

14 December 2018

By email:
homeaffcom@parliament.uk
Elizabeth Hunt, Clerk to
Home Affairs Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Enquiries to Richard Holmes
Email: Richard.holmes@maldon.gov.uk

Dear Ms Hunt

Maldon District Council – Crime and Disorder Committee

I am writing to you on behalf of Cllr Michael Helm, Chairman of the Maldon District Council Crime and Disorder Committee regarding the Police Fire & Crime Commissioner Roger Hurst and would ask that you bring this letter to the attention of Yvette Cooper, MP as Chair of the Home Affairs Committee.

Members of the Crime and Disorder committee meet twice a year to review the activities of the Community Safety Partnership (Partnership). The meetings are attended by the Police and by invite other members of the partnership depending upon the area of scrutiny.

Earlier this year Officers were directed to invite Roger Hurst to the meeting of the Crime and Disorder Committee to answer questions from Members relating to Policing matters in the Maldon District. Mr Hurst was asked specifically because many of the Members concerns relate to funding and resources which fall outside the control of the Local Chief Inspector.

Mr Hurst has declined the invitation on a number of occasions. Rather he has offered a briefing for members outside of the Committee setting on the basis the Crime and Disorder Committee does not have the remit to scrutinise his activities. Members strongly believe local policing resources are intrinsically linked to the activities of the PFCC through both funding allocation and strategy and Mr Hurst should attend the meeting for Members to discuss their concerns relating to crime in our rural communities.

The purpose of this letter is for you to note the strong feelings of Members of Maldon District Council in that Mr Hurst has been uncooperative with this Authority and ask you to intervene in this matter. Members wish to ensure that the Crime and Disorder committee is able to fully undertake their duties in reviewing the activities of the Community Safety Partnership through a meeting with Mr Hurst and your assistance will be most welcome.

As a footnote to this letter Mr Hurst has recently agreed to attend a private briefing with Members in February in addition to a public meeting. Whilst this is welcome Members would prefer to meet the PFCC sitting as the Crime and Disorder Committee as outlined above.

Yours sincerely

Richard Holmes
Director of Service Delivery
& Interim Head of Paid Service