

“ PPP ” People for Proper Policing in North Wales

**Mar 27 2006 Exclusive By Roland Hughes in the North Wales Daily Post
Homes for junkies before single mums!**

POLICE chief Richard Brunstrom last night said drug users should be treated like human beings - and should even be handed housing ahead of single mums. The controversial chief constable's comments came as the Daily Post launched a series of in-depth reports looking at the scourge of drugs in North Wales.

Mr Brunstrom admitted a major cultural change was needed to reduce the region's drug problems and he claimed it would be "crazy" not to consider giving recovering addicts priority housing for the greater long-term good of society. It is the latest controversial claim by a chief constable who previously floated the idea of legalising hard drugs.

Mr Brunstrom said radical steps were needed if society were to help drug users beat the addiction - and the key was giving users hope for the future.

He said: *"The traditional approach has been to treat drugs as a law enforcement, a crime problem, purely and simply a police problem.*

"It's abundantly clear that the police can't solve the problem on their own.

All we can do is arrest people who break the law, prosecute them and send them to prison. And they come out again and it starts again".

"The shift I see in the last four or five years is a recognition that we need to go beyond a strict law enforcement model. A war on drugs can't be won.

"A recognition that treating drugs holistically is a more successful process.

Most drug addicts see themselves as having a future. They do not see themselves as waiting to die in a gutter.

"They see themselves as having a house, car, dog, kids, husband, wife, holidays. Just like everybody else.

"What they lack very often is the wherewithal to get from where they are to over there. This requires a huge amount of help and support."

The PPP comments.....throughout his time in NWPF Brunstrom has been soft on drugs and has regularly ranted on about legalisation and other controversial issues...NEVER does he concentrate on his responsibilities to protect the vulnerable members of our communities the hardworking, law abiding citizens who pay his salary and the elderly and children who are preyed on by criminals and drug dealers.

WE do not pay him to dabble in social engineering and interpret the laws of the land to suit his unpopular and irrational views.

DRUG dealers may see themselves as having a future in North Wales but the rest of us have grave doubts about our own future. According to Brunstrom in previous rants, life long use of hard drugs such as Heroin posed no serious health problems SO DYING IN THE GUTTER was not an issue then!!

Later articles in the Post's series will chronicle moves by North Wales Police to nip the drug problem in the bud.

But Mr Brunstrom said "society needed to change to help put former users back in work and on the housing ladder".

He added "a housing policy for users, agreed between all North Wales councils, was 'essential' to clamp down on the problem. Most drug addicts relapse because they're addicted. So you can't just give them one chance.

"You have got to provide a support network underneath them. You have got to treat them as human beings with a bit of respect as a human being.

"You have got to give them a roof over their head because many of them are not capable of managing on their own. Many of them have never lived on their own before.

"They need a job, prospects, hope, in order to change their behaviour.

"Most drug addicts are not criminals.

They are not active, life-long career criminals. But they have to commit crime in order to buy their drugs.

The only way we are going to persuade them to offend less is by offering them more hope. A significant proportion of drug addicts can be persuaded to change their lifestyle and to become normal integrated members of society and commit less crime, and mug your granny on her way back from the post office less often."

The PPP comments....these flippant remarks about single mothers and grannies highlights how totally alien Brunstrom is to the community he supposedly serves.....he must be replaced as a matter of urgency.

The IRONY is that North Wales is one of the easiest regions in the UK to Police and his negligence has allowed it to deteriorate in all those areas that the public are most concerned about.

He added: "What we found was that people were getting relatively short prison sentences, they would be released from prison dry but they had nowhere to go.

"They would be sent back here to North Wales the same day and they would be straight back out on the streets, back with the same crowd that got them into trouble in the first place. Back to no hope, no future.

"We recognised that we needed to have a close relationship with the worst offenders. Before you even get to prison we are looking at your reintegration into society when you leave.

"There is a lot more to do but we already know it will work. We are absolutely certain that persuading drug addicts to change their lives will help save lives.

"Half of our stealing in North Wales is caused by drug addicts and that is the category that is declining most. We are confident we are on the right track.

"There is still an element of nimbyism in that nobody wants a drug clinic round the back of their house, that's understandable.

"There is still a degree of alienation of the drug community. But I think it's far less toxic and corrosive than it was."

The PPP comments...drugs is big business...even for the so called support groups who use tax payers money to build a cosy society of users ex users and hangers on AND all on housing and other benefits.

Mr Brunstrom said it was vital to offer users a "carrot on a stick" (his version of the carrot AND stick) which would help them beat their addiction.

He said: "We need to offer hope. This causes some interesting issues. If we are going to offer them housing, do they get priority on housing lists over a single mother who has not broken the

law? Do we get them a job? Do they jump the queue at the job centre? But decent, law-abiding people would say 'I would like a job, and why are they being given one instead of me?'

"It's difficult for some people to comprehend. So there's an interesting set of checks and balances there as to what's in the long-term interests of society.

"Do we want to prioritise drug addicts for treatment. Because if we can reduce the damage they do to society, it's better for everybody?"

*"I think we have to do that. I think there's no choice but to say that when we have got serial, prolific offenders taking drugs, **the only sensible solution for society is to put a roof over their heads and find them employment.**"*

The PPP comments ...The terminology used to be....a prison sentence with hard labour, we now need to include with NIL access to drugs.

The recent dispatches program (April 2007) www.channel4.com/news/dispatches/ showed the ludicrous situation in an open prison where inmates entered drug free and left drug addicted. They were also allowed out to work in local communities where they bought drink and drugs both prescription and class1- 3 for resale in the prison.

*"I think it would be crazy not to. And the long-term good of society justifies that action. My experience is that most people, when faced with this, firstly, haven't ever thought about it before, and secondly, think it's a very good idea. "Most people don't think beyond **'There are drug traders outside my school and they ought to get locked up'**."*

"When you put in front of them what the police could do, they usually then join in and say 'We understand where you're coming from, and if you can give us an assurance that these people will commit less damage to our society, it is worth giving them priority treatment'.

"That must look very different if you were just about to get a council house and somebody else jumped the queue.

"But the vast majority of people I talk to understand it completely, and once you get past the War on Drugs, they are in favour."

The PPP comments....there are known drug traders in all our communities and in our public parks and near our schools, the local people see this and know who they are BUT what are NWPF doing about it!? It is NOT the public's responsibility to sort this out, Brunstrom has had major increases in personnel and funds much of which he has squandered on his political correct issues.

In conclusion, in this article we have given space to all Brunstrom's comments and proposals. We do this so you can see the depth of this man's disregard for Government and ACPO policy on drugs and in particular his total disregard for the people's concerns and priorities.