



## **Federation response to HMIC report Rules of Engagement**

20.12.11.

Following Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's report on the August riots Rules of Engagement Paul McKeever, Chairman of the Police Federation of England and Wales, says:

"HMIC's report Rules of Engagement is the second in as many days to try to analyse the policing response to the disorder of August. The Police Federation of England and Wales welcomes their analysis – they draw many of the same conclusions as our own internal reviews. What is clear is that it was police numbers that brought the violence under control and the bravery of individual officers who were faced with unprecedented circumstances.

This review highlights that any future evolution of tactics will require significant numbers of officers and resources to successfully execute a response. When the service stands to lose 34,000 officers and staff and 20 per cent of its budget over the coming years serious questions have to be asked.

The report identifies the likelihood of future public disorder – will the resilience be there to combat it? The police service will continue to face down any challenges and protect the public to the best of its ability come what may. However, we must recognise that this will only become harder with fewer resources to call upon."

ENDS