



## The Young People and Knife Crime Summit: Tackling Street Weapon Culture Through Partnership

"Let us be clear, if you carry a knife our objective and determination is that you will be caught; you will be prosecuted; you will be punished ... but we want to do all in our power also to prevent anyone carrying a knife in the first place."

"Enforcement, punishment and prevention together."

— Rt. Hon Gordon Brown MP, Prime Minister, July 2008

"We are firmly committed to deliver further reductions in the crimes that most concern people, particularly violence involving knives and guns. Whilst the BCS shows violence falling by 40 per cent since 1997, with a 12 per cent fall in the last year alone, we also know that knives are still being used in the most serious violent incidents ... The Youth Crime Action Plan published this week is just one part of a comprehensive package of tough enforcement and intensive prevention measures we have put in place to tackle violent crime wherever it occurs."

— Rt. Hon Jacqui Smith MP, Home Secretary, July 2008

### Event Details

Title: **The Young People and Knife Crime Summit: Tackling Street Weapon Culture Through Partnership**

Date: Thursday 30th October 2008

Time: 10:00am — 4:10pm  
(followed by networking drinks)

Venue: One Birdcage Walk, Westminster, London

### Organiser

Public Policy Exchange, in association with the Centre for Parliamentary Studies, holds regular interactive seminars which provide an invaluable interface for policy discussion, debate and networking.

These special events offer local practitioners, civil servants and other stakeholders not only an insight into current policy thinking, but also the opportunity to feed into future policy development across all areas of public policy.

### Overview

Over fifty teenagers have died as a result of violent incidents in London alone in the past two years – with many of the victims succumbing to horrific knife attacks by other young people. Nationally, several high profile gun and knife crimes along with the perceived escalation of knife-possession and gang-related violence has prompted the Government to launch new measures to tackle youth crime; particularly to address the growing street weapon culture that is destroying so many young lives.

The *Youth Crime Action Plan 2008* was published in July and aims to send out a strong and clear message to young people that violent crime in all its forms will no longer be tolerated. These new measures seek to underpin many of the key proposals outlined earlier this year in the *Action Plan for Tackling Violence 2008-2011 "Saving Lives. Reducing Harm. Protecting the Public"*. As well as action on knife and gun crime, there is a renewed cross-government drive to address some of the root causes of violence, with a particular emphasis on identifying those at risk through early intervention.

This major one-day national conference, hosted by the *Centre for Parliamentary Studies*, will provide a timely opportunity for local practitioners to assess the key objectives of the action plan in relation to tackling knife possession and reducing knife-related violence amongst young people. Delegates will consider how the 'triple track' approach of enforcement, punishment and prevention can be implemented fully and effectively at the local level, bringing closer together the work of police, probation, local authorities, health services and education authorities.

### Who should attend?

Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnerships, Community Safety Teams, Neighbourhood Policing Teams, Anti-Social Behaviour Coordinators, Drug & Alcohol Action Teams, Police Service, Youth Offending Teams, Youth Inclusion Teams, Young Offenders Institutes, Probation Officers, Community Cohesion & Development Organisations, Community Support Officers, Children & Youth Services, Social Workers, Domestic Violence Coordinators, Families Services Officers, Sure Start, Children's Trusts & Children's Centres, Health Service Professionals, Victim Support Representatives, Social Exclusion & Neighbourhood Renewal Teams, Local Education Welfare Authorities, Teachers & Head Teachers, Neighbourhood Wardens & Co-ordinators, Criminal Justice Practitioners, Judges & Magistrates, Legal Professionals, Councillors, Central Government Departments & Agencies, Equality & Diversity Practitioners, Third Sector Practitioners, Academics & Researchers

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