

Email to Staff Officer for Mrs Sara Thornton, National Police Chiefs Council

Dated: 5th August 2015

Dear Mr Gasson,

I noticed yesterday that Mrs Thornton was recommending the merging of Police Forces. I have been doing that for years. My last communication in that respect is set out below to the Police Minister.

There has to be caution however because Police Scotland, from the evidence I have seen, does not offer a good example of merging Forces. Also as I suggested in my last email to you the quality of the Chief Constables is not good enough so in any merger the CC has to be someone of ability, just one down from Sir Bernard Hogan Howe.

Having a larger Force means that if there is a problem which needs sorting it can be. In the MPS we always had sufficient officers to deal with any problem, whereas in most County Forces that is not the case, certainly where the strength is below 3000. In York at the moment we have huge problems with ASB and Drunkenness at the weekends and I suspect it is because there are not sufficient officers to deal with the problem. I have asked the question and am awaiting the NYP reply, along with many other questions I have asked.

It is ludicrous that Wiltshire and Dorset have their own Forces when they quite clearly should be merged with Hampshire. It is crazy that Durham and Northumbria do not merge and so on across the Country.

What this Country is suffering from is the lack of leadership from David Cameron downwards. We need somebody at the top of Government and elsewhere who is a clone of Maggie. The French also need a clone of Maggie and then we could resolve the Calais crisis.

As I said in my last email to you Mrs Thornton could become the most reforming Police Chief if she carried out her obvious wishes and dragged the Government with her, particularly if it could be done without any extra expense, which I am sure it can. (A small thing: I eradicated bed blocking in an NHS Trust with 1600 beds in 2002 with no extra expense but purely better management).

I wish her the best of good fortune.

Kind regards,

David Cooper