



15 February 2018

Lord Wallace
House of Lords
London
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Dear Lord Wallace,

During the debate on the draft Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 (Consequential Provisions) Order 2017 Wednesday 10th January, I undertook to write to you in response to your query regarding the allocation of costs. You asked for clarification about who will be responsible for costs to the British Transport Police in England and Wales arising from the transfer of railway policing to Scotland.

The underlying principle of the approach to the transfer is that costs should lie where they fall. Any additional cost burden which falls on the British Transport Police as a result of the transfer of its functions in Scotland, once the transfer has taken place, will need to be met by the British Transport Police Authority. The UK Government are working with the British Transport Police Authority to seek to ensure that such costs are kept to the absolute minimum necessary, so that the impact on those railway operators who will continue to use and pay for the British Transport Police's services, is minimised. Any additional costs in Scotland will be the responsibility of the Scottish Government, and the Scottish Police Authority.

I will be placing a copy of this letter in the Library of the House of Lords.

Yours sincerely

Lord Duncan of Springbank
Minister for Scotland

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