



Association of Chief Police Officers of England, Wales and Northern Ireland

Public Affairs Briefing

Appendix

General Election 2010: Conservative and Liberal Democrat policing pledges

Although the coalition government has publishing an initial policy document, details impacting policing and the criminal justice system have yet to be released. Therefore, below is a reminder of both parties manifesto pledges.

Policing Numbers

| Conservative | Liberal Democrats |
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| (No mention) | Pay for 3,000 more police on the beat, affordable because of cutting other spending, such as scrapping ID cards. |

Police Governance and bureaucracy

| Conservative | Liberal Democrats |
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| <p>Replace the existing, invisible and unaccountable police authorities and make the police accountable to a directly-elected individual who will set policing priorities for local communities. They will be responsible for setting the budget and the strategy for local police forces, with the police retaining their operational independence.</p> <p>Give people the information they need to challenge their neighbourhood police teams to cut crime.</p> <p>Oblige the police to publish detailed local crime data statistics every month, in an open and standardised format.</p> | <p>Give local people a real say over their police force through the direct election of police authorities. Authorities would still be able to co-opt extra members to ensure diversity, experience and expertise.</p> <p>Give far more power to elected police authorities, including the right to sack and appoint the Chief Constable, set local policing priorities, and agree and determine budgets.</p> <p>Turn the National Policing Improvement Agency into a national Crime Reduction Agency with a</p> |

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| <p>Amend the health and safety laws that stand in the way of common sense policing.</p> <p>Scrapping the stop form entirely and reducing the burden of stop and search procedures. Any search will still be recorded but by an officer radioing in, rather than filling in paperwork.</p> | <p>wider remit to test what policing techniques and sentences work and spread best practice across police services and the criminal justice system.</p> <p>Reform the police, with a full review of the terms and conditions for police officer employment.</p> <p>Reduce time-wasting bureaucracy at police stations with better technology that can be deployed on the streets.</p> |
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Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime

| Conservative | Liberal Democrats |
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| <p>Introduce a series of early intervention measures, including grounding orders, to allow the police to use instant sanctions to deal with anti-social behaviour without criminalising young people unnecessarily.</p> <p>Overhaul the Licensing Act to give local authorities and the police much stronger powers to remove licences from, or refuse to grant licences to, any premises that are causing problems.</p> <p>Double the maximum fine for under-age alcohol sales to £20,000.</p> <p>Raise taxes on those drinks linked to antisocial drinking, while abolishing Labour's new 'cider tax' on ordinary drinkers.</p> <p>Ban off-licences and supermarkets from selling alcohol below cost price.</p> <p>Permit local councils to charge more for latenight licences to pay for additional policing.</p> <p>Give police the power to identify offenders in order to protect the public and prevent crime</p> <p>Return charging discretion to the police for minor offences;</p> <p>Introduce mobile knife scanners on streets and public transport, and extend the length of custodial sentences that can be awarded in a Magistrates'</p> | <p>Give people a direct say in how petty criminals and those who engage in anti-social behaviour are punished by setting up Neighbourhood Justice Panels (NJPs).</p> <p>Require better recording of hate crimes against disabled, homosexual and transgender people, which are frequently not centrally recorded.</p> |

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| Court from six to twelve months. | |
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Courts, Prison and Probation

| Conservative | Liberal Democrats |
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| <p>Process criminals more quickly by videolinking custody cells and courts</p> <p>Carry out a fundamental review of legal aid to make it work more efficiently, and examine ways of bringing in alternative sources of funding.</p> <p>Implement the Prisoners' Earnings Act 1996 to allow deductions from the earnings of prisoners in properly paid work to be paid into the Victims' Fund. The party will use this Fund to deliver up to fifteen new rape crisis centres and give existing rape crisis centres stable, long-term funding.</p> <p>When offenders leave prison, they will be trained and rehabilitated by private and voluntary sector providers, under supervision. The party will use the same approach that lies behind our welfare reform plans – payment by results – to cut re-offending, with organisations paid using savings made in the criminal justice system from the resulting lower levels of crime.</p> <p>Pilot a scheme to create Prison and Rehabilitation Trusts so that just one organisation is responsible for helping to stop a criminal re-offending.</p> | <p>Make prisoners work and contribute from their prison wages to a compensation fund for victims. As resources allow, we will increase the number of hours prisoners spend in education and training.</p> <p>Give people a direct say in how petty criminals and those who engage in anti-social behaviour are punished by setting up Neighbourhood Justice Panels (NJPs), like the one run by Liberal Democrats in Somerset where 95 per cent of offenders have been turned away from further crimes.</p> |

Drugs

| Conservative | Liberal Democrats |
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| <p>Give courts the power to use abstinence-based Drug Rehabilitation Orders to help offenders kick drugs once and for all.</p> <p>Introduce a system of temporary bans on new 'legal highs' while health issues are considered by independent experts.</p> <p>Ensure that financial resources, and police and court time, are not wasted on the unnecessary prosecution and imprisonment of drug users and addicts; the focus instead should be on getting</p> | <p>Always base drugs policy on independent scientific advice, including making the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs completely independent of government.</p> |

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| addicts the treatment they need. Police should concentrate their efforts on organised drug pushers and gangs. | |
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Terrorism

| Conservative | Liberal Democrats |
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| Create a dedicated Border Police Force, as part of a refocused Serious Organised Crime Agency, to enhance national security, improve immigration controls, and crack down on the trafficking of people, weapons and drugs. The party will work with police forces to strengthen arrangements to deal with serious crime and other cross-boundary policing challenges, and extend collaboration between forces to deliver better value for money. | Secure Britain's borders by giving a National Border Force police powers. |