

“ PPP ”

People for Proper Policing in North Wales

ACPO response to article in the Mail on Sunday

Ref:32/09 February 15, 2009

PPP note ...

The article in the Mail on Sunday is at <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1145581>

This complex story raises a huge range of issues many of which involve GRAVE conflicts of interest and levels of nepotism and cronyism of a political scale. We believe they require a political solution. For years we have been unhappy about ACPO in general and Chief Officers like Brunstrom and Wolfendale locally and Blair and Co in the Met. being seemingly out of control and a law unto themselves.

Responding to an article concerning ACPO in the Mail on Sunday, **ACPO President Ken Jones** said:

"British policing is among the best in the world and in counter-terrorism, in the way we investigate murder, in forensics and many other areas of criminal investigation we are recognised leaders through the efforts of chief officers working through ACPO. Beyond 44 local police forces there is no national operational policing structure and so chief officers voluntarily combine through ACPO to agree approaches, lift the performance of the police service and protect lives. Many crimes have been prevented or solved and offenders brought to justice as a result. ACPO has no influence save through the voluntary support of chief officers, each accountable to their separate communities. It has existed in one form or another for over 150 years, and has been a limited company since 1997 solely in order to sign leases and directly employ staff. All funds to ACPO are employed in the interests of public safety and the police service.

"The ACPO Criminal Records Office (ACRO) does not sell criminal records checks. A police certificate is entirely different, is used only for immigration purposes and includes not only a check on the Police National Computer but further checks, photography and a full report complying with regulations of four embassies including the USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. ACRO was set up in 2006 to address concerns over foreign national prisoners and the service it provides offsets costs to police forces, thereby saving the public purse."

The PPP comments ... ACPO by Ken Jones is as pure as the driven snow. We highlight a few phrases that give us cause for concern. We await the fall out of responses to this story and no doubt it will be subject of PPP articles in the future. We don't have the facts about murder and terrorism but recently we have escaped terrorists' mayhem more by accident than design. The IRA seemed to have mostly got away with murder here and in Ireland for years and many high profile murders were unsolved or unsound convictions. BUT WE DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE DIFFICULTIES of the job we just have little faith in the senior management.