



# Home Office

**Rt Hon Damian Green MP**  
**MINISTER OF STATE FOR POLICING AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

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Cllr Colonel John H Brunt OBE  
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CTS Reference: M2259/14

27 FEB 2014

*Dear Councillor Brunt,*

Thank you for your letter of 10 February 2014 to the Home Secretary about air support in the Dyfed Powys Police area.

The National Police Air Service Project Team have been working closely with both Dyfed Powys Police and the Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Commissioner and have looked at a number of options that if acceptable will enable Dyfed Powys Police to join NPAS at the earliest opportunity. No decision has yet been made as to the type of aircraft that may be deployed in the area, or where it will be based.

Fixed wing aircraft will be part of the overall service that the National Police Air Service provides, and although not able to perform some functions of a helicopter they do offer other advantages such as increased endurance. They can still provide effective support to officers on the ground and are significantly cheaper to purchase and operate. The National Police Air Service team do recognise the unique geographical and topographical nature of Dyfed Powys, and ensure that this is taken into account when formulating proposals.

Following last years limited trial of a fixed wing aircraft, a more comprehensive trial of a different fixed wing aircraft is about to get underway to prove operational effectiveness. Until that trial is over no decision can be made on where fixed wing aircraft would be most effectively deployed.

Dyfed Powys Police membership of the National Police Air Service will bring benefits over and above the local air support arrangements currently in place, such as replacement aircraft to cover technical faults or routine maintenance, and access to more than one air asset concurrently if required.

The National Police Air Service Team will continue to work closely with Dyfed Powys Police and other stakeholders to agree a proposal that will enable them to join the service as soon as possible.



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