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Police and crime commissioner David Lloyd

More police jobs set to go, warns Hertfordshire commissioner

By Ewan Foskett, Reporter [<mailto:ewan.foskett@whtimes.co.uk>] Wednesday, June 5, 2013

6:00 AM

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MORE police officers and PCSOs may be lost in Hertfordshire, with the county's crime czar unsure how deep the axe may cut.

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The Government will reveal how much funding it will award Herts Constabulary at the end of July, with police and crime commissioner David Lloyd awaiting the release of the comprehensive spending review.

He told the Welwyn Hatfield Times: "We are not looking to make huge cuts. We are waiting for the comprehensive spending review, as are councils and other local authorities.

"We are taking professional advice on what the state of policing will be in the coming years and what that means for the frontline.

"My preferred plan is I don't touch anyone on the frontline."

Herts Constabulary has been working to reduce numbers of PCSOs and officers through natural wastage.

It is braced for cuts of between £40m and £70m over the next four years, but commissioner Lloyd said he did not know what his force would have to deal with.

He said: "We are not at the point of saying there are this many officers cut, or PCSOs cut."

Commissioner Lloyd added: "I can't guarantee anything in the future, I can't guarantee numbers over any amount of time.

"I don't know what the position is going to be."

Herts' Police Federation, which represents rank-and-file officers, said officers were working under pressure to maintain current standards.

General secretary Vojislav Mihailovic estimates that by 2015 officer numbers would fall to 1,850 from a peak of 2,200 in 2004.

He said: "They are all holding their breath. Certainly officers are working under pressure in order to sustain the service they are delivering. They are working harder to stand still effectively."

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This is the man who closed two fire stations and cut back on equipment and firefighters whilst heading the Fire Authority. Now he will do this to the police, Well done to all of the muppets who voted this hatchet wielding Dr Beeching type clown into office!

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Victor Meldrew

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Commissioner Lloyd added: "I can't guarantee anything in the future"...I wonder if he mentally added.."Except my highly paid and formerly non-existent job of course".

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Imogen Mann

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