on responsibility for the delivery and funding of the PND)?

We would be grateful for a response by 16 April 2026.

Yours sincerely

Rt Hon Dame Karen Bradley MP
Chair of the Home Affairs Committee