WJEC GCSE

HISTORY

UNIT 3:

CRIME & PUNISHMENT

REVISION GUIDE

KQ1 - CAUSES OF CRIME
What have been the main causes of crime over time?

GLOSSARY

- ***Poverty*** = the state of being extremely poor.
- ***Rural depopulation*** = people moving from the countryside to the towns in search of jobs
- ***Unemployment*** = not working
- ***Able-bodied*** = able to work but don't. Also known as Sturdy Beggars. Possibly turns to crime to survive.
- ***Deserving poor*** = poor because of circumstances outside of their control, e.g. blind, incurable illnesses
- ***Rogues*** = a dishonest or unprincipled man.
- ***Vagabonds*** = A homeless unemployed person.
- **Heresy** = Going against the official religion of the country.
- ***Recant*** = Saying that you no longer believe in something.
- ***Puritan*** = extreme Protestant.
- ***Treason*** = plotting against the monarch or government.
- ***Pillory*** = A wooden frame used to secure people's heads or hands.
- ***Rebellion*** = an act of armed resistance to a leader.
- ***Smuggling*** = Getting goods into a country illegally. Often to avoid paying tax.
- ***Excise duty*** = A tax on goods made within a country.
- ***Customs duty*** = A tax put on imports.
- ***Contraband*** = Smuggled goods.
- ***Preventative Officers*** = officially known as the Revenue Men of the Customs and Excise Service. They were people who caught and arrested smugglers.
- ***Footpads*** = A highway robber who attacked victims on foot so often robbed pedestrian travellers.
- ***Highwaymen*** = Highway robbers who rode on a horse so attacked stage coaches and travellers on horseback. Often used firearms.
- ***Industrial Revolution*** = The quick development of industry in the 18th and 19th century.
- ***Agricultural Revolution*** = The quick development of agricultural machinery and techniques.
- ***Industrialisation*** = The spread of industry.
- ***Urbanisation*** = The growth of towns.
- ***Push factors*** = Something that makes you want to leave there.
- ***Pull factors*** = Something that makes you want to go there.
- ***Criminal class*** = people who committed minor thefts.
- **IRA** = a largely Catholic group who used violence to try and end British rule in Northern Ireland.

1. The growth of economic pressures in the Tudor period

Causes of poverty

• Rising population = By 1550 there was 3.2million people in Wales and England. 50 years later it had risen by nearly 1 million.
• Bad harvests = 1556, 1596 and 1597 were particularly bad. Threat of starvation.
• Rising inflation = wages couldn't keep pace with rising prices.
• Fighting costly foreign wars = meant the king or queen raised taxes. When wars were over sailors and soldiers returned with no jobs.
• Rack-renting = landlords kept increasing rent. Many were evicted.

2. Impact of religious changes in C16th & C17th

The challenge of heresy & treason

• Majority of people in 16th and 17th Centuries were very religious. In 1500 most were Catholic, but some were becoming Protestants.
• Henry VIII created the Church of England and left the Catholics when the Pope wouldn't give him a divorce. When Henry died his son, Edward ruled England as Protestant. When Edward died the country became Catholic under Mary. When Mary died the country became Protestant again under Elizabeth. This was all in the space of about 15 years.
• Heresy and treason therefore became more common crimes under Henry VIII in the 1530s and 1540s as anyone who did not follow and support these changes was committing a crime. Many people were burned for heresy, or executed for treason during Henry's reign.
• Catholic Bishops who refused to follow Edward's changes were imprisoned for heresy. But there were only two executions for heresy in this reign.
• People who refused to accept Mary's changes were guilty of heresy. Leading Protestant bishops were tried for heresy by Mary.
• Elizabeth claimed that she did not persecute people for heresy, and only four Catholics were put to death as heretics. However, it is estimated that 250 Catholics were executed for the crime of treason during Elizabeth's reign.

Edward VI (1547-1553)
Protestant

- King is head of the Church
- Church services in English
- New prayer book with prayers in English
- Priests allowed to marry

3. Pressures of industrialisation & urbanisation in C18th & C19th

Between 1750 and 1900 the population of England and Wales rose dramatically, from about 7 million to over 40 million.

In 1750 most people lived and worked in the countryside, but by 1900, 80 per cent of people lived and worked in urban areas.
Existing towns and cities grew in size and new places like Manchester and Merthyr Tydfil developed. There were also changes in rural areas too, with new machinery and techniques changing rural workers' lives.

Causes of urban crime

Urban areas were overcrowded and full of disease. There was little planning, and no infrastructure or amenities. People often lived in back-to-back houses, with open sewers, and rubbish-strewn streets. Crimes were more common in urban areas.

- Many lived in rookeries where crime was the norm. There were nicknames for different types of criminals such as thimble-screwers, who stole pocket watches from their chains.
- It was easy for a criminal to evade capture through the narrow, winding streets, alleyways and courts.
- It was easy for people to remain anonymous in a city. In pre-industrial villages, people had known each other, but in these new towns people did not. It was easier to get away with crime.
- Policing was ineffective.
- Poverty and poor living conditions led to many people resorting to crime to improve their lives. Many people were dissatisfied with their lives and wanted more money.
- Orphans were common in industrial towns, due to the low life expectancy, and they often turned to crime to survive.

Causes of rural crime

The Industrial Revolution also changed the countryside. Machinery, such as threshing machines, was putting men out of work. Rural poverty was high. Farm labourers had low wages and long hours.

At the time of high bread prices, many struggled to survive. Some farm labourers turned to the crime of poaching However, the punishment for poaching was transportation or even execution. The rural poor found it hard to survive.

Push Factors	Pull Factors
New farming machinery = more difficult to get work in the countryside.	Railways being built made transport easier and cheaper.
Wage of an agricultural worker = very low.	Factories, mines and ironworks needed lots of workers.
Bad harvests = many poor people living in the countryside near starvation.	Factory owners built houses for their workers next to the factories.
The rural population was growing so there were not enough farming jobs to go around.	Industry gave employment throughout the year whereas agriculture was only seasonal.
	Factories gave employment to the whole family.

4. C20th pressures including changing technology

Development of the motor car

• Many of the modern crimes are just new ways of committing old crimes, e.g. Stealing a car for joyriding is not that different from stealing a horse. Car-jacking is a modern version of highway robbery.
• Due to the increase of cars more specific laws had to be introduced. Due to fatal accidents more safety measures were introduced with tests for new drivers etc.

Development of computer crime

• Many of the computer crimes are just new ways of committing old crimes, e.g. Fraud is still fraud, just a different way of doing it. Identity fraud existed with Dick Turpin and is now done via computers.
• Due to the increase of computer crime more specific laws had to be introduced. The police also have to use more specific technology to catch criminals using computers.

Football hooliganism

• It's not a new threat – games were abandoned in the early 1900s due to violent actions of football fans.
• During the 1960s it became a much bigger problem – gangs of rival supporters, often under the influence of alcohol, fought each other or attacked property such as cars, pubs or shops.
• Many of these gangs were run by middle class men aged 18-25.

Drugs crime

• Not a new crime but has become more well known since the 1950s.
• The ban on drugs like cocaine has resulted in more smuggling happening.
• Drug addiction has led to more of certain crimes like burglary, mugging and robbery. Addicts need a constant supply of money to feed their drug habit and will often turn to crime to get this as it's difficult to have a full time job when addicted to drugs.

Gun and knife crime

• Often linked to juvenile gangs and/or drug-related crime. The rise in gang culture gives young people a sense of belonging. Gang members often carry knives or guns for protection.
• Reasons for the increase in juvenile gang culture are;
  ○ Poverty
  ○ Lack of opportunity
  ○ 'Must have now' culture
  ○ The ever growing divide between rich and poor
  ○ Breakdown of family values and discipline.

5. The growth of terrorism in the 20th and 21st century

Terrorism is not new. However, since the 1960s there has been an increase in terrorist attacks in Britain and an increase in the fear of terrorism.
Terrorists are people who use violent methods, or violent threats, to achieve their demands. Terrorists aim to bring a complete change in the country, such as overthrowing the Government, or forcing a major change in the law or policy.

Most terrorists have political aims. Terrorists use a variety of tactics including bombings, suicide attacks, arson, and hijackings.

There has been an increase in violence to achieve political objectives. The IRA, a nationalist group dedicated to ending British rule in Northern Ireland, carried out a number of attacks in Northern Ireland and in mainland Britain between the 1970s and 1990s. In recent decades Britain has become increasingly threatened by global terrorist groups like al- Qaeda and ISIS. A number of reasons can be put forward to explain the growth in terrorist activities:

- There is belief in violent action to achieve a political aim.
- It is a form of direct action.
- Terrorist actions often attract widespread media attention.
- It is a way of putting pressure on governments and organisations.
- There has been a growth in fundamentalism resulting in the appearance of terrorist groups with strong beliefs.
- Terrorist groups have proved willing to work together.

KQ2 - NATURE OF CRIMES
How has the nature of criminal activity differed and changed over time?

1. Vagrancy & heresy in C16th

Able-bodied poor and deserving poor

• Poor were expected to fend for themselves. Unable to find jobs many left their homes and wandered the streets begging for food. Became a serious worry for the government and the respectable people of the towns.
• Prisons were used at this time to punish vagrants. Lots of people were very concerned. In 1557 William Harrison divided the vagrants into 3 types;
○ Deserving poor
○ Poor by misfortune
○ Idle and work shy

Rogues and vagabonds

• 23 different sorts of vagabonds were identified, such as counterfeit cranks (sucked soap to foam at the mouth and pretended to have fits), the angler (used a hook to reach through windows and steal goods) and Abraham man (pretended to be mad).
• These false beggars added to the view that vagabonds caused crimes.
• People felt more and more threatened by the growing numbers of beggars.
• The view was that vagrants were criminals, spread diseases, too lazy to look for jobs.
• During Elizabeth's reign it became obvious that they would have to do something to help the deserving poor and punish the lazy rogues – Poor Laws of 1598 and 1601 were passed.
• Tudor governments dealt with the problem of vagrancy by:
- Flogging or branding them
- Making towns tackle their own problems
- Making it the duty of each local parish to provide aid for its poor but also punish vagabonds.

Attitudes to heretics

• During their trials heretics were given the opportunity to recant. If they did they would receive a prison sentence. If they didn't they would be sentenced to death.
• It was believed that heretics had rebelled against God so their bodies had to be destroyed by burning, leaving nothing for the day when God would resurrect Christian believers.
• When Elizabeth became Queen she attempted to create a religious compromise called the middle way. However any Catholics or Puritans who refused to accept this were treated as heretics and punished, especially anyone who tried to spread different religious ideas.
• Some who disagreed with the monarch's religion went into exile abroad or were willing to die for what they believed in. However most just learned to keep quiet and pretend.

• Most of the opposition was from individuals except the Pilgrimage of Grace which saw a protest of 30,000 pilgrims against the religious changes Henry VIII was making.

Welsh Heretics

Rawlins White: a poor Protestant fisherman from Cardiff. He refused to recant his Protestant faith after Mary I became queen. White was imprisoned in Chepstow, then Cardiff and was burned at the stake on 30 March 1555 in Cardiff. He was one of only two people in Wales burned by Mary for heresy.

Richard Gwyn: a Catholic teacher who declined to convert to Anglicanism during Elizabeth I's reign. He also refused to attend Anglican Church services. Over a period of several years he was imprisoned, fined and put in the stocks. Along with two other Catholics, John Hughes and Robert Morris, Gwyn was found guilty of high treason in 1583 and was hanged, drawn and quartered in Wrexham.

John Penry: a Puritan preacher, used a secret printing press to publish material that was denounced by the Anglican Bishops. He was executed for treason in 1593.

2. The growth of smuggling & highway robbery in C18th

Smuggling

Reasons for the increase in smuggling

1. Excise duty – traditionally covered chocolate, beer, tea and spirits but after 1688 it was widened bit by bit to include essentials like salt, leather and soap.
2. Custom duty – kept rising. By 1750 the tax on tea was 70% of its original cost.
3. The fact there was both custom and excise duty annoyed a lot of people.
4. Many people didn't see it as a crime.
5. People, such as farm labourers, could earn six times their daily wage in just one night.
6. Plenty of investors were willing to put up the money to pay for smuggling of expensive goods like brandy or silk.
7. There weren't enough customs officers to patrol the coastlines so people found it easy to smuggle.
8. Once they were smuggled the goods were much cheaper than they would be if they had been imported legally.

There were many different people involved in smuggling:

- Venturer – the person who funded the smuggling operation. They got money once all the goods had been sold.
- Spotsman – Brought the ship full of smuggled goods to the right place.
- Lander – Organised how the goods would get from the ship to where they needed to go.
- Tubmen – Those who did the heavy lifting.
- Batsmen – Thugs with clubs or guns who would use violence against any customs officials who tried to break up the operation.

Smuggling was more likely in Wales because 3 sides of it are on the coast.

- Well known Welsh smugglers included;

• William Owen who smuggled **brandy** and salt from the Isle of Man to Wales until he was executed.

• Lucas Family whose family was involved with smuggling for over 200 years.

○ Smuggling in **salt** was common between New Quay and Fishguard. Smugglers clashed violently with customs officers in 1704.
○ Smugglers such as Henry Morgan traded on Caldey Island, just off the coast at Tenby.
○ Many areas of Pembrokeshire's coast have names linked with smuggling, for example Ogof Wisgi (**Whisky** Cave).
○ Siôn Cwilt led a smuggling gang along the Ceredigion coast and was never caught.

Smugglers and excise men

○ The government passed several laws to try and limit smuggling;
• Hovering Act 1718 – made it illegal for smaller ships to wait within 6 miles of the shore. People would be punished by transportation.
• Act of Indemnity 1736 – Introduced death penalty for anyone for who injured officers in the line of duty, fined people for bribery and gave a free pardon to a smuggler who revealed the names of other smugglers.
• However even if smugglers were caught it was difficult to convict them. Because people believed it wasn't really a crime they didn't talk to the authorities when questioned. Informers ran the risk of being attacked and judges received death threats.

Decline of Smuggling

○ The government decided that smuggling was caused by the high duties so they cut duties on items such as tea which had a duty of 119% cut to 12.5%. This meant it now wasn't profitable for smugglers. Therefore smuggling greatly declined.
○ Another reason it declined was because of the Napoleonic War which meant there was a fear of invasion from France so the government built lots of watch towers. This meant it was also easier to spot smugglers.
○ Coast Guards were set up in the 1820s which also meant smuggling declined.

Highway robbery

Issues involving stagecoach travel

○ Because of the development of industry and towns more people moved around places.
○ Better transport links and more traffic brought more opportunities for crime.
○ Highway robbery had happened in the 16th and 17th centuries but became more common in the 18th century.
○ Some roads got a reputation for being particularly unsafe.
○ Factors that made highway robbery more common;
• Handguns were easier to get and use.
• There wasn't an organised police force.
• People were becoming wealthier and carried more money and jewellery with them.
• People had to carry cash because there weren't many banks.
• The roads outside of towns were quiet so robbers found it easier to hide.

Highwaymen and footpads

○ Highway Robbery caused great alarm as it involved violence and sometimes ended in murder.
○ There were two types of highway robber – footpads and highwaymen.

- Most robberies took place on the roads in and out of London.
- The myth of highwaymen were that they were masked, glamorous and well dressed who rarely used violence. In reality they were violent and cruel.

Richard 'Dick' Turpin
- Best remembered highwayman.
- Part of a gang of violent house-breakers before turning to highway robbery where he paired up with Tom King.
- He fled to Yorkshire after becoming 'wanted' where he used a false name and set up a business buying and selling horses.
- In April 1739 he was arrested on suspicion of horse stealing and hanged at York.

Decline of Highway Robbery
- The last recorded highway robbery took place in 1831 due to;
- London was growing quickly and the open spaces were being covered with buildings.
- Banknotes were being introduced which were easier to trace.
- London was becoming better policed.

2. Crimes connected with urbanisation in C19th

Urban crimes

Theft was the most common crime in the new industrial towns and cities. Many crimes were concentrated in areas known as rookeries. Areas such as 'China' in Merthyr Tydfil were examples of rookeries.

Types of urban theft

Pickpocketing was one of the most common types of theft in industrial cities. It was not a new crime, but the size of the cities gave pickpockets more opportunities.
They worked wherever there was a large crowd, for example at public executions. They would steal purses, pocket handkerchiefs, pocket watches from their chains on waistcoats, and pins and brooches from ladies' dresses.

Stealing water was a new type of theft which resulted from the squalor and poor living conditions in cities. People were charged to use the water pipes in the street, so they stole water from taps and pumps instead.
Fraudsters were given opportunities following the development of the railways. They tricked investors and made false financial dealings in railway companies.

Prostitution

Prostitution was not a new thing in the 19th century, but there was greater concern about the exploitation of girls at brothels in London.

Murder and Jack the Ripper

The rate of murder was less than 400 per year, and decreased further after 1890. Murder was not a common crime, but interest in the crime of murder increased during the 19th century. Many people followed murder trials in the newspapers whilst others visited the 'chamber of horrors' at Madame Tussaud's on Baker Street.
In the 1880s Jack the Ripper also led to increased morbid interest in murder. He was a serial killer who murdered and mutilated five women in the East End of London. He operated in the area of London called the 'evil square mile' which included Whitechapel, Aldgate and Spitalfields. This was a slum area, full of smoke from factories and narrow streets and alleyways. Jack the Ripper was never caught, and to this day his identity has not been confirmed.

3. Industrial & agrarian disorder during the Industrial Revolution

There was an increase in protests and riots during the 19th century and the causes and motives of these varied.
Some focused on getting political rights, others were a reaction to the enormous changes of the Industrial and Agricultural Revolutions.

Industrial Disorder

Luddites

- Introduction of new machines meant that workers were losing their jobs. As a last resort these workers ganged together to attack and smash the machines.
- This happened throughout the country. In one case in Yorkshire the mill owner was murdered.
- The government responded by sending 12,000 troops and passed a law that make frame-breaking (the machines) punishable by death.
- In 1813 17 Luddites were executed. Many were fined whilst others were transported.
- The harsh punishments meant Luddism faded away and the machines remained.

Chartists

- a meeting in Birmingham drew up a list of six proposed changes to the voting system; including votes for all men over 21, secret voting, annual elections, equal constituency boundaries, and pay for MPs.
- This list was called the **People's Charter.** The people who supported the demands were known as Chartists.
- The Chartists drew up a petition to show the support for their changes. They presented it twice to Parliament, but each time it was turned down.
- The movement turned violent. In Llanidloes, Powys in April 1839, a peaceful protest by weavers turned violent when three leaders were arrested.
- The angry mob broke into a local hotel and freed the leaders and gained control of the town. After five days, troops were sent in and 33 Chartists were punished.
- Chartism died down after a final failed attempt to present a petition to Parliament in 1848.

Merthyr Rising

- From 1-7 June 1831, there was an armed insurrection in Merthyr Tydfil.
- Caused by unemployment, low wages and the confiscation of property.
- Between 7,000 and 10,000 rebels raised the red flag of rebellion and took over much of Merthyr Tydfil. Violent clashes occurred, with troops sent by the Government to regain control.
- 26 people were put on trial, several were transported but only Richard Lewis, known as Dic Penderyn, was executed.

Agrarian Disorder

Swing Riots

- Gangs of protestors attacked the property of the rich farmers. It was mostly done by annoyed farmers who were angry about being in poverty and farmers using machinery.

- Wages were much lower for agricultural workers than industrial workers because agriculture was seasonal.
- Before many attacks they sent a threatening letter signed 'Captain Swing'.
- The authorities gave harsh punishments to those caught. Several hundred were sent to prison, 481 were transported and 19 were hanged.

Rebecca Riots

- Between 1839-43 gangs of poor farmers attacked toll-gates on roads across west Wales. They disguised themselves as women so they wouldn't get caught.
- The farmers were angry at the high rent and the building of toll-gates which meant you had to pay to travel on a road. The toll-gate keeper could charge what they wanted. They were also angry at having to pay money to the church and the changes in the poor laws.

- In one attack the toll-gate keeper was killed.
- Troops were sent into the area and rewards were offered for information about the identity of the rioters. The ring-leaders were either imprisoned or transported.
- As a result toll-charges were now standardised (the same across the country) and by the mid 1940s there was peace in Wales again.

5. The growth of crime in the C20th & C21st associated with the development of the motor car, computers, technology & terrorism

<u>The rise of transport crime</u>

Development of the motor car

• Many of the modern crimes are just new ways of committing old crimes, e.g. Stealing a car for joyriding is not that different from stealing a horse. Car-jacking is a modern version of highway robbery.
• Cars first appeared on British roads in 1894. The red flag acts in the late 1800s set speed limits and safety procedures. In 1865 it was a maximum of 4mph in the country and 2mph in towns. Each car had to have a person carrying a red flag walking 60yards in front of it. In 1896 this was changed to 14mph and no need for a person.
• At first only the rich upper classes could buy a car but by the 1930s there were thousands of cars on the road.
• Due to the increase of cars more specific laws had to be introduced. Due to fatal accidents more safety measures were introduced with tests for new drivers etc.

Creation of new crimes

• ‘Motoring offences’ has grown into one of the biggest categories of crime. Crimes range from drunk driving to speeding and involve a huge amount of police and court time.

	Description	When it became common
Theft of vehicles	Stealing a car either by stealing the key or hot wiring. Now houses are burgled to steal car keys.	In 1996 over half a million cars were stolen in the U.K. Now car makers use better security measures.
Theft from vehicles	Breaking in and stealing valuables or robbing them whilst waiting at traffic lights.	During late 1980s theft of mobiles from cars became common.
Car-jacking	Forcing the driver out of the car by force and driving off with it.	1990s due to better vehicle security so people needed the keys.
Joyriding	Driving a car without the owner’s consent. Commonly associated with young males.	1990s. In 2012 an 11yr old boy became Britain's youngest joyrider.

• Motoring Offences

- Driving under the influence of drink or drugs
- Refusing a roadside breath test
- Not wearing a seatbelt
- Using a hand held phone whilst driving
- No insurance
- No licence
- No MOT
- No vehicle tax
- Failing to stop after an accident
- Failing to report an accident
- Dangerous and careless driving
- Parking violations
- Road rage
- Speeding
- Car theft

<u>The rise of computer crime</u>

Types of computer crime

• Illegally downloading music or films
• Using the computer to attack the government
• Pretending to be someone else
• Stealing money from bank accounts
• Stealing credit card numbers
• Using speech or writing to intend to harm or intimidate
• Paedophilia
• Child grooming
• Sending bulk email for commercial purposes
• Hacking
• Deliberately spreading computer virus'
• Using it to harass others

Development of computer crime

• Many of the computer crimes are just new ways of committing old crimes, e.g. Fraud is still fraud, just a different way of doing it. Identity fraud existed with Dick Turpin and is now done via computers.
• Due to the increase of computer crime more specific laws had to be introduced. The police also have to use more specific technology to catch criminals using computers.

<u>The trend towards violent crime</u>

IRA bombings

• Most serious threats of the 20th century came from the IRA (Irish Republican Army).
• They opposed the Protestants in N.I and their violence resulted in Protestant terrorist groups being created like the Ulster Defence Association.
• Between 1969 and 2001 3500 people were killed as the Protestant and Catholic groups both launched attacks against each other.
• The IRA also attacked the British mainland and assassinated politicians or exploded bombs in shopping centres, railways or pubs.
• The violence ended in N.I. in 1998 when The Good Friday Agreement was signed. However breakaway groups like the continuity IRA have continued to carry out violent attacks.

Global terrorism in the UK

• One of the most serious international terrorist actions within the UK was the Lockerbie bombing on 21st December 1988. A flight going between London to New York which had just taken off exploded whilst over Lockerbie in Scotland. It killed all 243 passengers and 16 crew members and 11 people on the ground. It's believed it was the work of two Libyan terrorists. One was jailed in 2009.
• 7/7 attacks on London were suicide attacks that targeted public transport at rush hour in 2005. 4 Islamist terrorists attacked and killed 52 civilians.
• 30th June 2007 a jeep loaded with gas canisters was driven into the glass doors of Glasgow airport and set alight injuring 5 people.
• May 2013 two Islamist extremists brutally attacked & killed Lee Rigby, an off-duty soldier, outside Woolwich Barracks.
• Since 1975 the threat posed by international terrorism has grown dramatically.
• Terrorist attacks around the world include;
○ 9/11 in 2001 which killed over 3000 people.
○ 2002 bombings in Bali which killed 202 people.
○ 4 day siege at a shopping centre in Nairobi.

Illegal direct action in Wales

The investiture bombings

Prince Charles was given the title of **Prince of Wales** at a formal investiture ceremony on 1 July 1969 at Caernarfon Castle. The younger supporters of Plaid Cymru and Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg (The Welsh Language Society) strongly opposed the investiture. Prince Charles received threats from extreme nationalist groups.
Members of a small secret organisation called Mudiad Amddiffyn Cymru (The Movement for the Defence of Wales) attempted to plant bombs to explode on the railway line used by the royal train. However, the bomb exploded as the bombers were taking it to the railway line in Abergele, Conwy, killing two of the conspirators.

Tryweryn

Nationalist groups also opposed the flooding of the Tryweryn valley to make way for a reservoir to serve Liverpool. The village of Capel Celyn was one of the areas flooded. This village was a purely Welsh-speaking, traditional community.
Nationalists such as Mudiad Amddiffyn Cymru saw the flooding of the valley as an attack on the Welsh language and traditions. Bombs were planted to cause disruption, and groups attacked Government property.

Meibion Glyndŵr

In the 1980s and 1990s, properties in Wales were firebombed by members of Meibion Glyndŵr. Between 1979 and 1991, 228 properties were attacked.

The properties were often holiday homes belonging to English people, but estate agents and boatyards were also targeted. It was believed this was depriving Welsh people of housing and spoiling Welsh speaking communities.

No-one was killed or seriously injured as most of the properties were empty at the time. Sion Aubrey Roberts was the only person to be convicted for these attacks. He was sentenced to 12 years in prison in 1993 for sending incendiary devices in the post to police and Government officials.

Football hooliganism

• During the 1960s it became a much bigger problem – gangs of rival supporters, often under the influence of alcohol, fought each other or attacked property such as cars, pubs or shops.
• The bad publicity that the violence attracted caused the authorities to bring in a range of measures in the 1990s to tackle football hooliganism;
  ○ In 1998 a Special Police Unit was set up to deal with football crime and in 2005 this became the UK Football Policing Unit.
  ○ The police developed tactics to keep rival groups of supporters apart – fans were escorted to and from matches.
  ○ Increased use of CCTV and police on horses.
  ○ In 2000 banning orders were introduced for well known hooligans and racists.

Drug-related crime

• Gangs use planes, boats, trucks and people to smuggle illegal drugs into the UK. Drugs in small packages are sometimes swallowed by 'mules' and then collected after they've passed through the body.
• In Wales 'Operation Julie' in March 1977 resulted in the arrest of a chemist and his partner who had been producing LSD worth £100 million at their house in Ceredigion and at a mansion in Powys.
• Drug gangs operate their own 'turf' and will use violence to protect their turf from rival gangs. This has resulted in more gun crime.

Gun and knife crime

• Often linked to juvenile gangs. The rise in gang culture gives young people a sense of belonging. Gang members often carry knives or guns for protection.

KQ3 – ENFORCING LAW & ORDER

How has the responsibility of enforcing law and order changed over time?

GLOSSARY

- ***JP*** = Justices of the Peace. The most important of the officials. They were unpaid officers. Normally the richer landowners who already had respect. They tried criminal cases.

- ***Hundreds*** = large areas of land were split into 'hundreds' for organisational purposes.

- ***Preventative policing*** = attempting to stop crime from being committed rather than dealing with the consequences of crime.

- ***Opposed*** = disagreeing with something.

1. The growth of civic & parish responsibilities in C16th

The growth of civic and parish responsibilities
By 1500 most of the population still lived in rural communities or small towns. Parishes were increasingly used as a way to organise and control local matters rather than the Lord of the Manor. Although parishes were religious organisations, throughout the 16th century, Tudor Governments gave them increasing powers in local matters. For example, in 1555, parishes were responsible for the upkeep of nearby roads, whilst the 1601 Poor Relief Act (Poor Law) outlined the responsibility of the parish to look after its own poor. Also under the Act, parishioners were appointed by JPs to serve as overseers of the Poor Law for one year.
In the 16th and 17th centuries, individual towns and parishes took greater responsibility for combating crime and policing the nation.
Justice of the Peace (JP)
JPs had responsibility for law and order in each county. The post of JP started in medieval times, but became more important in Tudor times. They were unpaid and did the role mainly for prestige. JPs were usually landowners from the county who were appointed annually to the role. However, many did the job for years.
JPs led and organised the Parish Constables and the Town Watchmen.

The powers of JPs increased in 1554, after which time they could arrest a suspect on suspicion of a crime and interrogate them for three days.

Parish Constables
Responsibility for the day to day maintenance of law and order still lay with local communities through the Parish Constable. The Parish, or 'Petty', Constable was appointed by the JP for a year. The post was unpaid and done in addition to the person's usual day job. They were usually local tradesmen or farmers, which meant that communities were 'policing' themselves.
Watchmen
Watchmen, or Bellmen, had existed since the reign of Edward I. They were not paid, and all men in a town were expected to volunteer for this duty. They patrolled the streets of the largest towns on a nightly basis. Wealthier town dwellers would pay others to do their duty.
They became known as Charlies, or Charleys, after 1663 when Charles II set up a force of paid Watchmen to patrol the streets. They did not have a uniform but were identifiable by their heavy coat, lantern and bell.

2. The concept & development of organised police forces by the C19th

• Newspapers helped bring crime and criminals to the attention of the public. As a result 'thief-takers' started to appear. Thief Takers were men who hunted down criminals for rewards. A bit like bounty hunters. The reward was paid by the person who had been robbed.
• If you were robbed you really had to catch the criminal yourself. You could summon a magistrate or post a reward for anyone who could catch the criminal.

• Thief-taker Charles Hitchen, began to make profits by capturing criminals or negotiating the return of stolen goods to owners and claiming rewards. Hitchen's accomplice, Jonathan Wild, was later nicknamed the 'Thief Taker General of Great Britain and Ireland'. He appeared to voluntarily police the streets of London, handing over criminals to the authorities and negotiating the return of the goods for profit. However, he and his men were actually behind most of the theft in the area.

Experiments with private police forces

During the second half of the eighteenth century several JPs began to experiment with trying to reduce crime by setting up private police forces. Most successful were two brothers, Henry and John Fielding, who created a small force of paid law officers known as the Bow Street Runners. They proved effective in tackling crime in their area of London. They developed the idea of 'preventative policing' by trying to stop crime being committed.

Opposition to the idea of a formal police force

New industrial towns had to have a new system of law enforcement. The idea gradually developed that policing should become the responsibility of government. There was opposition to the idea of a national police force.

Some believed that such a force would:
- interfere rights of individuals
- limit individual freedom and liberty by allowing the government to interfere
- give the police too much power which they could use to limit the rights of the individual
- be very expensive and cause taxes to rise.

The extension of police forces across the country in the 19th century

Once the Government had taken responsibility for policing in the capital through the creation of the Metropolitan Police, attention was turned to the rest of the country.
A series of laws empowered county and borough councils across the country to set up police forces in their area.
Both of these acts were permissive, which meant that they were not compulsory and could be ignored. Only about half the areas that were in a position to establish a police force took advantage of the laws. These laws led to the setting up of several hundred police forces around the country. The police were not (and are still not) one police force – there were separate police forces for each part of the country. The only police force that was controlled by the Home Secretary in London was the Metropolitan Police. Each police force had a Chief Constable, officers and constables.
Responsibility for policing now firmly rested in the hands of central and local government departments.

3. The changing nature & purpose of policing in C20th & C21st

Changing structure of police forces
In 1900 there were 181 police forces in Britain. Many of these were small and each one had different structures, methods and records. There was limited contact between them.

During the 20th century police forces were amalgamated into larger forces covering bigger areas. This was to make them more effective. In 2017 there were 43 police forces in the UK, with four in Wales. The largest police force in Wales is the South Wales Police, and it's the seventh largest force in the UK. This police force was originally known as the South Wales Constabulary. It was formed in 1969 when the Glamorgan constabulary amalgamated with the Cardiff City Police, Merthyr Tydfil Borough Police and the Swansea Borough Police Force.
Police officers
The number of police officers has increased in the 20th and 21st centuries. There were over 125,000 officers by 2000. The police have recruited female officers since the end of the First World War. Sofia

Stanley was the Metropolitan Police's first official female recruit in 1919. Attempts have been made recently to increase the number of officers from minority ethnic backgrounds.
A National Police Training College was set up in 1947. Police officers now receive more guidance and have 14 weeks of training before they start.

Purpose of policing

The purpose of the police has changed in modern times. At first the role of the police was to:

- patrol the streets
- deter criminals
- investigate crimes
- arrest suspects

Their role and purpose is also now increasingly focused on crime prevention.
The police try to build more links with the community, especially after many riots in the 1980s were directed against the police. The police are involved in the **Neighbourhood Watch** scheme, which was started in 1982.
However, there is a recent attempt by the police to be seen out of their cars and on the beat or on bicycles. This is often not the best way of detecting crime and catching criminals but it is reassuring to the public. This shows that one of their main purposes has remained the same, which is patrolling the streets.

KQ4 – METHODS OF COMBATTING CRIME

How effective have methods of combatting crime been over time?

1. The role and effectiveness of Tudor Justices of the Peace, constables & watchmen

Importance of JPs

- The 1361 Justices of the Peace Act appointed 3 or 4 JPs per county. They had the power to fine or arrest people.
- They were responsible for enforcing the peace but did have to do this alongside their normal jobs.

Extent of their work

- Although they were only supposed to be part-time, by the end of Elizabeth's reign, JPs were responsible for enforcing over 309 different laws.
- The role of the JP was split into 4 different areas of responsibility:

- <u>Maintaining law and order</u>

They acted as judges on minor cases like petty theft, drunkenness and fighting. For more serious cases such as murder or witchcraft they would meet with all of the other JPs of the county as the Quarter Sessions. In 1554 they were given the right to lock up suspects for 3 days whilst the case was being investigated and then chose whether to put them on trial. They could give a range of punishments such as fines or time in the stocks or pillory. By the middle of the 17th century a judge and jury dealt with all cases that could receive the death penalty as a punishment.

- <u>Administering local government</u>

They were expected to license and regulate pubs, organise road-mending and bridge repair and make sure that genuine vagrants had a license to beg. They also had to keep a register of all people entitled to receive poor relief and then tax the community to raise money to care for them.

- <u>Carry out the orders of the Privy Council</u>

They had to make sure that all of the acts passed by the Privy Council were obeyed.

- <u>Supervise the work of other law enforcement officers.</u>

JPs could rely on Constables. By the 17th Century JPs had to appoint a Constable in every parish. They were also in charge of Watchmen and the Sheriff.

Effectiveness

- JPs played an essential role in keeping law and order in their area and making sure that laws were enforced.
- However during the Tudor period the workload of JPs increased rapidly.
- The system worked well in maintaining law and order. They were only appointed for a year at a time and the monarch had to reappoint them. If they weren't reappointed it would be a big blow to their reputation and social standing as it would look like they weren't good enough. This caused many to make sure they performed the job to the best of their ability.
- However this did not stop some of them from abusing their position and gaining financially through their role.

Parish constables and the extent of their work

They were chosen by the JPs

They did not have a uniform or weapons.

They were unpaid assistants. This made it an unpopular duty.

Usually chosen from the tradesmen or farmers of the area.

Every able-bodied person was expected to do this. If they refused they could be fined or placed in the stocks. Richer people often paid others to take their turn.

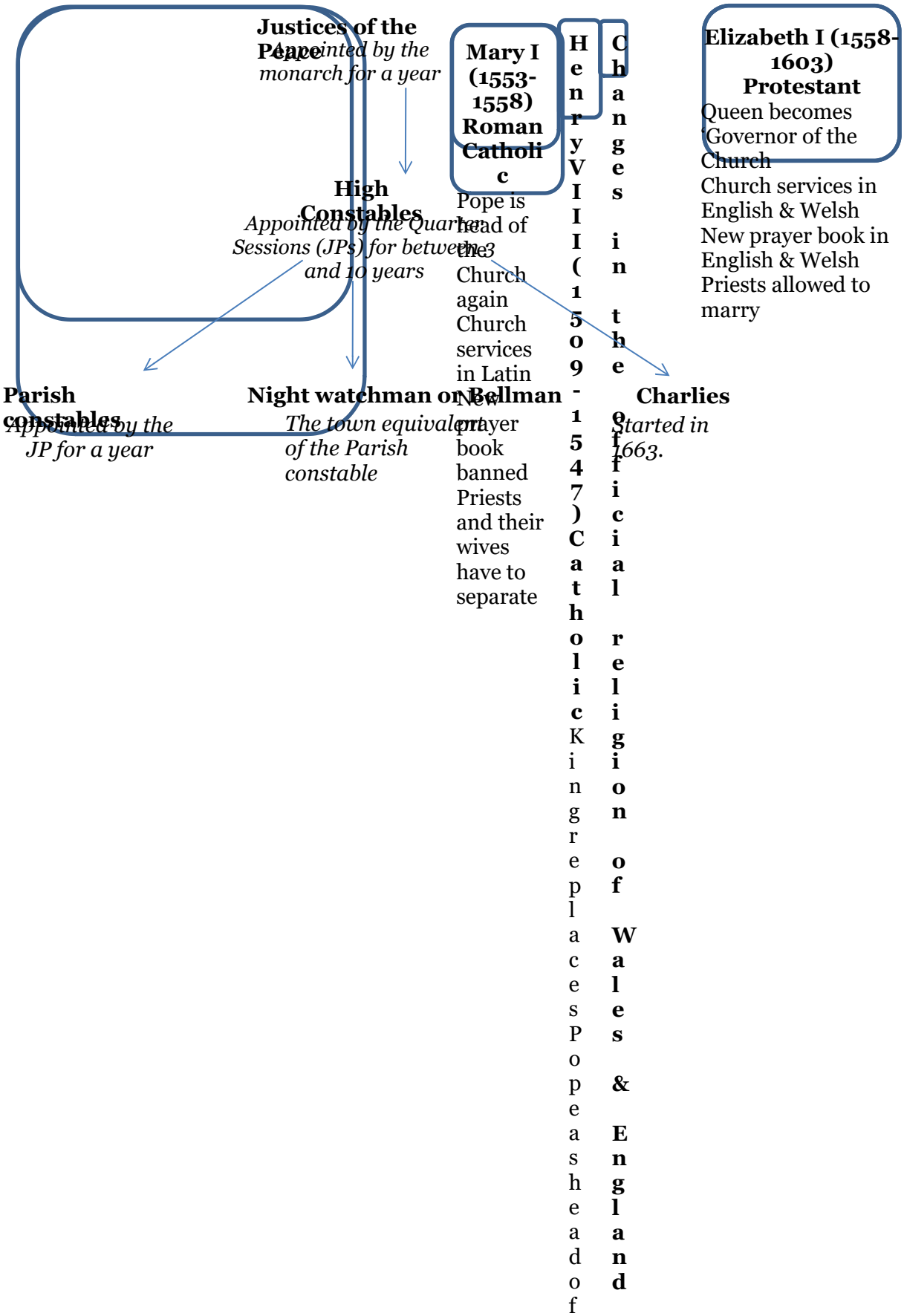
They were chosen by the JPs.

Tudor Constable

Tasks included;

- Making arrests.
- Watching out for Vagabonds.
- Catch petty thieves.
- Inflict punishments like whipping

They could call on any townspeople to help them and people were duty bound to help.



Watchmen: their work and their effectiveness

- Patrolled the streets at night. Had the power to arrest.
- Expected to walk the streets at night calling out the hours (like a talking clock).
- They didn't wear a uniform but did dress in thick, heavy clothing to keep warm.
- They carried a bell, lantern and a staff (stick). Sometimes carried a halberd (axe blade and spike on top of a stick)
- **Charlies;** Started in 1663. Were basically paid watchmen (although only a small amount). Only those who couldn't get another job were likely to do it. Within 50years they were often mocked as they had little real use. It was often joked that they hid in their sentry boxes at the first sign of trouble.

2. The establishment & influence of the Bow St. Runners

The Bow Street Runners

- In 1750 Henry and John Fielding began an experiment using paid officials to patrol the streets of London around Bow Street. It was successful. This idea was later used by Sir Robert Peel to set up the Metropolitan Police in 1829.
- Henry and John Fielding were horrified at the amount of crime being committed in London and were determined to do something to try and stop it.
- Henry looked at some of the causes of the crime which included;
  - Too many people moving to London.
  - People choosing crime rather than hard work.
  - Constables in London were mostly useless.
- Henry set up a force of 6 law officers to work as thief-takers and paid them weekly. They became known as the Bow Street Runners and were well trained.
- At the start they didn't wear uniforms so that they could blend in on the streets.

- For the first time the criminal gangs found themselves up against a real police force which although small was well-organised.
- Henry Fielding died and his brother John took over. The Fielding brothers put a large emphasis on the public helping them. They started a weekly newspaper called *The Public Hue and Cry*.
- In 1761 John Fielding was knighted. He died 19 years later.
- Through hard work, experimentation and persistence he had shown Londoners how to deal with crime and how to create a paid police force to protect lives and property.

Legacy of the Bow Street Runners

- The work of the Fielding brothers was continued after their deaths:

– In 1792 the government passed the Middlesex Justices Act which divided London into 7 police districts with 6 full time constables in each.
– In 1798 the Thames River Police was set up to prevent thefts from ships and the docks.
– By 1800 there were 68 Bow Street Runners.
– In 1805 a Horse Patrol of 54 officers with swords, pistols and truncheons was set up to patrol the highways in and out of London. They became known as 'Robin Redbreasts' because of their red waistcoats.
– By 1829 London had 450 constables and 4000 watchmen.

- The Fielding brothers had introduced the ideas of 'preventative policing'. The Bow Street Runners and Thames River Police were a deterrent by just being there.

• This is a HUGE turning point in the way that crime and punishment was enforced. Before this point the threat of harsh punishments aimed to deter people. Now seeing a law official was meant to act as the deterrent.

3. Peel & the setting up of the Metropolitan Police

Metropolitan Police Act 1829

• In 1822 Sir Robert Peel became Home Secretary who was responsible for law and order. He though the police force was not good enough.
• He put pressure on the Prime Minister (the Duke of Wellington) to introduce reform. This became the Metropolitan Police Act of 1829.
• Sir Robert Peel was in overall charge but it was run by Charles Rowan and Richard Mayne.
• Its headquarters was at Scotland Yard in London. London was split into 17 divisions, each with 154 constables and 1 superintendent.
• Within a year over 3300 men had joined. The new policemen had to be less than 35, at least 5 feet 7 inches, healthy and able to read and write.
• Constables got paid one guinea a week. Many were ex-soldiers who were later sacked for drunkenness or resigned due to the long hours or low pay.
• They worked 7 days a week and patrolled a set area (which meant walking over 20 miles a day).
• They were made to wear a blue uniform so it wouldn't look like the military one which was red.
• Constables didn't have a sword but had a wooden truncheon and a rattle to get attention.
• 1884 the whistle replaced the rattle.

Metropolitan Police Act 1839

• This was a further act that doubled the area covered by the police. This was the end of the Bow Street Runners and was now replaced officially by the Metropolitan Police.
• Between 1850 and 1900 the Metropolitan Police force increased significantly;
– 1862; 7800 men.
– 1900; 16000 men.

4. The extension of police forces in C19th

The spreading of the Met Police into other areas

• Municipal Corporations Act, 1835
Allowed 'rotten boroughs' to set up a police force if they wanted to. Only 93 out of 171 had by 1837.

• Rural Police Act, 1839
Also known as the County Police Act. Allowed JPs to set up police forces in their counties. Wasn't compulsory and less than half did.

• County and Borough Police Act, 1856
Made it compulsory for a police force to be in every county. There were inspectors of Constabulary which checked if they were good enough.

Development of specialist units

Detective Branch, 1842
- One of the first cases was The Bermondsey Horror of 1849 in which a married couple murdered Patrick O'Connor and buried his body under the kitchen floor. After going on the run they were

tracked down by the detectives and publicly hanged after being found guilty. Through cases like these the suspicion people had was replaced by respect and crime steadily fell.

Criminal Records Office 1869
- Contained the records of criminals from all over the country.

CID (Criminal Investigation Department) 1878
- Replaced the detective branch. They were paid slightly more than uniformed officers.
Special Irish Branch 1883
- Created due to the threat of Irish terrorism. In 1888 became simply 'Special Branch'.

Photography and fingerprinting
- Photographing of prisoners started in 1850s and meant that images could now be sent around the country. Fingerprinting started in 1901. Within the first 12 months they identified 4 times as many criminals as had done the year before.

5. Developments in policing in C20th: women, transport, communication, specialisation & community policing

Transport developments

• Bicycles were first introduced for police officers in 1909 and the car was used by police from 1919. This meant that police could get to the scenes of crimes much quicker.
• By 1970 the patrol car had become an essential tool in policing, replacing the 'bobby on the beat' with rapid response cars.
• However due to public pressure the police forces re-introduced foot patrols in the late 1900s to reassure locals that police officers were on hand.
• Since the 1970s the police have used helicopters to help with the surveillance of criminal, to track stolen vehicles and to direct police on the ground in the search for missing persons.

Communication and increasing use of technology

o
Telegraph and radio

- By 1880 most London police stations were linked by telegraph.
- Police phone boxes appeared in the 1920s.
- In 1934 some police cars were fitted with two-way radios, but the reception was often poor.
- In 1937 the 999 emergency number was introduced.
- In 1963 all police officers carry a two way radio for instant communication.

Camera and video technology

- In 1901 the first police photographer was employed.
- Many police cars have cameras fitted including automatic number plate recognition systems.
- CCTV has helped solve many crimes.
- Camera technology is also built into police helicopters and uses night vision.

Computer technology

- Computers have greatly improved police record keeping. They save a huge amount of police time.

- The system holds information on fingerprints, DNA, missing persons, car details etc. It can alert police to criminals who have committed crimes similar to the one being investigated and can monitor websites and emails which plays a major role in anti-terrorist activities.

Training and recruitment changes, including women police

In order to recruit high quality candidates into the profession all applicants have to go through a common application process and have to complete the following:

- Entry requirements, e.g. Exam qualifications
- Police Initial Recruitment Test which includes an interview and tests.
- Police fitness test
- Health check
- Background and security checks.

Women:
- In 1919 the first women police officers appeared. They weren't allowed to carry handcuffs or make arrests until 1923.
- Until 1939 they were given only limited duties, such as patrol work, escort duty (looking after children and female prisoners) and hospital duty.
- Since WW2 the number of female officers has increased. However it wasn't until 1970 that they were fully integrated into the police service.
- They now have similar duties to male officers but they are much fewer in number.

Specialisation of police services

Developments in science has resulted in the growth of specialist branches, such as:

- CID (Criminal Investigation Department) – has plain clothes officers and investigates major crimes like murder, serious assaults, fraud and sexual offences.
- Counter terrorism branch
- Immigration

Scientific developments include:

- Fingerprinting
- Forensic scientists, Scenes of Crimes Officers (SOCOs) and Crime Scene Investigators (CSIs)
- Genetic fingerprinting aka DNA profiling which matches individuals by blood, skin, saliva or hair found at a crime scene.

Community policing

- Neighbourhood Watch Schemes (1982): Over 10 million members of it across the country. The police pass on information about local crime trends to the co-ordinators who also act as the link to inform the police of incidents when they happen.
- PCSOs (Police Community Support Officers) 2002: Civilian members of the police who are not as trained, have a modified uniform and carry less equipment. Main role is to be a presence in the community and gather criminal intelligence.
- Crime Prevention Schemes: Police give advice on issues such as personal safety and home security.
- Victim Support Schemes: Helps victims of crime through advice, counselling and reassurance.

KQ5 – ATTITUDES TO PUNISHMENT
Why have attitudes to punishment changed over time?

GLOSSARY

• ***Corporal punishment*** = punishment of the body

• ***Deterrence*** = making people afraid to commit a similar crime

• ***Retribution*** = making criminals suffer for the wrong that had been done

• ***Monarch*** = king or queen.

• ***Hulks*** = disused ships used as emergency prison accommodation to hold prisoners awaiting transportation. Used due to lack of space in prison.

• ***Criminal Code*** = laws and punishments in Wales and England between late 1600s and early 1800s. Aka the Bloody Code due to its excessive use of the death penalty.

• ***Abolished*** = got rid of / ended.

• ***Jail fever*** = typhus, a disease caught in prison.

2. Retribution & deterrence as purposes of punishment

Retribution

Retribution means to give an equivalent or returned punishment for a crime. It suggests a victim taking vengeance for a crime by making the criminal suffer. The desire for retribution was a key purpose for punishment until the early 19th century.
This was a key attitude behind capital and corporal punishment from the 16th to the 19th centuries and led to different punishments for different types of crime. All punishments gave retribution as criminals were made to suffer pain, humiliation and often death for their crimes.

Deterrence

Deterrence means to discourage someone from doing a crime by making them afraid of the consequences. This is usually done by making the punishment harsh and unpleasant.

Harsh punishments were deemed to be the best method of deterrence throughout most of the period before the 19th century.

Punishment

Retribution and deterrence were the main attitudes towards punishment in the 16th and 17th centuries. They led to harsh punishments where the criminals suffered pain, humiliation or death.

Capital punishment

Serious crimes in Tudor and Stuart times were punished with capital punishment. The most common method of execution was by hanging. Hanging would lead to death by strangulation, which often took several minutes.
Other methods of execution included burning at the stake, which was the punishment for heresy.
The method of execution for the crime of treason was beheading or hanging, drawing and quartering. Royalty were beheaded, usually with an axe. The traitor's lands and money would be confiscated by the monarch.
In the 16th and 17th centuries, people supported capital punishment as it fulfilled their desire for retribution, and also served as a deterrent to others.

Corporal punishment

Several methods of corporal punishment were also used in the 16th and 17th centuries. The stocks and pillory were commonly used to humiliate and inflict pain on convicts. Flogging was also used. Earlier in the period, mutilation and branding were also used.
Women who were said to scold or argue with their husbands were often punished with a ducking stool in a local river or pond, or led around the town wearing a Scold's Bridle – a heavy iron cage for the head with a tongue iron in the mouth. The different punishment for women reflects the attitudes towards, and status of, women in the early modern period.
These methods of capital and corporal punishment show the desire in Tudor and Stuart times to make punishments brutally harsh to act as both a deterrent and provide retribution.

3. The purpose of punishment in public over time

Until the mid-19th century, punishments were carried out in full view of the public. Executions took place on public gallows in the middle of towns and cities, and often attracted crowds of hundreds of onlookers.
Public punishment allowed the whole community to take revenge on the criminal, and see that the victims had been given retribution. They also acted as a deterrent. Allowing the public to see the agony, pain, or humiliation of the criminal was thought to be an effective way to deter people from committing the crime.

Public punishments in the 16th and 17th centuries

Between 1500 and 1700, nearly all punishments took place in public, such as vagrants being whipped back to their homes, and petty criminals being placed in stocks and pillories.

Public punishments in the 18th and 19th centuries

Punishment in public continued through the 1700s, however, it gradually became less common. A Royal Commission on Capital Punishment (1864) concluded that executions should no longer be done publicly.

- Huge crowds were attending executions. These provided more opportunities for crimes such as pickpocketing. The crowds were often difficult to control.
- The crowds were seeing the execution as a form of entertainment. The Government started to see that public executions were no longer having the effect of deterrence.
- The publicity of executions sometimes made the criminal famous and appear heroic.

Other forms of public punishment also stopped in the 19th century. Flogging was carried out inside prisons. The stocks and pillory were no longer used.

Public punishments in the 20th and 21st centuries

These days, community service is the only punishment carried out in public. In December 2008, the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, introduced the wearing of high visibility vests as a response to public pressure to make punishment more visible.
However, the media also provide a vehicle for public humiliation as they can report on punishments handed down by the courts. Local papers often report on recent sentences that have been passed, whereas national papers have been known to publish multiple images of celebrities who have been sentenced to community service.

4. The use of banishment in C18th & C19th

Banishment means sending someone away from the country. It began to be used as a form of punishment in the 18th century.

At first criminals from the UK were banished to America between 1717 and 1776, and then to Australia from 1787 to 1868. This was called transportation.

Transportation was an alternative to the death penalty. At the time of the Bloody Code, judges wanted to have a more lenient punishment than the death penalty. Banishment was considered a good punishment as the criminal was removed from the country, so could no longer commit more crimes. Banishment was a cheaper option than prison and also helped Britain gain control of, cultivate, and colonise Australia. Before Captain Cook's discovery of Australia in 1770, prisons and hulks were very overcrowded. Between 1787 and 1868, 160,000 convicts were transported to Australia.
Transportation was not a soft punishment as sentences were for seven years, 14 years, or life. Conditions both on the journey and once there were harsh. The authorities still hoped that transportation would be a deterrent, but also that there was an opportunity to be reformed by the hard work. This shows a significant change in attitudes compared to execution.

Transportation ended as a form of punishment in 1868. Increasingly, attitudes were changing and punishment was seen to be about reforming and rehabilitating the criminal rather than banishing them. It seemed unfair to be sending prisoners to Australia when increasing numbers of British people were paying to emigrate there to start a new life. The free settlers in Australia were becoming resentful at having thousands of criminals dumped on them.

5. The use of prisons to punish & reform in the C19th

Houses of correction

• King Edward VI gave the royal palace of Bridewell to the city of London to house homeless children and punish disorderly women.
• This introduced the idea of reforming criminals rather than just the aim of deterrence or retribution.
• Houses of correction housed the poor, the sick and the sturdy beggars. The idea was to turn people into useful citizens by setting them tasks to do.
• When Mary took over from Edward she turned it into a place for punishment. Vagrants would be locked up. When Elizabeth took over it was mainly used for religious and foreign opponents.

Bridewells

• Ipswich and Norwich were the first towns to follow London's example. Houses of Correction became known as Bridewells as this was where the first one was.
• Anyone who refused to work in the Bridewell was whipped.
• Many Bridewells were built throughout the country. They were mainly used to punish vagrants who were firstly whipped and then chained up.

Prisons

• Sending someone to prison at this time was not seen as a punishment but just somewhere to keep them until punishment was decided so they didn't run away or disappear before they were charged and punished.
• If a prisoner refused to plead either way they would be tortured by being tied down and having heavy weights placed on their chests until they pleaded or died. This was later used as a form of execution rather than torture.
• Conditions in prisons depended on how much you could pay for your food and for bribes. The more you could pay the better bed and food they would get. Conditions were appalling for the poorest.
• Jailers (the people guarding the prisoners) often did not get paid so depended on getting money from the prisoners.

6. Changes in attitudes to punishment in C20th: dealing with young offenders, abolition of the death sentence

Dealing with young offenders

In previous centuries young offenders had been treated the same as adult offenders. However, this attitude began to change in the 20th century. Young offenders were given different trials through special youth courts, and this continues today.
Young people do not go to adult prisons. Borstals and Young Offender Institutions were established in 1902 to deal with young people.
Since 1909, people below the age of 18 years old have been treated differently to adults, and the youth justice system has developed separately from the adult criminal justice system. This evolved alongside a greater understanding of the development of the brain through neuroscientific and psychological research, and clinical practice in psychiatry and psychology.

Attitudes towards the age of criminal responsibility have also changed. In 1908, an age of criminal responsibility was introduced for the first time at seven years old. This age was raised to eight years old, then ten years old, and then 14 years old in the mid-20th century. By 2017, the age of criminal responsibility was 10 years old.

Abolition of corporal and capital punishment

- Corporal Punishment
  - Use of pillory was abolished in 1837 and stocks no longer used after 1872. In 1948 whipping was no longer used. ***Public attitude turned against using pain to punish.*** Corporal punishment was made illegal in state schools in 1986.
- Capital Punishment
  - Opinions were often divided

For	Against
A dead murderer cannot kill again	The wrong person may be hanged
Hanging is the ultimate deterrent	Most murders are spur of the moment so hanging isn't really a deterrent
Keeping a murdered in prison is expensive	Hanging is barbaric
Hanging satisfies the victims family and public	Even the worst person could be reformed
It protects police and prison staff	Other countries have abolished capital punishment and the crime rate hasn't increased.

- **Timothy Evans**

Hanged for murdering his baby daughter in 1950. He had confessed to killing his wife accidentally and did confess to killing his daughter. Evans claimed he was threatened by the police and did change his statement several times. 3 years after he was hanged a serial killer was caught and confessed to the crime Evans had been convicted of.

- **Derek Bentley**

Hanged for his part in the murder of a police officer in 1953. As the person who actually killed him was only 16 he could not be hanged. Bentley is believed to have had learning difficulties and was only 19. He got a full pardon in 1998.

- **Ruth Ellis**

Last woman to be hanged in the UK. Convicted of killing her lover and hanged. It was believed to be a crime of passion and not pre-meditated.

These cases all strengthened the argument for abolishing capital punishment. In 1957 the Homicide Act abolished hanging for all murders except;
- Murder of a police officer
- Murder by shooting or explosion
- Murder while resisting arrest

- In 1965 the Murder Act was introduced for a trial period of 4 years. In 1969 it became official as the Abolition of the Death Penalty Act. The last hangings to happen were in 1964.

7. Attempts to rehabilitate & make restitution

- There is still a debate about whether prisons should be used to rehabilitate or for retribution.
- Nowadays there is more emphasis on rehabilitating offenders to prepare them to be law abiding citizens on the outside. Use of parole, community orders & probation centres.

KQ6 – METHODS OF PUNISHMENT

How have methods of punishment changed over time?

1. The treatment of vagabonds in Tudor times

Vagrants and vagabonds were treated harshly in Tudor times. Laws were passed to punish vagrants in various ways. At first beggars and vagrants were all treated the same. However, over time different methods were used for those who were genuinely poor due to age, illness or disability, and those who were able-bodied but refused to work.

Year	Punishment
1495	Vagrants were put into the stocks for three days. After that they were sent back to the parish of their birth.
1531	Vagrants were whipped and sent back to the parish of their birth. Repeat offenders were punished more harshly.
1547	Vagrants caught begging were branded with a V on their forehead and enslaved for two years. Repeat offenders would be executed. This law was repealed after three years.
1601	**The Elizabethan Poor Law** - local taxes were put in place to provide money to support the poor in the area and to provide work for them. However, those who refused work were whipped and sent to a house of correction. Beggars were whipped until their back bled, and were then sent back to their place of birth.

2. The use of public punishment up to C19th: stocks, pillory & executions

<u>Corporal punishment</u>

- Punishments had two aims; Deterrence and Retribution. The punishments were meant to fit the crime, e.g. Burning for arson, hanging for murder.
- Corporal punishment usually took place on a market day in an open area so that it was as public as possible.
- The type of punishment someone got was based not only on their crime but also on their status e.g. The higher classes got less harsh punishments.

Whipping/flogging

- Used for crimes such as begging, drunkards, those who misbehaved in church, petty theft, vagabonds etc.
- Became less common by the 18th century. Eventually abolished as a punishment for women in 1820 but continued for men until the 1830s. Could still be used as a punishment for offences in prison up to the early 1900s.

Stocks and pillory

- The main purpose was to humiliate offenders in public to deter others.
- Used to punish minor crimes, gamblers, beggars and political offenders.
- In pillory's criminals could be pelted with stones and rotten fruit. If convicted of sexual crimes they were likely to be attacked whilst in the pillory and in some cases were killed.

- If the criminal was convicted of not paying taxes they were often cheered by the onlookers.
- Abolished in 1872.

Capital punishment

- By the end of the 17th century 50 different crimes carried the death penalty.
- Was done in public to deter others.
- Law and order was based on fear.
- Needed to be quick and cheap as there weren't many ways of detaining people.

Heretics

- It was believed that everyone should follow the same religion which should be chosen by the monarch.
- Henry VIII broke away from the Catholic Church and created the Church of England. When he died his son, Edward decided to rule the country as Protestant. His half-sister Mary then declared the country Catholic when she ruled it. People who refused to change religion were persecuted and burned at the stake.
- Under Mary I protestants either fled England or were forced to turn Catholic. Those who refused risked being executed. Hundreds were. It was believed that burning the body would free the soul to travel to heaven. Mary hoped this would deter people from being protestant but in reality, it just turned people against her.

3. The use of transportation from the 1770s to the 1860s

Reasons for transportation

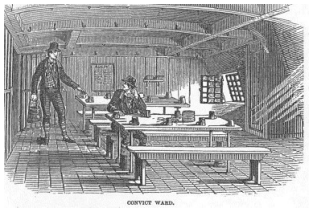
- 1717 Transportation Act was passed. It was a major turning point. It allowed convicts to choose transportation to America instead of branding, whipping or sometimes hanging.
- The sentence was for 7 years, 14 years or life.
- Between 1718 and 1776 more than 30,000 British prisoners were transported to America. People would make lots of money by transporting convicts to America as they would sell them when they got there.
- Transport to America stopped in 1776 when America declared its independence from Britain. This caused a crisis in the British prison system as prisons couldn't cope with the resulting overcrowding. Overcrowding ended when Australia was chosen as an alternative colony for shipping the convicts to.

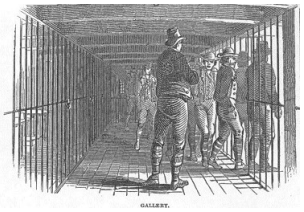
Why were convicts transported to Australia?

- Would reduce crime in Britain by removing the criminals.
- An alternative to hanging which some people felt was too extreme for some crimes.
- Prison was too costly.
- Hard work and learning new skills would reform the criminals.
- Australia was newly discovered, and the terror of the journey was a punishment in itself.

The hulks

- Between 1776 and 1778 more than a quarter of prisoners died on the hulks due to the horrible conditions.
- There was also lack of supervision so there was lots of disorder, fighting and rioting.





• Because of this the government were concerned and a public enquiry ordered conditions to be improved considerably.
• On board the day started at 5.30am with breakfast at 6am. Food was the same as in normal prisons. Convicts left the hulk for work at 7am doing various physical tasks such as clearing rubbish and carrying coal.

The voyage to Australia

• In May 1787 736 convicts were transported from Portsmouth to Australia. The journey lasted more than 8 months. More than 40 died on the journey from storms, diseases or starvation.

The punishment in Australia
Convicts were assigned work for private individuals. The convicts were made to do whatever work their master chose to give them:

- Farm workers often found themselves at a remote and isolated farm.
- Domestic works were usually well treated.
- Skilled workers were put to good use.

Good behaviour could lead to rewards:

- Ticket of Leave – allowed them to move and work wherever in Australia they chose.
- Conditional Pardon – set free but not allowed to return to England.
- Absolute Pardon – Sentence was cleared, and they were allowed to return home.
- Certificate of Freedom – introduced in 1810 and given to convicts at the end of their sentence.

- If they convicted a further crime whilst in Australia, they would be sent to a penal settlement where it was hard physical labour and low amounts of food.
- In 1838 it was decided that it wasn't enough of a deterrent and that it was very expensive. Australia were also very annoyed at being used as a human dumping ground.
- The last convict ship left Britain in 1867.
- Between 1787 and 1867 about 162,000 convicts were sent to Australia. The total cost had been more than £8 million.

4. The need for prison reform: Howard, Paul & Fry

John Howard

He was shocked by the conditions he saw in prisons**.** He observed:

- prisoners were not separated by gender or type of crime
- many prisoners were dying of illness and disease
- gaolers/jailers were often corrupt
- too few people were employed to make the prisons secure and safe
- many prisoners stayed in prison beyond the end of their sentence as they could not afford the jailers' fees to be released.

Howard had visited many prisons across the country. These included Caernarfon, Wrexham and Swansea Gaol. He believed prisons should reform criminals and believed that prisoners should be kept in solitary confinement so they couldn't learn more from other criminals and he recommended changes to prisons that included:

• running water
• clean and hygienic conditions
• access to medical treatment
• improved standard of food

- payment of gaolers
- visits from churchmen
-

Sir G. O. Paul

Concerned about the conditions in prisons. The Gloucestershire Prison Act of 1685 allowed him to design and build a new prison which had to be secure with high walls, exercise yards, sanitary, separation of offenders awaiting trial, minor offenders and serious criminals. His prisons included isolation sections to check new inmates for disease, good ventilation and an exercise yard. He believed the fever could be controlled through his design.

Elizabeth Fry

She wanted conditions to be improved for women. She was convinced that women in prison needed education, discipline, useful work and religion. She travelled the country to get as much publicity as possible. Thanks to her, conditions were greatly improved in Newgate Prison. She provided clothes and bedding and began to teach inmates skills such as knitting. She set up a chapel and a school in the prison.

Other reforms

- 1823 Jails Act required that;
  - There was enough clean accommodation.
  - The jailer received a salary from the local authority.
  - Prisoners were properly classified and separated.
- There seemed to be some agreement on prison design by the end of the 18th century but by the 19th century there was still very little agreement about how to treat the prisoners.
- The prison reformers set the precedence for modern day prisons and their standards.

5. New prisons in the later C19th: the separate and silent systems

- In the separate system prisoners were kept in individual cells where they worked, prayed and received religious teaching. This system was very expensive and had a high death rate with prisoners committing suicide or going insane. They were never allowed to see other prisoners. Prison reformers thought this would help prisoners to get work when released because they had done useful work in prison.

- In the silent system prisoners were allowed to spend time with one another but had to do so in silence so that they wouldn't influence each other. This system relied on fear and hatred, so conditions were as horrible as possible. They thought if they made the experience horrible people would never want to return to prison.

- 1865 Prisons Act concentrated on harsh punishments- summed up by 'Hard labour (work), hard fare (food) and hard board (accommodation)'. The aim was to enforce strict punishment, not to reform.

- The 1877 Prisons Act 'nationalised' prisons under government control and everything was the same across all prisons.

6. Alternative methods of dealing with prisoners in C20th: borstals, open prisons, probation & community service

The use of borstals

- Designed for juveniles – was meant to be educational rather than punishing. It had strict rules.

• The focus was on routine, discipline and authority.
• Research in the 1970s showed that the longer the inmates remained in a borstal the more likely they would be to reoffend when they were released.
• Borstals were abolished in 1982.

Young offenders institutes

• Borstals were replaced with young offenders institutes in 1988.
• They house inmates who are 18-21 and are very similar to prisons but with a higher staff to inmate ratio.
• Their purpose is to reform through education (25hours a week).
• Offenders under 21 will be sent to a YOI or;
○ Secure Training Centre – up to the age of 17 and privately run. For vulnerable young people.
○ Local Authority Secure Children's Homes – focus on the physical, emotional and behavioural needs of vulnerable young people.
○ Juvenile Prisons – for 15-18 year olds. There are three of them in England.

Open prisons

• Set up after WW2 to relieve pressure on other prisons.
• Normally house non-violent inmates with a low risk of escaping.
• It has been criticised for its lax security – 70 inmates escaped in 2006 alone.
• Aim is to resettle prisoners into the community. Open prisons have been criticised for being a 'soft option' but they are much cheaper to run than closed prisons.

Prisons today

• In 1985 there were 48,000 prisoners. By 2012 there were over 83,000.
• Prisons are divided into categories based on age, gender and the type of crime committed.
• Category A; Very dangerous to the public.
• Category B; People for who escape needs to be made difficult.
• Category C; Prisoners who can't be trusted in open prison but who are unlikely to try to escape.
• Category D; Prisoners who can be reasonably trusted not to try and escape.
• Women in prison (female only prisons exist in England. Holloway Prison in London is the most famous. Currently there are no prisons in Wales for women)

<u>Alternative methods to imprisonment</u>

suspended sentences
• Used as an alternative to prison since 1967. The offender doesn't go to prison unless they commit another crime in that time period.

probation and parole

• Probation service began in 1907 – offender has to follow a strict set of rules and keep in touch with the probation officer regularly.
• From 1982 offenders had to perform set activities and attend day centres.
• In 1967 the Parole Board was created. It means letting a prisoner out of jail before the end of their sentence. They can only get this if they have good behaviour reports and also depends on the type of crime committed.
• Once out of prison they are on 'conditional release' – if conditions of the licence are broken they will be recalled to prison.

community service
• Community Service Orders were introduced in 1972. Offenders have to do a certain number of hours of unpaid work for the community.

• More cost effective than probation. Very successful for older offenders but not really a deterrent on younger offenders.
• Since 2003 Community Service has become 'Community Payback'. You can be sentenced to between 40 and 300 hours.
• Aim is to punish offenders without serving a prison sentence.

Tagging
• Introduced as an experiment between 1995 and 1997.
• A tracking device is fitted to the individual which uses GPS.
• If tagged prisoners can be released between 2 and 12 weeks early.
• It has proved quite effective so far.

KQ7 – A STUDY OF AN HISTORIC SITE CONNECTED WITH CRIME & PUNISHMENT

'China': the growth of crime in industrial Merthyr in the C19th

By the 1840s, Merthyr possessed the essential ingredients to help turn it into an industrial 'boomtown':
• enterprising industrialists, mostly Englishmen, willing to invest in industrial development - the Guests Crawshays, Homfrays and Hills.
• plentiful supplies of raw materials - coal, ironstone, water.
• good transport links - the Glamorgan canal and the Taff Vale railway.
• a rapidly expanding population to service its labour needs.

What drove all these factors was the ever growing demand for iron fuelled by the development of the Industrial Revolution. By the 1840s, Dowlais had overtaken Cyfarthfa as the largest ironworks in the world. By 1845, it employed 7,300 men, women and children.

The decline of Merthyr's iron industry

This boom was not to last and the development of the steel industry during the second half of the nineteenth century signalled the decline of Merthyr's industrial development. Merthyr was not suited to the new steel industry. Its supply of ironstone was beginning to run out and, more significantly, it was not of the right quality for the manufacture of steel. Supplies of suitable ironstone had to be imported from abroad which meant it was more convenient to move and build new steelworks on the coast at Port Talbot, Briton Ferry, Aberavon, Neath and Swansea. The Plymouth and Penydarren ironworks had closed down by the 1880s.

The growth in the population of Merthyr Tydfil

This growth was due to the demand for workers was met through the constant arrival of immigrants. Most of the people who came to Merthyr travelled relatively short distances from the rural parts of Glamorganshire. Although some skilled and unskilled workers came from England and Ireland, the majority of this 'new' population of Merthyr was Welsh. The 1841 census reveals that only nine per cent of the people in the town came from outside Wales.

The ironmasters had to build houses for their workers, as close to the ironworks and coalmines as possible. As a consequence, the town quickly became overcrowded, filthy and unhealthy.

The majority of the workers lived in houses owned by the ironmasters. The quality of housing varied. Skilled workers, who were paid the highest wages, could afford to rent better quality housing which was usually in a row of terraced houses along a street, with a small yard at the back of each one. These houses normally had two or three rooms but no bathroom; the toilet would be outside in the yard.

Unskilled workers were more likely to live in the poorer quality homes. The houses were built in a square with a yard in the centre. The building was entered through a narrow alleyway between two of the houses, the yard being a communal area shared by all the inhabitants, including the shared toilet.

Issues of public health

The average life expectancy of an industrial worker in Merthyr was just 22 years, compared with that of an ironmaster's family which stood at more than double, at the age of 50 years. The highest death rate was amongst children and during the early nineteenth century three-quarters of all deaths in the town were of children under the age of five.

Outbreaks of disease were frequent in the town. Due to the overcrowded, damp and dirty housing, tuberculosis was ever present, as were frequent outbreaks of smallpox, typhoid, scarlet fever and measles. However, the most significant killer was cholera and outbreaks of this disease attacked Merthyr on four occasions between 1832 and 1866. The worst outbreak occurred in 1849 and resulted in 1,467 deaths. The cause of this killer disease was a contaminated water supply.

Much of the water supply to the town was contaminated with waste from the ironworks, sewage and rubbish. Many of the houses had no toilets and the occupants had no choice but to tip the contents of their chamber pots out onto the street or empty them into the river. For those who did have access to toilets they were no more than holes in the ground that had to be emptied regularly. There was no refuge collection and the streets were never cleaned, causing them to be covered with filth and rubbish. The supply of fresh water was extremely poor and even though the River Taff ran through the town it had become an open sewer. People obtained their water from a few wells and springs, some of which dried up during the summer months, resulting in long queues in the remaining wells. It was not until 1861 that the Merthyr Board of Health began to provide piped water and public taps, but it took another seven years for the building of a sewer system.

Poverty caused by the truck system

Some of the ironmasters paid out part of the wages in special tokens called 'truck' rather than in the official coinage. These tokens could only be exchanged for goods in special ‘tommy shops' which were owned by the iron companies. Prices were generally higher than in ordinary shops which was an additional burden for the hard-pressed worker. The truck shop would encourage workers to go into debt by allowing them to 'buy on loan' until the next pay day, thereby ensuring their continued custom.

Such frequent debt often resulted in workers having to appear before a special debtors court, the Court of Requests, which had the power to collect debts by ordering bailiffs to confiscate goods to the value of what was owed. The Court of Requests became hated by the people of Merthyr and it was action of the Court in the ordering bailiffs to retrieve goods from an ironworker which triggered a

major rising in Merthyr in 1831. Following this disturbance Parliament made it illegal to pay wages in anything but official coinage, an action which marked the end of the truck shops.

Spotlight on crime - the Celestial Empire of 'China'

China's criminal underworld

The criminals ruled themselves and this 'Celestial Empire' was dominated by the most powerful criminals who were given the titles of 'Emperor' and Empress'. China became a hiding place for criminals hoping to escape the arm of the law. A wanted person could stay hidden and protected within the criminal underworld that operated within China. Constables entered this district at their peril for its occupants would gang together to resist the arrest of any of its inmates.
The most widespread crime within China was linked to prostitution, namely petty theft. There were said to be up to 60 prostitutes operating in this district in the period 1839-40. They were instructed by their minders or Bullies' to steal from their clients, waiting for them to become drunk before they stole items of worth. Due to the commonality of surnames the women acquired working names such as Margaret Llewellyn, better known as "Peggy Two Constables', Jane Thomas or 'Big Jane' and Margaret Evans 'The Buffalo'. Such women were protected by the Bullies' who often assisted them in their robberies. These Bullies also protected their partners in crime, the prostitutes, by making sure that the police did not arrest them and if they did, securing a quick release, and also protecting them from other members of the criminal underworld.

China's close proximity to the High Street and Market Square provided another group of criminals known as the Rodnies' with rich pickings. 'Rodnies' were child thieves and pickpockets operating under the supervision of Fagin-like gang masters. They were perpetual criminals who were constantly charged with petty crimes.

Attempts to police China

Within this criminal underworld there was an element of self-policing and the use of the ceffyl pren or wooden horse was not unknown. In 1834, Anne Harman, who was accused by her peers of being unfaithful to her husband on several occasions, was forcibly placed on a ladder and carried in a violent manner through China to the house mother, being pelted with mud and stones along the way. On this occasion public of her humiliation was deemed to be sufficient punishment.

China finally conquered

Following the establishment of the Glamorgan Constabulary in 1841 efforts were made to tackle the high rates of crime in areas like China and other criminal dens like Pontstorehouse, where the inhabitants were referred to as 'Cellarites' due to the numerous cellars being found there. It took time to establish a police presence and command respect but by 1860 China was in decline. Continued police harassment and sterner sentences were beginning to have an impact. By the 1870s many of the professional criminals had moved to Cardiff for richer pickings.

The impact of the growth of urban Merthyr Tydfil on changes in policing in the C19th

The authorities in Merthyr, namely the ratepayers, were slow to react to the need for change and it took instances of serious rioting, such as the Rising of 1831, and the sharp rise in crimes during periods of economic recession to eventually cause them to change their attitude and release funds to finance the setting up of a police force.

Popular disturbances and the use of the military

In an emergency, as was the case with disturbances and rioting in 1800, 1816 and 1831, the authorities would have to call upon the support of the local militia forces to help restore law and order. In September 1800 a disturbance broke out in Merthyr, caused by high food prices and a scarcity of food (mainly grain) following a poor harvest. Workers expressed their discontent by attacking the company truck shop belonging to the Penydarren ironworks, forcing the shopkeepers to reduce their prices. The protest was only stopped following the arrival of troops, 20 soldiers of the 7th Dragoons, who had

marched from Gloucester. They promptly arrested the ringleaders, but it was only the prompt request for military support by one of the town's magistrates that had prevented the rioting from escalating further.

The Merthyr Rising of 1831 and its impact

A depression in the iron industry which started in 1829 led to wage cuts and rising unemployment. Many workers ran into increasing debt and this resulted in the Court of requests ordering the widespread confiscation of property which was unpopular. This coincided with a demand by middle-class radicals for an extension of the vote which only added to the growing discontent in the area. The spark which ignited the rioting was the decision by the ironmaster William Crawshay to cut the wages of his ironstone miners and to lay off 84 puddlers, some of his highest-paid ironworkers.

On 2 June 1831, a large crowd marched through Merthyr, raiding shops and houses, driving off the magistrates and special constables. Soldiers were summoned from Brecon but their arrival did not stop a large crowd from attacking the Castle Inn in the centre of the town, which was where the magistrates, special constables and soldiers had set up their headquarters. On 3 June, a crowd of upwards of 7,000 gathered outside the Inn, causing soldiers to open fire. In the resulting skirmish 16 soldiers were wounded and at least two the dozen rioters were killed and over 70 wounded. The authorities were forced to flee to Penydarren House but it was not until 6 June that law and order was restored to the town.

On 13 July 1831, the trials began in Cardiff Assizes of 28 men and women on charges connected with the rising. Most were sentenced to imprisonment, four to transportation for 14 years or life, and one, Richard Lewis (Dic Penderyn) was sentenced to death for wounding a soldier, Donald Black. The rising caused the ironmasters and ratepayers to question whether Merthyr was in need of some kind of professional police force.

Experiments in early policing

The Merthyr Rising of 1831 had highlighted the problem of law enforcement. In an attempt to restore order in the town the magistrates had requested that some of the constables of the Metropolitan Police force be sent down from London. They asked for two sergeants and between four and six experienced constables to help organise their special constables but they only received three retired policemen. Thomas Jamieson was appointed the Chief Police Officer of Merthyr. His appointment demonstrates a shift in attitude within a section of the community, namely the magistrates and ironmasters, who had come to realise the value of having a professional police force in the town.

However, the experiment was short lived. The continued presence of the militia in the town together with a feeling that the force was too expensive to operate, resulted in the dismissal of Jamieson. In 1834 the Merthyr Guardian newspaper reported that the town was now only patrolled by two constables, a force which was insufficient to handle the depth of crime. To punish the apprehended criminals the constables could make use of the old stocks or a lock up which was used as a place of confinement to house disorderly persons. Nicknamed the ‘black hole’ this lock up had been built in 1809 and consisted of a wooden shack measuring between 3.5 and 4.2 metres. Inside it was dark, damp and unpleasant, and did not prove to be a very secure place of confinement.

Establishment of the Glamorgan County Constabulary, 1841

The rising of 1831 and the growth of Chartism during the 1830s, which culminated in the march on Newport in 1839, worried the middle classes of Merthyr. They became increasingly concerned over the protection of their property and this caused them to release funds to establish a police force. The Glamorgan County Constabulary was in October 1841 to police the industrialised region of the county.

The inappropriateness of the 'black hole' as a place of confinement led the Captain to request the building of a police station in Merthyr. It was opened in 1844.

In charge of Merthyr 'A' Division was Superintendent Davies, an experienced officer who had served as a constable and later sergeant in the Metropolitan Police and also as a superintendent in the Essex

Constabulary. The constables were forced to operate under strict rules, especially relating to their private lives. When not on duty they were required to specify where they would be so that they could be contacted if needed. Money was deducted from their wages to cover accommodation and living costs, and if a constable missed work due to illness 1s was deducted from his wages for each day's absence.

The effectiveness of Merthyr's police force

A force of just 13 men hoping to maintain law and order in a town with a population of over 46,000 was always going to be a difficult challenge. The impact and effectiveness of the force in its early days was limited. Two reasons impacted upon this, the first being the problem of recruiting sufficient numbers of suitable men. Constables were expected to display 'honesty, sobriety and a sound constitution' together with knowledge of the Welsh language and the ability to keep accounts, as well as the ability to read and write. The second, more serious problem, was being able to retain good constables who, with such skills, could earn much higher wages in the ironworks.

To begin with Superintendent Davies realised that it would take some time to establish a presence in the lawless areas of China and Pontstorehouse and so these areas were not included in the beats patrolled by the constables. However, two police constables were put on each of the two beats adjoining these areas at night. When it became necessary to enter either China or Pontstorehouse the whole body of the police would enter, led by the Superintendent.

During the 1840s, the police continued with their efforts to enforce law and order and by the 1850s the beat had been extended to the whole town, although it was not until the end of the century that it was possible for just one constable to patrol the 'China' district. While there certainly was a police presence in the town it was not until September 1908 that it had its own district force with the establishment of the 'Merthyr Tydfil Borough Police Force'

Conclusion

By the end of the nineteenth century the levels of crime in Merthyr had been considerably reduced when compared to what it had been like mid-century. By the 1860s, the iron industry was showing the first signs of decline and workers had begun to leave the town for the new steel plants being built along the coast or for the rapidly expanding coal mines in the Rhondda and Aberdare valleys. By this time a range of organisations had been established to help promote alternative leisure activities as a distraction to crime, such as the Young Men's Improvement Society, a Library Association and Temperance Recreation Associations. The growth in chapel attendance together with the associated fêtes, excursions, musical and sports events, all helped to improve the range of leisure alternatives. By the 1870s the Merthyr Guardian could claim that the habits of the people of Merthyr had improved. The establishment of an organised and disciplined police force had also proved of prime importance in helping to keep the criminal underworld in check and reduce crime levels to what they had been much earlier in the century.