



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

Com Sec: 10\3138

6th May 2010

Dear Lord Morrow,

To ask the Minister for Justice if he intends to revert Newtownhamilton police station to full-time status, given the recent terrorist attacks in the area; and if so, whether additional security measures will be put in place to protect police officers and staff. 6472/10

The above mentioned question was placed before the Minister for Justice, who has deemed that this is an operational matter for the Police Service of Northern Ireland. Therefore the Chief Constable has been asked to respond directly.

It is the intention of the Police Service of Northern Ireland to place police officers where they can best deliver a service to all of the community. To this end a review of the estate strategy was conducted, and approved by the Policing Board in 2009, which will allow for the eventual disposal of the current station at Bessbrook. It is felt that the development of the current site at Newtownhamilton will provide a more suitable patrol base for officers serving the South Armagh area. This will of course be kept under review and subject to the prevailing security situation.

Please be advised that a copy of this letter will be placed in the Library of the Northern Ireland Assembly. If you have any queries regarding this response, please address your correspondence to Command Secretariat, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, Northern Ireland BT5 6LE.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,
John McCaughan

JOHN MCCAUGHAN
Superintendent
for Chief Constable

Lord Morrow MLA
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Command Secretariat, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast,
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