## <u>Diane Abbott response to Amber Rudd's</u> <u>comments on stop and search</u>

**Diane Abbott MP**, **Labour's Shadow Home Secretary**, responding to the comments from the Home Secretary on increased use of stop and search, said:

"Labour supports evidence-based stop and search, not a return to the bad old days of discriminatory stops that focus on particular communities.

"Police officers should be confident in doing their job, but the Tories have overseen a huge cut in police numbers. Simply granting police additional powers won't make up for that shortfall. Labour in government will recruit 10,000 extra police officers to help tackle violent crime and keep the

public and our communities safe.

"The Government should stop trying to con the public by attempting to cover up their failure to tackle rising violent crime — when the crime stats

were released they insisted crime was falling, but now want to increase stop and search."