

CIVIL NUCLEAR POLICE FEDERATION

Established by Act of Parliament



Ms Andrea Leadsom MP
Minister of State
Dept of Energy & Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
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11th April 2016.

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Retirement of Civil Nuclear Constabulary Officers

Dear Minister,

You may recall that I wrote to you on 12th February on behalf of my Federation regarding the lack of progress in our current consultations on pension regulations with the Civil Nuclear Police Authority. In brief, our concern is that we have not been advised yet by your Department as to the retirement age for Civil Nuclear police officers. All police officers throughout the United Kingdom have adopted the retirement age of 60 on foot of the 2011 decision of the Home Office.

The CNC performs an acknowledged vital role in protecting our civil nuclear assets; furthermore, recent media coverage has publicised the fact that we have now become an important player in the Government's plan to have effective surge capacity for anti-terrorist action throughout the UK. It is therefore disappointing that so far, the Government seems unable to authorise a retirement age of 60 for our officers. Without an agreed retirement age to anchor our pension regulations we are unable to progress meaningful practical negotiations. The only conclusion I can draw is that the Government is refusing to accept that CNC officers are police officers despite being fully warranted and indisputably performing police duties in protecting public safety and securing national assets. On that basis it seems that the Department, presumably at the behest of Treasury, is seeking to treat us as general public sector employees and impose the later retirement age of 65 or more ludicrously 68 on our officers?

It is unnecessary to rehearse the arguments from my letter of 12th February which detailed the high standards of physical fitness and weapon competency required from CNC officers to ensure their continued employment within the police service. However I do repeat the point that our belief that retirement at 60 is the only reasonable age that our officers can possibly serve to and still be deemed operationally effective. This view is shared by our Chief Constable, the Police Authority and by the College of Policing who set the very specific professional standards of the CNC.

[All correspondence to Chief Executive](#)

I would urge you Minister to take cognisance of the arguments of this correspondence and particularly of the professional views of the CNC, the CNPA and of the College. If it would be helpful to your consideration of the issue I would welcome a meeting. A previous one arranged for last year was unfortunately cancelled.

Yours sincerely

Nigel Dennis
Chief Executive
Civil Nuclear Police Federation

Copy

Sir Philip Trousdell KBE CB – Chairman Civil Nuclear Police Authority

Mr M Griffiths CBE Chief Constable- Civil Nuclear Constabulary

Mr Simon Chesterman QPM Deputy Chief Constable Civil Nuclear Constabulary & National Chief Police Council Lead For Armed Policing.

Mr Richard Bennett Head of Faculty – Uniformed Policing College of Policing