



Home Office

Kit Malthouse MP
Minister of State for Crime and
Policing

2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

www.gov.uk/home-office

David Pedrick-Friend
Chair of ASCO

CC Lisa Winward
Citizens in Policing Lead

By email only

12 June 2020

Dear David and Lisa,

As our national battle to defeat Coronavirus continues and the first careful steps are taken to modify social distancing measures, our police forces continue to demonstrate their ability to adapt and serve our country. I would like to congratulate and thank our volunteers for their remarkable dedication and sacrifice as they continue to support police forces in this challenging time.

Police Support Volunteers and our Special Constabulary demonstrate the best of society, giving up their free time, working with incredible commitment and bravery. Volunteers provide a valuable link between the police and our communities and their devotion to keeping us safe is inspiring.

As you will be aware, the annual Lord Ferrers Awards is an important occasion to mark and celebrate some of the wonderful examples of the work of volunteers in policing. I thoroughly enjoyed the ceremony last year and having the opportunity to meet and hear from many of our volunteers. However, as we continue to follow the necessary social distancing measures it is important that we consider the best and safest option for this year's award ceremony. I have therefore decided to postpone the Lord Ferrers Awards, which would normally have been due to take place in October. We will continue to take the necessary steps in responding to the current situation and find an opportunity to celebrate volunteering in policing when it is safe and appropriate to do so.

I was really pleased to have the opportunity to speak to several special constables this week and hear first-hand the incredible work they are doing, all of which should of course be celebrated. I want to ensure that the next Lord Ferrers Awards can recognise in the proper manner those who have contributed so much to policing and community safety, including in response to the challenges posed by Coronavirus.

Thank you, once again, to all those volunteering and for all you are doing to help us through these unprecedented times.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kit Malthouse', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kit Malthouse MP
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