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'I'm going to get him this time' - what one Tory said about Bob Quick

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Despite Dominic Grieve's acceptance of the Met counter-terrorism chief's apology this morning, it is clear that the Conservatives are at war with senior figures in the force

Bob Quick moved quickly this morning to declare a truce with the Conservative party after it became clear that David Cameron had him in his sights.

An early morning appearance by the Tory leader on LBC Radio, in which he demanded an apology from the Met's counter-terrorism chief, prompted Quick to issue an unreserved apology. This was immediately accepted by Dominic Grieve, the shadow home secretary, who said the Tories were keen to move on.

But the matter will not end there; it has provided conclusive proof that the Conservatives are at war with senior figures in the Met. Many Tories are saying that it will take the appointment of an outsider, possibly Sir Hugh Orde from Northern Ireland, who started his career at the Met, to repair the damage.

The Tories have long had Quick in their sights because he was one of the main officers who explained – some would say attempted to sell – the government's controversial plan to detain terror suspects without charge for up to 42 days.

David Davis, the former shadow home secretary, took particular offence at one briefing with Quick when he appeared to be unfamiliar with one of the main arguments against the 42 day plan. Civil rights campaigners said there was no need for a change in the law because of the so called "threshold test", which exists already.

This allows the authorities to charge a terror suspect on weaker evidence than would be needed in normal criminal cases.

The Tories emphatically deny having briefed the Mail on Sunday that Quick's wife ran a wedding chauffeur car business which sparked his outburst.

But one well placed Tory said after Damian Green's arrest: "**Bob Quick** is behind this. I'm going to fucking get him this time."

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