

More than 2,000 lollipop men and women slashed as Tory cuts bite



Great Britain has lost more than 2,000 lollipop men and women during ten years of Tory austerity, shock GMB analysis reveals.

The union conducted a Freedom of Information Act request to local authorities across Great Britain asking the number of school crossing patrol officers they employed in the last financial year compared to 2009/10.

In 2009/10 there were 7,128 employed by councils across England, Scotland and Wales and by 2017/18 that had dipped to just 5,047 – a drop of 2,081.



The West Midlands and the North West were the worst hit regions, with drops of 386 and 378 respectively.

Meanwhile Wales had 250 less school crossing patrol officers, with Scotland losing 163.

SCHOOL PATROL OFFICERS	2009/2010	2017/2018
No. Officers	7128	5047
Officers lost		2081

Rehana Azam, GMB National Secretary, said:

“Ten years of brutal Tory austerity have left scars right across our society – and now it's got to the point where our kids aren't even safe walking home from school.

"No parent wants to get the call that their child has been involved in an accident, but that's the risk council's are taking because they are so cash-strapped.



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"Austerity is a choice but councils have been left with no choice but to make savings.

"Our public services need proper funding, so they can rebuild from the ruins left by a decade of savage cuts."

Press office

079859 1525698

press.office@gmb.org.uk

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info@gmb.org.uk

