

“ PPP ”

People for Proper Policing in North Wales

Police Federation reaction regarding the suggested civilianisation of powers

By Simon Reed, Police Federation of England and Wales: 27.08.08

“It is extremely alarming that this government seems intent on diluting the policing resilience in this country by handing out traditional policing powers to civilian staff.

The Federation has concern about the presence of an ill-equipped and poorly trained second layer of law enforcement for not only does it cause members of the public confusion over who has what powers, but undermines the special covenant between the police and the public who rightly expect policing functions to be performed by fully trained, independent and accountable officers of the crown.

*“These increased powers come with no tangible evidence given that civilian support actually has a positive impact on crime prevention or public confidence. It is therefore premature to be giving civilians more policing powers and another sign this government is **intent on civilianising the police.**”*

The PPP comments ... **We TOTALLY SUPPORT the above statement and we are pleased to see the Federation taking a clear stand AND taking up the issue of low morale in NWPF, about time too!**

We have always been of this opinion, we didn't agree with Blunkett's policing on the cheap with the PCSOs.

We are now suffering emotional blackmail because these PCSOs are mostly decent people trying to do a good job and the public are happy to see them occasionally in their neighbourhood.

BUT we want fully trained, competent & versatile, full time community POLICE OFFICERS spending all their time in and about THEIR communities. PREVENTING CRIME and regaining the support and respect of the people. Prevention doesn't generate paperwork or victims of crime or overflowing prisons!

If the PCSOs are suitable they should become Police Officers, if not their contracts should not be renewed. All the other schemes to introduce wardens etc should be stopped NOW.

The Tories must tell us now that they stop the civilianising the police if elected. I.e be warned it will be job without a future.