



People for Proper Policing in North Wales

David Hanson MP talks about the benefits of officers on the beat.

In an article for **the Guardian** in response to an **item by Martin Kettle**, David Hanson MP, Minister for **crime, policing and counter-terrorism** talks about the benefits of officers on the beat. Read the guardian article AND the varied but informative comments here ...

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/feb/11/police-numbers-uk-crime-rate>

"Martin Kettle's article (It's time to shout down the bobbies-on-the-beat mantra, 11 February) does not recognise the significant contribution of the increased numbers of police officers since 1997 on the overall reduction of crime and the increase in public confidence in policing.

Overall crime, measured by the **British Crime Survey**, is **down** by 36%, **violence by 41%** and **burglary by 54%**. The latest statistics showed that for crimes recorded by the police there is an 8% reduction for burglary, 9% for robbery and **4% for violence against the person**. And these falls have taken place during a recession.

*This has been made possible because of the investment this government has put into policing. We have over **16,000 more police officers** than in **1997** and our investment in neighbourhood policing has delivered a further **16,000 police community support officers**.*

*We are committed to protecting these frontline numbers. The pre-budget report announced that sufficient funding will be provided to enable police authorities to maintain numbers of police officers and police community support officers in the years to 2012-13. The new policing white paper also identified opportunities to achieve efficiency savings of **£545m per year by 2013-14**. This reflects the priority that this government continues to give to the frontline and improving value for money.*

Our focus is not simply on officer numbers but on the outcomes for the public. Encouragingly, 50% of the public are now confident that the police and local council are dealing with issues in their area, while concerns on antisocial behaviour are at their lowest recorded level."

David Hanson MP

The PPP comments ... Hanson glibly quotes the totally misleading BCS stats so favoured by Labour Politicians..why?...because they seriously **underestimate major categories of crime like MURDER (because the victims can't be interviewed and violence against children!, the crime that his surveys show most concerns the public!)**

When PPP members in his constituency went to David Hanson 4 years ago he was a lowly back bencher and ignored our pleas for real community Policing and regularly trotted out Brunstrom's bent statistics. Now in his onerous new multifaceted ministerial role we hear what a wonderful job they are doing in the communities thanks to Labour's profligate spending. Recently Hanson was responsible for providing a prison for N.Wales and the vital extra capacity to keep convicted violent criminals off our streets. No decision has been made. He is now responsible for counter terrorism ! are we reassured, DEFINITELY NOT.