



People for Proper Policing in North Wales

Numberjacks DCC Wolfendale's blog Thursday 23/04/08

North Wales Police is currently struggling to recruit enough analysts of the right calibre to meet its operational demands. Before the dawn chorus of "You don't need more analysts, wot u need is more bobbies on the beat" chirps in, let me invite you to consider that, before the aforementioned bobby hits the street, it's best if someone can answer the following questions on his / her behalf:

Why? ... Where? ... When? Doing What?

*Aimless patrol just doesn't cut it any longer; **and now we've got our battalion of PCSOs**, making sure activity is properly directed is even more important. The analysts we've got in the force are excellent; we just haven't got enough. We require them in just about every aspect of our work, from financial investigation to road safety. Unfortunately, the labour market is simply not supplying a sufficient number of capable and qualified individuals to meet the need. Somebody taking the job who is not quite up to the mark will soon find the going tough - a poor analyst is worse than none at all. We've also tried to develop individuals into the role, with limited success. The problem we encounter, time and time again, is that aspirants lack **the basic number skills to deliver a convincing product**. It's clear that the fundamentals have not been part of the general education process and that whatever relevant degree followed has failed to address the shortfall.*

***The numeracy gap is not peculiar to North Wales Police**; colleagues in other forces and organisations bemoan a similar situation. In fact the problem is much wider and much more acute. Mathematical competence is key to anyone wishing to embark on a decent career in IT.*

The PPP comments We contacted the NWPF recruiting office, they were not aware of any such vacancies and their officer recruitment is currently closed. They were not aware of this blog or where the blog was on the website. We read it out to them and asked to be transferred to the DCC. We left a message with Wolfendale's PA and a phone number for her to ring.

If we 'analyse' this blog doesn't it mean that despite NWPF having 22 Superintendents, 92 Chief and ordinary Inspectors, 256 sergeants **AND THREE** incredibly capable and highly educated ACPO officers they don't really know what to do with all the other 2300 officers and staff they employ.

Is the Analysts job really a scientifically rigorous analysis or is the 'CONVINCING PRODUCT' more akin to imaginative book keeping as they do with their KSI road safety STATS and their crime figures. We do not make these comments lightly, we have been studying all their performance figures and Brunstrom's extravagant claims, the results are disturbing to say the least.