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Nicky

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Can you look  
all this down to  
one page of <sup>well</sup> points

HOME OFFICE  
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE  
LONDON SW1H 9AT

Mr Fletcher <sup>of</sup>

29 October 1984

To be aware.

<sup>sub</sup>  
3070

Dear David

.. I am enclosing a copy of a briefing pack on drug misuse which Mr Mellor asked officials to prepare.

Its purpose is to provide a convenient "aide-memoire" of the Government's strategy and of points which he can draw on it presenting the Government's policies. The intention is to up-date it from time to time by circulating pages for substitution.

.. Mr Mellor thought Ministers in other Government Departments with a direct interest in the subject of drug misuse might also find it helpful to have a copy of the briefing pack. I am, therefore, sending it, with a copy of this letter to those on the attached list.

yours sincerely

STEVEN W DAVIDSON  
Private Secretary

David Barclay Esq  
No 10 Downing Street

LIST OF RECIPIENTS

Lord President

The Rt Hon Viscount Whitelaw

Department of Health and Social Security

The Rt Hon Norman Fowler MP  
Tony Newton Esq OBE MP  
Kenneth Clarke Esq QC MP  
Ray Whitney Esq MP  
John Patten Esq MP  
Lord Glenarthur

HM Treasury

The Rt Hon Nigel Lawson MP  
The Rt Hon Peter Rees MP  
Ian Stewart Esq MP  
Barney Hayhoe Esq MP

Department of Education and Science

The Rt Hon Sir Keith Joseph MP  
Robert Dunn Esq MP  
Peter Brooke Esq MP

Welsh Office

The Rt Hon Nicholas Edwards MP  
John Stradling Thomas Esq MP  
Wyn Roberts Esq MP

Department of the Environment

The Rt Hon Patrick Jenkin MP  
Kenneth Baker Esq MP  
Ian Gow Esq MP  
Neil MacFarlane Esq MP  
Sir George Young MP  
The Hon William Waldegrave MP  
Earl of Avon

Scottish Office

The Rt Hon George Younger MP  
The Rt Hon The Lord Gray of Contin  
John MacKay Esq MP  
Allan Stewart Esq MP

Northern Ireland Office

The Rt Hon Douglas Hurd MP  
Rhodes Boyson Esq MP  
Nicholas Scott Esq MBE MP  
Christopher Patten Esq MP  
The Earl of Mansfield

MISUSE OF DRUGS

MINISTERIAL BRIEFING PACK:

Contents

1. The Government's strategy.
2. Scale of the problem.
3. Reducing supplies from abroad: international efforts.
4. Tighter domestic controls on drugs.
5. Enforcement (Customs and Police).
6. Deterrence.
7. Treatment and Rehabilitation.
8. Prevention.

. The Government's strategy

(i) To curb drug misuse by simultaneous action on five main fronts:

- (a) reducing supplies from abroad
- (b) tighter controls on drugs produced and prescribed here.
- (c) policing
- (d) deterrence
- (e) treatment, rehabilitation, and prevention.

(ii) Since June 1984 the main responsibility for developing and co-ordinating this policy has rested with the interdepartmental Ministerial Group on the Misuse of Drugs, whose terms of reference are:

To develop the Government's strategy for combatting the misuse of drugs of addiction and to oversee its implementation, having particular regard to:

- (a) The development of proposals for the more effective implementation of that strategy;
- (b) priorities for the allocation and deployment of resources in the various preventive, treatment and other services which play a part in countering drug misuse;
- (c) the arrangements within and outside government for the co-ordination, development and enforcement of policy on drug misuse;
- (d) to make such recommendations from time to time as seem to be appropriate.

'iii) The following Departments are represented at Ministerial level on the Group: Home Office (Mr Mellor, Chairman), DHSS (Mr Patten), DES (Mr Dunn), Scottish Office (Mr Ancram or Mr MacKay), DoE (Sir George Young). HM Customs and Excise, the Northern Ireland Office and the Welsh Office are represented at official level.

(iv) The Ministerial Group is giving top priority to considering enforcement and prevention.

(v) The work of the Ministerial Group complements that of the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs, a distinguished body of experts from outside government which advises the Government and generally undertakes longer-term studies. Recent reports from the Advisory Council have been on the subjects of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation and the security of controlled drugs.

.. Scale of the problem

1983 Statistics

(a) Seizures

(i) total drug seizures (26,200) up 21% on 1982, the largest percentage increase for several years.

(ii) there were twice as many seizures of heroin in 1983 as in 1982, and the total amount seized increased by 26%.

(iii) five times as much cocaine was seized as in 1982.

(b) Offences

(iv) 23,300 persons were found guilty or cautioned for offences involving controlled drugs: an increase of 15%.

(v) 3,300 people were convicted of trafficking offences: 50% more than in the years 1976-78.

(vi) two-thirds of those convicted of trafficking offences were given custodial sentences.

(c) Notifications

(vii) the total number of addicts notified during 1983 (5,850) was up 42% on 1982 - the largest ever percentage increase.

(viii) the total number of addicts known to the Home Office was over 10,000. Research suggests that the true figure may be five times higher.

(x) numbers of new addicts (4,200) were up 50% on 1982 and the proportion of those aged under 21 increased from 16% in 1980 to 21% in 1983.

(x) numbers of renotified addicts (1,700) were up 27% on 1982, and the proportion of those aged under 25 rose by 4%, reversing a previously downward trend.

(xi) heroin, alone or with other drugs, was the drug of addiction for 85% of all addicts reported in 1983. This compares with a figure of 60% during the years 1973-1978.

#### Other indicators

(i) Street price of heroin has remained stable, or has fallen, since 1979. The real price has therefore dropped substantially.

(ii) The purity of street-level heroin is high (40 to 50%).

j. Reducing supplies from abroad: international efforts

- (i) £1 million pledged to the UN Fund for Drug Abuse (UNFDAC) in April 1984 to help the Pakistan Government eradicate opium poppy cultivation.
- (ii) £180,000 to UNFDAC in 1983/84 to help strengthen law enforcement in Pakistan.
- (iii) £100,000 a year to UNFDAC for its general programme, together with practical assistance.
- (iv) The UK is an active member of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which oversees the operation of the UN Conventions and the development and implementation of the international drugs strategy.
- (v) The UK is a member, and presently holds the chair of, the Council of Europe Pompidou Group which studies the problems of abuse and trafficking from a multi-disciplinary point of view.
- (vi) Senior Customs officer posted to Karachi to improve operational intelligence.
- (vii) Senior police officer posted to Amsterdam for intelligence-gathering purposes.
- (viii) Bilateral assistance to law enforcement agencies in producer/transit countries, including expert advice and training.



4. Tighter domestic controls on drugs

(i) In April 1984 dipipanone (Diconal) was made subject to the same licensing restrictions on prescribing as heroin and cocaine.

(ii) The DHSS Medical Working Group is considering the ACMD's recommendation that licensing restrictions should be extended to all opioid drugs.

(iii) DHSS to issue guidelines at the end of October 1984 to doctors on good clinical practice in the treatment of drug misusers. Similar action to be taken in Scotland and Wales.

(iv) Action taken against doctors for irresponsible prescribing. Directions prohibiting prescribing issued in respect of 3 doctors in 1983, 1 so far in 1984. Other proceedings in progress, and several doctors warned as to the prescribing practices.

(v) Barbiturates, with a number of other drugs, to become controlled drugs under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 on 1 January 1985.

(vi) Urgent study underway of the ACMD report on security (published November 1983) which recommended that present safe custody regulations be revoked and replaced with a set of guidelines based on professional ethics.

(vii) Decision taken to ratify the UN 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances. Consultations now taking place on changes necessary to domestic legislation.

5. Enforcement (Customs and Police)

A. Customs

- (i) 212 kilos of heroin seized in 1983 (40 kilos in 1979).
- (ii) 231 kilos of heroin seized in the first 8 months of 1984 (200 persons arrested in connection with these seizures, 60 of whom were organisers or principals).
- (iii) 5 times as much cocaine seized in 1983 as in 1982.
- (iv) Doubling of the number of specialist drugs investigators over the last 5 years.
- (v) Recruitment in 1984 of a further 60 uniformed officers, partly to combat drug smuggling.
- (vi) Mr Clarke announced at Conservative Party Conference that 100 new posts were to be provided to fight drug smuggling.
- (vii) Senior Customs officer posted to Karachi to improve operational intelligence.
- (viii) Additional Customs staff for CDIU (Central Drugs Intelligence Unit).
- (ix) SCPS claims about loss of Customs' effectiveness based on incorrect figures.

B. Police

- (i) Over 23,000 successful prosecutions for drugs offences in 1983, an increase of 15% over 1982.
- (ii) 20% increase in 1983 in successful prosecutions for "trafficking" offences.
- (iii) Police seizures of heroin doubled in 1983 (20.3 kilos against 10.3 kilos in 1982).
- (iv) Senior police officer posted to Amsterdam for intelligence-gathering purposes.
- (v) ACPO working party currently examining the nature of the police structures in England and Wales concerned with drugs investigations.
- (vi) Regional Crime Squads are devoting an increasing proportion of their time to drugs investigations. The Scottish Crime Squad spends over 70% of its time on drug-related work.
- (vii) From 1 November 1984, all police forces in England and Wales to have specialised drugs units. 5 out of the 8 Scottish forces have specialised drugs squads; in the other 3 there are officers charged with special responsibility for the collation and dissemination of drugs intelligence.
- (viii) The Metropolitan Police diverted 50 more men to drugs investigations in 1984.
- (ix) Strathclyde Police drugs squad recently increased by 50% (from some 20 to 30 officers).
- (x) HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary has written to chief constables in England and Wales to stress the priority which Government expects them to give to tackling

drug abuse. HMCIC for Scotland regularly discusses problem with Scottish  
chief officers.

6. Deterrence

(i) Parole for drug traffickers sentenced to more than 5 years' imprisonment has now been severely restricted by the Home Secretary.

(ii) Legislation in this Parliament for England and Wales to deprive drug traffickers of the proceeds of their crimes. Matter to be referred to Scottish Law Commission.

(iii) Legislation in this Parliament to raise from 14 years to life imprisonment the maximum penalty for trafficking in Class A drugs.

(iv) Lord Chief Justice issued guidelines on sentencing in Aranak case: 12 to 14 years' imprisonment for importers of Class "A" drugs worth £1m +.

7. Treatment and Rehabilitation

- (i) ACMD's report on treatment and rehabilitation published in December 1982.
  
- (ii) Mr Fowler announced in April 1983 £6m central funding initiative over 3 years to pump-prime drug misuse projects. £1½ m over 3 years allocated in Scotland for similar purposes, providing support for 13 projects.
  
- (iii) A further £1m announced in July 1984.
  
- (iv) 81 projects, at a total cost of £5.1m already approved, (details in Annex A).
  
- (v) Merseyside is receiving over £300,000.
  
- (vi) London and surrounding areas is receiving over £1½ million.
  
- (vii) Mr Clarke announced at Conservative Party Conference that £5m more is to be provided to expand efforts in prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.
  
- (viii) DHSS circular to health authorities in June 1984. Circular says  
(a) Ministers regard improvement of services of the highest priority (b) health authorities must review situation in their areas, and report back by the end of 1984 on the scale of the problem and their plans for tackling it. Similar action taken by the Welsh Office.
  
- (ix) DHSS funding for voluntary projects concerned with drug misuse virtually doubled since 1979/80. (List in Annex B attached).

8. Prevention

(i) ACMD report on prevention published in June 1984. Extensive consultation undertaken on its recommendations.

(ii) Ministerial Group urgently carrying forward the report's recommendations.

(iii) Home Secretary has assumed specific responsibility for co-ordination of prevention policy.

(iv) Mr Clarke announced at Conservative Party Conference that Government has decided to mount a major <sup>education and</sup> prevention campaign aimed at parents and young people.

(v) Mr Clarke announced at Conservative Party Conference that extra £5m is to be provided to expand efforts in prevention, treatment and rehabilitation. Scottish Ministers considering increase in the allocation of £1½ m over three years announced in April 1984.

## DHSS CENTRAL FUNDED INITIATIVE: ALLOCATION OF GRANTS

HEALTH AUTHORITY	DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT	£
<u>NORTHERN REGION</u>		
East Cumbria HA	Walk-In Centre	75,800
Newcastle HA	Extension of services at Drug Dependence Unit	122,520
South Tyneside HA	Community Psychiatric Nursing Team	103,413
<u>YORKSHIRE REGION</u>		
Leeds Western HA	Community Based Drug Addiction Service	80,663
<u>TRENT REGION</u>		
North Lincolnshire HA	Information gathering and co-ordination.	18,500
Nottingham HA	Outpatient/Community Centre	127,180
<u>EAST ANGLIAN REGION</u>		
East Anglian RHA	Part-time clinic in Norwich	91,636
Cambridge HA	Street based Clinic for Young Drug Misusers	186,202
<u>NORTH WEST THAMES RHA</u>		
North West HA	Drug Education and Screening Services	16,877
Hillingdon RHA	Educational/Preventative Programme	109,555
Ealing HA	Drug Screening, Analytical Equipment	23,173
Paddington and North Kensington HA	Therapy Service for Drug Misusers and Families	126,505
Hammersmith and Fulham HA	Drug Screening Services	18,309
<u>NORTH EAST THAMES REGION</u>		
City and Hackney HA	Extension of existing services	37,800
Bloomsbury HA	Nurse Training Course	51,399
Bloomsbury HA	Local Routine Monitoring System (North London)	62,633
Barking, Havering and Brentwood HA	Local Back-up Service to existing Central Clinic	48,000
Southend HA	Multi-disciplinary Team	120,200



HEALTH AUTHORITY	DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT	£
<u>SOUTH EAST THAMES REGION</u>		
Brighton HA	Drug Screening Service	12,023
Bromley HA	Information gathering - Assessment of district needs	43,400
Lewisham and North Southwark HA	Drug Screening Analytical Equipment	20,551
West Lambeth HA	Drug Screening Service	18,541
The Bethlem Royal Hospital and The Maudsley Hospital	Drug Screening Equipment	8,700
<u>SOUTH WEST THAMES REGION</u>		
Mid-Downs HA	Counselling, treatment and education service	55,833
Kingston and Esher HA	Extension of existing services (ie additional staff) at walk-in clinics	24,600
Wandsworth HA	Multi-disciplinary Team	181,812
<u>WESSEX REGION</u>		
East Dorset	Drug Screening Service	18,200
Portsmouth and SE Hants HA	Community Treatment Day Centre	114,595
Isle of Wight HA	Walk-in Centre	77,438
<u>OXFORD REGION</u>		
Oxford RHA	Outreach work and prevalence study	38,400
<u>WEST MIDLANDS REGION</u>		
Coventry HA	Drug Problem Team	119,665
Worcester and District HA	Drug Problem Team	79,725
West Birmingham HA	Nurse Training Course	43,530
Walsall HA	Advisory and Follow-up Service and assessment of District Needs	101,600
Wolverhampton HA	New Treatment Clinic	32,602
<u>MERSEY REGION</u>		
Mersey RHA	Micro-computer for Drug Dependency Unit	7,900
Halton HA	Strengthening of existing Out Patient Clinic	61,400
Wirral HA	New Detoxification and Withdrawal Unit	109,173

HEALTH AUTHORITY	DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE	£
<u>NORTH WESTERN RHA</u>		
North Western RHA	Strengthening of existing Regional Service	190,992
North Western RHA	Nurse Training Course	96,000
Lancaster HA	Information gathering - assessment of District needs	34,000
<u>SOUTH WESTERN RHA</u>		
Frenchay HA	Drug Treatment Centre - Bristol	104,600

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT	£
Barnet Borough Voluntary Services Council	Non Residential Community Support Programme	121,555
Blenheim Project	Street Agency Equipment - West London	8,464
Bournemouth and District Drugs Advisory Service	Information/Administration Centre	73,867
Bournemouth Project	Meta House (Short Stay Rehabilitation Service) - improvement of existing facilities	38,500
Bradford Independent Drug Guidance	Advisory, Counselling and Referral Service	135,000
City Roads (Crisis Intervention)	Short Stay Residential Unit - furniture and equipment - Central London	13,945
Coke Hole Trust	Rehabilitation Services - equipment and minibus - Hampshire	14,565
Community Drug Project	Street Agency - removal expenses to new premises - South London	8,885
Elizabeth House Association	Rehabilitation Services - equipment - West London	3,380
Esher Association for the Prevention of Addiction	Advisory/Education Service	79,339
" " "	Equipment	4,352
" " "	Strengthening of existing rehabilitation services	7,432
" " "	Rehabilitation services - furnishings and equipment	7,768
Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire Standing Conference on Drug Misuse	Advisory and Counselling Service	43,200
Institute for the Study of Drug Dependence	National Library and Information Service - purchase of new premises	209,490
" " "	Equipment and production of education leaflet	14,950
Inward House	Expansion of existing rehabilitation services - Lancaster	32,560
Leatherhead and District Association for the Prevention of Addiction	Expansion of existing counselling/education/monitoring of prevalence service	9,500
Ley Community	Rehabilitation Service - minibus - Oxfordshire	4,900

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT	£
Merseyside Drugs Council	Counselling/Advisory/Development Services - Wirral	71,274
" " "	Counselling/Advisory/Development Services - St Helens	62,023
NACRO	Training Development Unit - Manchester	118,534
"	Equipment for Training Courses in North East England	3,030
"	Training Development Unit - South West England	116,844
Operation Concern	Yeldall Manor Rehabilitation Service - upgrading of building - Reading	53,000
" "	Yeldall Manor Rehabilitation Service - micro-computer and minibus - Reading	17,176
Phoenix House	Rehabilitation Service - furniture and equipment - South London	12,837
Phoenix House	Rehabilitation Service- Sheffield	123,031
Standing Conference on Drug Abuse	National Resource agency and advisory service - equipment	8,263
Stevenage Drug Liaison Group	Advisory, Support and Out-Reach Service	43,000
TRANX	Self-Help Group - Tranquilliser Misuse - Harrow	53,600
	Advisory/Self-help service - Tranquilliser Misuse - Northampton	29,892
Turning Point	Birmingham Drugline - Telephone Advice Service	69,120
" "	Sheffield Drugline - Telephone Advice Service	93,720
" "	Equipment for workers evaluating existing Turning Point Initiative Projects	8,696
" "	Suffolk House Rehabilitation Service - repairs - Slough	2,000
" "	West Midlands Development Project Initiation of low-cost volunteer run counselling services	48,540
" "	Hungerford Drug Project Training Package - Central London	52,110
" "	ROMA Rehabilitation Service - upgrading of building - Harrow	128,000

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SECTION 64 GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS - MISUSE OF DRUGS

	1979/80 £	1980/81 £	1981/82 £	1982/83 £	1983/84 £
Blenheim Street Agency	-	2,500	7,600	7,600	7,600
City Roads Crisis Intervention	65,110	90,000	66,500	92,804	57,200
Coke Hole Trust	-	-	8,000	-	-
Community Drugs Project	-	6,800	5,300	5,300	5,300
Cranstoun Hostel	-	-	9,750	3,770	-
Elizabeth House Association	-	3,000	-	10,500	6,750
Hertfordshire Standing Conference on Drug Abuse	-	3,100	-	1,700	-
Institute for the Study of Drug Dependence	60,000	75,420	115,710	143,000	140,600
Standing Conference on Drug Abuse	39,000	48,000	53,800	60,000	70,000
Turning Point -					
i. Headquarters*	40,732	30,000	36,000	50,000	63,085
ii. Hungerford Day Centre for Addicts	-	6,870	12,700	12,700	16,153
iii. ROMA Hostel	6,000	20,000	32,000	45,800	32,976

TOTAL £ 210,000 approx.

£ 399,000 approx

\*The grant to Turning Point for Headquarters Expenses also covers the organisation's administrative expenses in providing services for alcohol misusers.

30 OCT 1984

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