



People for Proper Policing in North Wales

Engaging Communities in Fighting Crime

A review by Louise Casey

http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/~media/assets/www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/publications/crime/cc_full_report%20pdf.ashx

TEN KEY FACTS FROM THE REVIEW

- **55% of the public say crime is the most important issue facing Britain today.**
- Only 33% of the public are confident that the Criminal Justice System meets the needs of victims, but **79% agree it respects the rights of offenders.**
- 73% of the public say that hearing about someone being a victim of crime in their local area affects their feelings of safety and makes them cautious, angry and sad.
- 91% of the public think the basic approaches and standards of service delivered by the police should be the same wherever they live.
- **Better parenting** is the top thing (58%) the public say would do most to reduce crime and 58% of the public think that Friday night is the most important time for youth facilities to be available.
- 90% of respondents to the review think the public are not told enough about what happens to those who have committed crime.
- When asked what is the most important issue facing Britain on crime, the top answer from the public (29%) is that **sentences are too lenient.**
- 90% of the public agree that community punishments for crime should involve some form of payback to the community.
- When asked who they would trust as a source for national statistics on crime, the top answer from the public (48%) was **an independent watchdog.**
- **75% of the public are prepared to play an active role in tackling crime.**

There are some who argue that the Government and the Criminal Justice System must not allow itself to be swayed by public opinion; that pandering to public opinion leads to 'mob rule' and an uncivilised society. But, currently, the system is so far away from pandering to public opinion that this seems the remotest of risks and, if anything, there is a greater risk of the public withdrawing even further from the active part they need to play. Radical change is needed to get the public more engaged in tackling crime and to stop the erosion of community spirit.

The PPP comments After 5 years trying to influence the priorities for policing in North Wales we know those who ignore public opinion, as stated above, still think they are controlling the system but their days are definitely numbered