



People for Proper Policing in North Wales

North Wales Police spends £209k on private security at their HQ

Oct 19 2009 by Martin Williams, Daily Post

POLICE chiefs spent more than £200,000 on a private security firm to guard their North Wales HQ while it was being renovated.

The force paid out £209,488 on security guards for its Colwyn Bay base between December 2007 and June of this year.

Politicians have condemned police for wasting tax payers' cash on guarding an empty three-storey building when the money should be used guarding the public.

Despite the Abergele Road building being ravaged by fire in April 2008, they argued the blaze was accidental and did not warrant police spending more on security during the £3.4m refurbishment.

A spokesperson for North Wales Police said: *"When headquarters was being renovated it was necessary to make sure the building was secure and it was considered prudent to employ a security company to do this. It would not be effective use of police officers' time to act as security guards."*

Colwyn councillor Abdul Khan was bemused by the decision to employ outsiders to guard a police station. *"I thought the criminals were supposed to fear our police force?"* he said.

Phil Edwards, former secretary of North Wales Police Federation, added: *"This is incredible. It comes to something when a police force, charged with protecting the public, cannot even protect its own buildings any more."*

The PPP comments ... Nothing surprises us about the waste of money and resources by the force and under the eye of the so the called pathetic watch dog NWP. This is yet another reason to have a new leadership for the PA. The Amateur Chairman Ian Roberts has overseen and tacitly approved all Brunstrom's blunders, abuses and waste AND granted him massive personal bonuses. Kelvin Dent the only professional is thus even more culpable and goes back to Brunstrom's appointment as chief. Dent retires next year and Roberts should be replaced . We can then have a fresh start with a new team in the PA and the Force. We have it on good authority that this unholy alliance will leave a legacy of procedural and financial disasters behind them. We never did find out what the fire cost us. Enter **HQ** or **tadpoles** or **usual** into our **News article search**. The ONLY break-in to the HQ was Brunstrom himself when he had lost his security key and then he lied about the reason!

In 2007 the PA negotiated with the public before setting the precept and the public gave them a hard time, last year they met behind closed doors to set an inflation busting 5% increase in the precept. What have they got planned for this year? We need to be vigilant.