



Annual Conference 2018: "Quite simply, we are here for our members"

This was the opening message from your National Chair Calum Macleod (pictured above) to the 1000-strong audience of Federation representatives at our [94th Annual Conference](#), held in Birmingham last month: "We are here so that members voices can be heard," he continued. "We all have a duty to represent our members; to air their concerns; to seek solutions on their behalf and to challenge where challenge is needed."

During his keynote speech the following day, in the presence of the new Home Secretary Sajid Javid, Mr Macleod warned Mr Javid that [he must "learn the lessons his predecessors failed to"](#). Your National Chair spoke of our frustration when it comes to changes in legislation in relation to assaults on emergency workers and trained police drivers, and urged the government to take the opportunity to make a difference.

Mr Macleod also highlighted the issue of poor officer pay, and the increasing disconnect between the demand and capacity facing the police service. A [hard-hitting video depicting some of the many issues faced by police officers on the frontline](#) day in, day out featured as part of the address.

Below are some of the top stories from Annual Conference (22-23 May) - visit the [event page](#) on our website to see all the news and videos.



[POLICE magazine](#): Find out what's in the latest issue

Extended coverage from Annual



New Home Secretary insists he is listening and he gets it

Home Secretary Sajid Javid, who was



Policing Minister commits to supporting fair police pay

Nick Hurd was put on the spot by your

Conference: The government needs to grasp the opportunity on offer; No central funding for body worn video or Taser; Independent Office for Police Conduct faces criticism on decisions and delays; Officers share harrowing ordeals; Police cuts are a 'legitimate national security issue'; Officers say there are not enough cops to keep people safe; National Award for Avon and Somerset officer; Detectives continue to face 'seemingly unstoppable crisis'; Serious Violence Strategy ignores the elephant in the room.



Protecting the protectors - police feel let down by 'weak legislation'

Watch a video profile of West Yorkshire PC Laura Gargett (pictured), who was viciously assaulted - PC Gargett shared her story with Conference to highlight the need for harsher sentencing. [PC Gargett, who was kicked in the face and stamped on, called on the courts to send a strong signal to members of the public](#) that "if you attack a frontline emergency worker, there are consequences". [Watch more of the videos and case studies](#) that were shown at Conference highlighting the reality of policing.

only appointed three weeks prior to the event, told Conference that [he understands the issues facing police officers, he is listening and he gets it, and he promised to "prioritise police spending"](#). Your National Chair Calum Macleod responded: "Now it is a matter of Mr Javid translating his words in to action - we have to be able to hold him to account. And we have to work with the Home Office and with the government to ensure positive changes for our membership, and for the public, are achieved - and that needs to start today."



A 'cautious welcome' for police drivers' consultation

Following continued pressure from us, the [Home Office has launched a consultation on proposals to amend the legislation on careless and dangerous driving](#) to recognise the high level of training and skill possessed by trained police drivers. The consultation also aims to clarify the situation for those of you who pursue motorcyclists, and will also ask for views as to whether the changes should also apply to police response driving. It is unacceptable to expose officers to prosecution merely for doing their job.

representatives over police pay, responding that in his role as Policing Minister [he "will always argue for fair pay for the police service"](#). Nick Hurd went on to tell Conference: ["You've won the argument \(about funding\)](#) - we're putting in an extra £460m this year alone." Sara Thornton, National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) Chair, said she would work with us and Police and Crime Commissioners to present to Mr Hurd the evidence he needs to make the case for increasing government spending in policing.



There's a 'gaping hole' in the new counter-terrorism strategy

Calum Macleod, your National Chair, said: ["Nowhere in this new Home Office strategy is there any mention of extra money for the police](#) to put extra boots on the ground, when we already know neighbourhood policing is key in combatting terrorism. Over the past few years, we have lost 3,500 neighbourhood officers - there are now only around 19,200 left. We know the Home Secretary doesn't intend to revisit police funding until the next Spending Review at the end of 2019. But that's too late."

Cosmetic campaign badged 'damaging and distasteful'

[British cosmetic company 'Lush' have launched a damaging and distasteful campaign](#) claiming to 'unravel the truth of undercover policing'. Calum Macleod, your National Chair, said: "The Lush advertising campaign is offensive, disgusting and an insult to the hard work, professionalism and dedication of police officers throughout the UK." We are joining forces with the Federations of Scotland and Northern Ireland to write an open letter to the Advertising Standards Authority to ask them to take action.

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News and updates from Annual Conference - www.polfed.org/events/annualconference.aspx
Sajid Javid must learn the lessons his predecessors failed to - www.polfed.org/newsroom/5639.aspx
A hard-hitting video depicting some of the many issues faced by frontline police officers - https://youtu.be/-G51h_5ncU
Annual Conference events page - www.polfed.org/events/annualconference.aspx
The latest issue of POLICE magazine - www.polfed.org/mag/default.aspx
New Home Secretary says he is listening and he gets it - www.polfed.org/newsroom/5643.aspx
Nick Hurd commits to supporting fair police pay - www.polfed.org/newsroom/5633.aspx
Policing Minister: 'You have won the argument (about funding)' - www.polfed.org/newsroom/5630.aspx
PC Gargett calls on courts to send a strong signal - www.polfed.org/newsroom/5613.aspx
Watch more videos from Conference - www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9U0B5b280_zZTjATbkov4RQI4XqLAM6
A 'cautious welcome' for police drivers' consultation - www.polfed.org/newsroom/5594.aspx
We blast a 'gaping hole' in new terrorism strategy - www.polfed.org/newsroom/5690.aspx
Cosmetic campaign badged 'damaging and distasteful' - www.polfed.org/newsroom/5680.aspx