

Dear public,

On behalf of all police officers in England and Wales we are writing this open letter to thank you, the British public, for the support you have shown us during a very difficult period of riots and unprecedented violent attacks. We are grateful to you for helping us to bring the perpetrators to justice.

Many officers have been away from their homes and families for extended periods, doing their duty in different parts of the country in unfamiliar places. However, the rounds of applause, cups of tea, bottles of water and the frequent chats expressing your thanks, have been truly overwhelming.

We have witnessed our colleagues being attacked and assaulted but your continued support, encouragement and recognition reminds us of why we became police officers in the first place. You have made us feel very proud to serve you.

The Prime Minister should be listening to your views and ensuring that the first duty of government, the protection of its citizens, remains at the heart of government policy. Come what may, we will uphold our oath to protect you and the communities we serve from lawlessness and greed.

From the bottom of our hearts - Thank you.

The Police Federation of England and Wales

