PPP People for Proper Policing in North Wales

The police force run by Chief Constable Richard Brunstrom has suffered a blow to its claims of leading the rankings for crime detection after a change in Home Office rules ... Daily Telegraph by Ben Quinn 30/05/2007

The head of North Wales police has gone on the record about his pride at the force's performance. "We're truly proud and don't intend to let it slip backwards," he said. But a change in the way the Home Office counts detected crimes has significantly reduced the rate previously attributed to North Wales police. Until now, figures have included "administrative" detections - where no further action is taken, perhaps because a victim cannot give evidence - and "sanctioned" detections - where an offender has been cautioned, admitted their guilt or been convicted. North Wales had boasted the highest proportion of administrative detections of any force - 15 per cent. Last year, its deputy chief constable, Clive Wolfendale, claimed that his force's western division's detection rate of 54.8 per cent was *the best in England and Wales*. But under the new rules administrative detections will no longer be counted in the statistics, potentially knocking North Wales down the rankings. The targets culture of forces was highlighted recently at the Police Federation's annual conference. Sam Roberts, a sergeant from North Wales, said that officers have to meet monthly targets and get points for their work, revealing that an arrest is worth 10 points and so is a penalty notice for disorder.

A Home Office spokesman said that the Home Office's "**performance regime**" has moved to focus solely on sanction detections because administrative detections have been found to vary widely between forces, with some now recording very few non-sanction detections, as a matter of policy, in order to reduce the bureaucracy required from front-line officers. Focusing specifically on sanctioned detections was a more reliable measure of police performance with respect to detections, she added.

A spokesman for North Wales police said: "The Home Office changed the crime recording rules from April 1, 2007, so this year's figures are not directly comparable with last year's. "Recorded crime in North Wales is currently down 12 per cent on the equivalent period last year, and our detection rate is several percentage points higher than it was at the same time last year. We are proud to say that North Wales continues to have some of the **very lowest levels of crime** and highest detection rates in the whole of England and Wales."

The PPP comments ... We have known for years that they have cooked the books and employed Officers to do just that. A classic was the case of the young man who collected sponsorship money but kept the proceeds - treated as well over 700 crime detections Brunstrom & Wolfendale regularly contradict themselves. In one Blog NW is the safest place in the UK, in others there is a massive increase in Knife Crime and a real need for multiple baton round launching devices and Tasers for all. Crime rates are so low that the PPP are concerned about officers becoming redundant but NWPF need ever bigger increases in funding and cut CBM numbers. They are aiming for a carbon neutral footprint by 2015 AND instruct their patrol cars to race around NW with their blue lights on to impress us. Who is fooling whom!

Throughout this torrent of nonsense All the Police Authority sit back and bask in the false glory and ignore the mayhem reported in the local press.