

# **“ PPP ”**

## **People for Proper Policing in North Wales**

### **Cost of Crime in London hits £3 billion**

TaxPayers' Alliance Bulletin - 11th April 2008 [www.taxpayersalliance.com](http://www.taxpayersalliance.com)

Yesterday, the TPA released our contribution to the London Mayoral Debate, an in-depth study of the cost of crime in London. As well as providing breakdowns for different types of crime on a borough-by-borough basis across the capital, we calculated that crime now costs Londoners over £3 billion, more than £400 a head on average. Calculating the social and economic cost of different types of crime allows us to give a fair weighting to different offences that better reflects the impact of more serious crimes such as assault than the easily manipulated raw figures the Government prefers to use. The report makes a compelling case for strengthening local democratic control of policing, radically cutting police bureaucracy and learning the lessons of international policing successes such as New York. You can read the report here.

For those of you outside London, never fear, we haven't forgotten you! A national study into the cost of crime for every part of the country will be coming out over the summer - this is the first step towards giving people the power to see in detail how crime affects their neighbourhood and being able to hold the police and the criminal justice system to account.

Crime and policing is set to be the big issue of the Mayoral election, so we were pleased that the report was picked up by:

**The Evening Standard: - Crime and the mayoral contest (Leader Column) - Crime costs Londoners £3bn a year (News Article)**

**The Sun: - London crime costs us £400 a year each**

**BBC News Online: - Crime 'costs each Londoner £400'**

### **Holding snooping Poole Council to account**

We need your help to hold Poole Council to account. We wrote here describing how Poole Council used an anti-terror law to spy on a family they suspected of living outside a school catchment area. This, I'm sure you'll agree, is a gross misuse of power. Is this where our Council Tax increase has gone, to fund people to spy on us?

You can find all the contact details of Poole's councillors on the blog. Please do hold them to account and ask them whose idea it was to spy, if they have been invading other people's privacy other than the family in question and whether they intend on putting more taxpayers under surveillance. It might be worth asking your own council if they're using the same law to monitor taxpayers in your borough.

**The PPP comments .... The TPA now e.mail us their Bulletins & we will publish them.**