



**Police Finance and Pensions Unit
Crime Reduction and Community Safety Group**

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The Director of Finance

Date 19 February 2009

Dear Colleague

ACTIVITY-BASED COSTING

You will be aware that the Home Secretary has announced her acceptance of Sir David Normington's proposals in his report *Reducing the Data Burden on Police Forces in England and Wales*.

One of the proposals accepted by the Home Secretary is the abolition of ABC with immediate effect. Forces will no longer have to submit annual activity analysis and costing data returns to the Home Office. We estimate that this will free up the equivalent of 110 full-time police officers and 35 full-time police staff each year.

It is a matter for forces to decide whether and to what extent they wish to complete the ABC process this year for their own operational management purposes.

On behalf of Home Office colleagues working in police finance, I would like to pass on our thanks to all the ABC practitioners who have been involved in delivering the programme over the last five years.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Gilbert". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

John Gilbert
Acting Head of Police Finance and Pensions Unit