ACPO response to Home Secretary announcement on plan for 3600 community crime fighters

Responding to the Home Secretary's announcement to give more funds to tackling crime in local communities, **Chief Constable Matt Baggott Leicestershire Police and ACPO lead on Neighbourhood Policing** *said:*

*"The endorsement of a £5million fund to help **local people train to work with police** in tackling crime in their neighbourhoods is a testament to the success of **the ACPO-led renaissance of local policing**. Volunteers play a key role in neighbourhood policing and we look forward to working together on **fulfilling the potential of this new initiative."***

Federation reaction to the civilianisation of powers 27 August 2008 Simon Reed, Police Federation of England and Wales:

"It is extremely alarming that this government seems intent on diluting the policing resilience in this country by handing out traditional policing powers to civilian staff.

*"The Federation has concern about the presence of an ill-equipped and poorly trained second layer of law enforcement for not only does it cause members of the **public confusion** over who has what powers, but undermines the special covenant between the police and the public who rightly expect policing functions to be performed **by fully trained, independent and accountable** officers of the crown.*

*"These increased powers come with no tangible evidence given that civilian support actually has a positive impact on crime prevention or public confidence. It is therefore premature to be giving civilians more policing powers and another sign **this government is intent on civilianising the police."***

The PPP comment … **ACPO and the Police Federation are Poles apart on this issue. The pathetic response of ACPO's lead compares with the far more reasoned analysis of the Federation. The PPP endorses the views of the Federation and sees the constant meddling with every aspect of governing this country as almost 100% negative, destructive, confusing distracting and incredibly costly.**