

**JAN BERRY'S CLOSING SPEECH ON CONFERENCE OUTCOMES –  
THURSDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2007**

Taser - We welcome the announcement re Taser which we understand will be 12 months from September in 10 forces

Custody Officer – Conference was clear that the custody officer role should be a police sergeant. The Serious Organised Crime and Police Act legislation has already been passed and therefore it does not need to go back before Parliament it merely requires the Home Secretary to enact it. What we now need to do in light of what Ming Campbell and David Cameron have said is to persuade the Home Secretary Sections 120 and 121 of the Serious Organised Crime Act should not be enacted and 1200 people here could lobby their MPs to write to the Home Secretary. We will use our lobbying tool on the website to assist this.

IPCC – IPCC Chairman, Nick Hardwick, fared well during his PDR interview we now know that Bill Taylor will undertake a review into the IPCCs accountability and that there is to be a further review of the IPCC five years on. We welcomed the increased use of local resolutions provided these could not be used as evidence of character in court.

Restoring Discretion – this really touched a nerve and received wall to wall media coverage in the lead up to and during conference. Not surprisingly 93% of you believed police officers' discretion has been significantly reduced and again not surprisingly sanction detections were seen to be the main reason for this. Interestingly 1/3 of conference believed penalty notices for disorder should be discontinued. It will be interesting to know whether conference is a true reflection of the wider membership.

24/7 Resilience – 12 months on the pressures being felt by police officers in the front line are getting worse not better. A huge majority expressed concerns that the public were not getting the police service that they deserved or required.

Police Specific Vehicles – one of our primary duties is to ensure the safety and security of all our colleagues. This session highlighted the need for a range of purpose built police vehicles to a common standard and central procurement.

Terrorism – I can't tell you anything about this session, but yet again we have an ACPO awareness raising video that less than half the service appear to have seen and even less were aware of their force national counter terrorism security liaison officer. Guy and Chris have agreed to provide us with information to raise awareness on the issue which we will forward to Branch Boards and utilise on our own website.

Policing Profession – many of you changed your view of whether policing is a profession between the beginning and end of that session and there were mixed views on whether we should look further at the development of a professional policing register.

Future activity - Conference has noted that the Joint Central Committee will be scoping a project to conduct our own inquiry into the future of policing if our calls for a Royal Commission or independent inquiry continue to fall on deaf ears. Conference was not fooled by the Home Secretary's assurance in respect of Sir Ronnie Flannigan's review into policing, welcomed Ming Campbell's support and were confused by David Cameron's uncertainty. We will continue to discuss with the politicians the development of their policies. Branch Boards wishing to respond to the conservatives Policing for the People policy paper can do so either directly or through the national committee. If you do respond directly can you copy us in. On the Booth Review we clearly need to brief the Liberal Democrats again but welcomed David Cameron's support for our view on its lack of independence. All three of our political speakers want to bonfire central targets and bureaucracy but the proof of the pudding will be in the eating. Whether the money gained by ditching ID cards would find its way into extra police officers remains to be seen. Finally we were all agreed that politicians should stick to politics leaving policing to the professionals.