Sarah Jones MP
Minister of State for Policing and Crime

19 December 2025

Dear Minister Jones,

The Government is committed to making our streets safer with 13,000 new police, powerful new Respect Orders to tackle antisocial behaviour, a new network of youth hubs to steer our young people away from the deadly grip of knife and drug crime, and specialised support for women and girls.

One of the most basic components of crimefighting is reporting. The police rely on reports from local people to know where and when policing resources need to be deployed to tackle crime. The more reports they receive from people, the better they can build up a picture of the patterns and behaviours of criminals, making their policing more effective.

But the existing tools to report crime and intelligence are unfit for purpose. They're difficult to find, use, know that they've worked, and track outcomes. Some reporting must be done through the police, while others must be done through the council. Many people don't even know that these reporting tools exist.

Together, these deficiencies mean that a vast amount of public safety reports and intelligence never make it to local police and antisocial behaviour teams, making us all less safe.

Likewise, it's also difficult to find official information, guidance, and news about local safety. These are often buried away on websites few people visit, or rely upon residents making use of certain social media platforms or local news outlets, despite many people not being on those platforms.

It's clear that policing and public safety need to be brought into the modern digital age, and the strongest pathway for achieving this could be through the introduction of a National Police App.

Instead of every police force in the country developing its own primarily web-based reporting tools, the Government could spearhead the development of a **single, universally-functional National Police App** which would make effective use of the latest best practice in user experience design, ensuring that orders of magnitude more reports are made to the police and duly dealt with by them.

Millions of people could easily install it on their phones up and down the country, providing an intuitive **one-stop-shop to report any and all issues relating to crime and public safety.** Citizens wouldn't need specialist knowledge - they could easily report their issue within minutes and know that it'll be automatically routed to the relevant authority, with a built-in way to track the outcome of their report.

Critically, this would take all of the complexity out of reporting. You wouldn't need to know the name of the local police force, that the council is responsible for antisocial behaviour, or how to get in touch with the British Transport Police if your report concerns something on our railways. You would just drop the essential information into the app straight
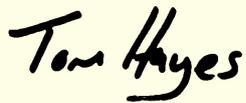
away, and it would handle all the rest.

And with this app installed on millions of phones, the police would have a powerful new tool to share critical public safety information and notify the public about key safety issues in different areas, enhancing public safety while also providing much-needed reassurance during concerning situations.

Ultimately, a National Police App would help local people feel safer, and enable the police to tackle crime and antisocial behaviour more effectively.

I would be grateful if you could please clarify whether the Government has considered introducing a National Police App and its position on this proposal.

Kind regards,

Tom Hayes

Tom Hayes MP
Labour Member of Parliament for Bournemouth East