18th January 2018

Dear Convenor,

RAILWAY POLICING AND PENSIONS

Thank you for your correspondence and sight of the letters from the British Transport Police and Scottish Police Federation.

As we have stated we have nothing but the highest respect for both Federations and their executive officers.

Neither of the Federations have been in discussions in a manner which supports the issues we are specifically raising for retired British Transport Police pensioners.

I would ask that when any decisions are being made surrounding future representation that you take note of the following;

- We have never claimed to have negotiating rights surrounding ‘Terms and Conditions’ surrounding the merger. This is not our remit, and we made this quite clear from the time of consultations in 2016.
- Retired Police Officers cannot be members of the Police Federations.
- It also needs to be understood that the British Transport Police Federation do not represent retired British Transport Police Officers, that is the recognised role within B.T.P of NARBTPO.
- This position is recognised by the British Transport Police Superannuation Fund to which two NARBTPO representatives are elected, and serve on that body.
- Cognisance has not to date, been taken that we as NARBTPO have larger number of Scottish members affected by the pension proposals than Federated officers. We have numbers greater than the 247 serving officers.
- You may also not be aware that at no time, have we been consulted by any staff association or relevant Police Authority surrounding changes which might impact on our members. We were not aware of the possible submission surrounding our pension fund. This came to us from unofficial sources. This is a serious omission.
- Additionally, we have never been invited to any of the ‘Road Shows’ or given any briefing papers supplied to serving officers and support staff.
- The above are issues which clearly indicate we are not represented by other staff associations.
- Sadly, our issues are being diluted and lost within the greater debate.

We therefore feel disappointed in the way we are being overlooked.

There is now an opportunity to redress this.
We await the decision of the Minister for Transport and the Islands and request that we be given the right to become involved in the debate surrounding pensions.

Yours Sincerely

Martyn Ripley OBE, BSc (Hons) FCMI.

General Secretary