

“ PPP ”

People for Proper Policing in North Wales

The wages of sin Up to ten 'lovers' of police chief Michael Todd offered paid leave during inquest.

Long before his lonely, tortured death on a Welsh mountainside, Mr Todd had become notorious in police circles for conducting a string of affairs. The full extent of his womanising began to emerge after it was revealed that Greater Manchester Police had offered paid leave for up to ten women employees known to have been in close contact with the former chief constable.

A source said: 'Any woman that wants to take paid leave during the inquest will be given that option, in particular those women that were close to Mr Todd and those that have been named in the Press. They've been advised to keep a low profile during the inquest.'

A senior GMP officer is thought to have contacted the women and told them they could take time off during the hearing in North Wales, which ended last night. In a statement, GMP said last night: *'As an employer we have a duty of care to ensure that any member of staff that has been affected by a traumatic incident receives our full support.'*

But despite the fact that his chaotic love life undoubtedly contributed to Mr Todd's desperate state of mind, the North Wales coroner elected to protect the identities of his lovers and other associates.

In addition, Sir Paul's inquiry has been told that a fortnight before his death, Mr Todd sent 'inappropriate' texts to a senior female civil servant after meeting her at a conference. She rejected his advances and he apologised.

The PPP comments ... after his death we felt that pressures of work and a sudden domestic crisis had driven him to suicide. We find out now that he was not a man of principle and leadership but a sexual predator who failed his family and abused his position of power to seduce colleagues and associates openly. Despite these shortcomings, which must have been problematic in such a 'close' organisation, he was considered as a candidate for the top job in the Met. (with fellow adulterers such as Superintendent Ali Dizaei)

The enthusiastic granting of leave under these circumstances condones and encourages such behaviour and emphasises again the weird and wonderful world of policing in the UK. Can we expect a formal statement from ACPO on the acceptability of marital infidelity within their ranks?. In mitigation, we do understand that the honed and toned uniformed figure of an ACPO officer has attractions that mere mortal men could not aspire to.