

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

28<sup>th</sup> March 2019

*Dear Constituent,*  
**RE: POLICE PENSIONS.**

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of survivors' pensions for widows and widowers of police officers; your comments upon which I read with great interest.

As I am sure you are aware, in January 2016, the *Police Pensions Regulations 1987* and the *Police (Injury Benefit) Regulations 2006* were amended. This change was introduced to allow the widows, widowers and civil partners of police officers in England and Wales who have died as a result of an injury on duty, and who qualified for a survivor pension after the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015, to continue to receive their survivors' benefits for life.

As I understand it, successive Governments have been clear that there is a general presumption against making retrospective changes to public service pension schemes. I welcome the fact that the Government believes the arguments for making an exception for the widows of police officers who died as a result of an injury on duty are sufficiently compelling in this case.

You referred to the decisions made by the Scottish Government and the Northern Ireland Executive on this issue. The Scottish Government and the Northern Ireland Executive are responsible for the design and funding of police pensions in their respective parts of the United Kingdom. I understand that the Government has a continuing duty to ensure that public services are affordable, sustainable and fair in England and Wales, so any decision by a devolved administration should not automatically form a precedent.

At present, I am not currently aware of any plans to make any further changes to survivor benefits for police pension schemes, but I am very happy to raise these concerns on your behalf.

Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

*With best wishes*

*Tom*

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**  
**CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

*Being from a policing family, I completely appreciate these concerns and am very happy to raise them.*

LISTENING TO YOU - CAMPAIGNING FOR YOU  
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