

NO CONFIDENCE IN POLICE AND CRIME COMMISIONER

Plymouth City Council is extremely alarmed at the recent comments from Conservative Police and Crime Commissioner Alison Hernandez about licensed firearm owners being allowed to act during terrorist incidents. Ms Hernandez's statement that she would "really be interested" in the suggestion shows she is unfit and unsuitable for office.

We endorse Deputy Chief Constable Paul Netherton's view that it would be "definitely an emphatic no" to non-police officers taking up arms.

This Council believes that a proposal to utilise domestically owned firearms is a crass and inadequate response to mounting concerns about police cuts. In particular it is an inadequate response to the previously reported removal of a large number of armed officers. This in turn is exacerbated by the removal of the "eyes and ears of the force", the PCSO's and Beat officers.

Given the current increase in terrorist attacks and the heightened state of alert for Devon and Cornwall Police we request the Chief Executive to contact the Home Secretary requesting she use whatever powers may be available to remove Ms Hernandez from office allowing Devon and Cornwall Police to continue the fight against crime, including terrorist threats, without these stupid and dangerous comments being made.

In the first instance we asked the Chief Executive to write to the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel Chair requesting he tables an urgent vote of no confidence in Ms Hernandez at their next full meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Chris Penberthy

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Signed

Seconded by Councillor Tudor Evans

Signed Tudor Evans

Dated 26/06/2017