



People for Proper Policing in North Wales

Report of STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION MEETINGS 2004

BUILDING SAFER COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

This extract is to highlight a major conclusion ignored by the Police Authority

1.7 ACCOUNTABILITY

As the specific reports of the meetings will show in the following sections, the stakeholders were keen to have additional information about police budgets and cost-effectiveness. **The Business Groups in particular – but not only them** – were aware of the trend towards increasing costs being combined with falling detection and clear-up rates; and they were concerned about this.

More generally, **the theme of accountability was in some ways the most controversial area of discussion insofar as it led many to focus on the role of the Chief Constable in particular.** Apart from **some important concerns about his personal style of leadership,** there were serious worries expressed about the way his headship of the force personnel structure is combined with his relatively untrammelled responsibility for setting force policies and operational norms. While it was recognised, of course, that this position is not unique to North Wales, **some quite informed people doubted whether – within such a centralised and hierarchic structure – this Chief Constable could ever receive critical or objective advice from subordinate officers whose careers are dependent upon his rating of their qualities.**

The PPP comments ... See the above emphasised sections.....Several PPP members actually took part in this survey. Every survey carried out at our expense as received broadly the same response from the customer. Generally the public's concerns have been ignored or paid lip service to. The key issue of the accountability, behaviour and attitude of the Chief officers has always been raised and ignored by the PA.

5 years later, after a series of PACF meetings devised by the Home Office to persuade people that crime was a figment of their imagination and which backfired, Brunstrom tells the Police Authority meeting that the PACF meetings are not representative. The full Dale Hall report is available on this site, just enter **Dale Hall** into **article search.** We believe this survey was the **MOST** representative survey carried out and accessed all those groups with the experience and knowledge to give reasoned and positive opinions on the key broad issues. Please read this report and ask your PA rep. what happened thereafter. We believe it was ignored as usual, particularly criticism of Brunstrom.