

## **APPENDIX 1: DRAFT TO PCC**

Added from Shropshire Council: There are also concerns over the democratic deficit that the proposal risks if there is no local accountability?

**From:** [Johnson, Anthony \(Cllr\)](#)

**Sent:** 28/06/2017 09:39

**To:** '[peter.nutting@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:peter.nutting@shropshire.gov.uk)'; [sgeraghty@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:sgeraghty@worcestershire.gov.uk); [Davies, Shaun, Cllr](#)

**Cc:** '[Peter Butlin](#)'; [Johnson, Anthony \(Cllr\)](#)

**Subject:** Draft for PCC

Dear all

I attach a proposed draft e-mail below to John Campion for your consideration.

I think this contains all of our main concerns. Please feel free to add or amend as you see fit, and I would be grateful if you could send your versions back to me asap so I can send on to John.

Regards

Tony

Dear John

### **West Mercia Fire and Rescue Governance**

Thank you for your email of 12 June enclosing details of the consultation you are undertaking in relation to proposals to move to a joint commissioner for police and fire in the West Mercia area.

Our councils will each be formally responding to the consultation in due course. However we wanted to write to you in advance of those formal responses because of our shared concerns that the focus of the financial business case informing the consultation appears to be limited to a single option with ambitious savings associated with it. On the basis of the information available to us currently, the ability to deliver such significant savings through a bringing together of governance arrangements seems to be uncertain. This uncertainty inevitably leads to concerns that if the proposed savings are not achievable through the proposed changes to governance they will need to be delivered through other means which will either adversely impact on service delivery in the West Mercia area and/or significant changes to the precepts currently levied in some or all of the area concerned.

We of course recognise the powers contained within the Police and Crime Act, and we collectively fully support your ambition to ensure that the police and fire services are operating in the most efficient and effective way possible. However, in light of our concerns about the financial business case currently informing your proposal we ask that you consider exploring the financial business case behind a wider range of options which may achieve the same benefits in a more sustainable way.

If you would like to meet to discuss our concerns we would be happy to do so.

Yours

Councillor AW Johnson  
Herefordshire Council

Councillor P Nutting  
Shropshire Council

Councillor S Davies  
Telford and Wrekin Council

Councillor Simon Geraghty  
Worcestershire County Council