



People for Proper Policing in North Wales

They are ALL making money from Speed cameras

THE UK's top traffic cop was yesterday banned from driving after admitting speeding at 90mph on a North Wales road. Dec 6 2007 by Carl Butler, Daily Post

South Yorkshire chief constable **Meredydd Hughes, 49**, was disqualified from driving for 42 days by Wrexham Magistrates yesterday. He pleaded guilty to driving at **90mph in a 60mph limit on the A5 at Halton near Chirk in May**. Mr Hughes – formerly the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) spokesman on roads policing, and a **hardliner on speeding enforcement** – did not attend the hearing but later admitted it was a “serious” speeding charge and apologised to the police and the public.

He went on to pledge his support for speed cameras and said he was convinced they were vital to reducing road casualties.

Mr Hughes had already announced he was to stand down as ACPO roads policing spokesman, a move unrelated to the offence according to ACPO, and is handing over to the Chief Constable of Nottinghamshire. Mr Hughes is to take over as ACPO's spokesman on policing for the 2012 London Olympics.

Rhian Jackson, prosecuting, said **PC Phil Edwards** was on speed enforcement duty on the **A5 on May 28 at 8.17am** when his laser gun clocked Mr Hughes' Audi travelling at 90mph in a 60mph limit.

The car was registered to Audi Financial Services and when police checked Mr Hughes agreed he was driving. His **solicitor Huw Edwards** said Mr Hughes was pleading guilty at the first opportunity and had co-operated fully. He offered no excuses and would accept whatever punishment the court felt appropriate. **Two previous fixed penalty notices on his licence, for speeding, had expired** and his licence was currently clear.

Magistrates chairman Brinley Hughes said: “*We have looked at the guidelines and taken advice. For his excessive high speed and time of day the offence happened, we feel this merits disqualification for 42 days.*” Mr Hughes was also fined £300 with £50 in costs.

In a statement read out by his solicitor after the court hearing, Meredydd Hughes said: “*I very much regret the offence and I have apologised to the court and to my colleagues in North Wales Police and the public they serve. I recognise this is a significant breach of the road traffic laws and accept my guilt and the punishment it merits. There is never an excuse for bad driving and I should have paid more attention to my speed. I remain convinced that speed cameras and speed enforcement are vital to reduce casualty levels and I will continue to support these activities as well as the other vital law enforcement activities around drink and drug driving, mobile phone use and poor driving behaviour.*”

A spokeswoman for Arrive Alive added: “*In North Wales if you choose to speed, irrespective of your status, profession or gender, you will be prosecuted. As far as the police are concerned this was a straightforward speeding case which has now been finalised.*”

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Meredydd Hughes talks speeding ...from [a video about speed cameras on sale](#)

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Name & Registered Office:

ROAD SAFETY SUPPORT LIMITED see below for link to Med Hughes courtesy **MCN**

MAYFLOWER HOUSE, 128A HIGH

STREET, BILLERICAY

ESSEX

CM12 9YB

Company No. 06176687 Status: Active **Date of Incorporation: 21/03/2007**

Country of Origin: United Kingdom

Company Type: PRI/LTD BY GUAR/NSC (Private, limited by guarantee, no share capital)

Nature of Business (SIC(03)):



POLITICAL COMMENT

FARRELL

Will Chief Constable Meredydd Hughes have to pay himself to prosecute himself?

WHATEVER happens in Meredydd Hughes' speeding court case, the South Yorkshire chief constable will find it very difficult not to look a complete clown.

As head of roads policing for the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), Hughes has taken a hard line against speeding.

Despite coming into the job with six points already on his licence from two separate speeding offences, he gloated: "I think there are certain driver groups who are very unhappy about the introduction of speed cameras. I'm very pleased to see they're unhappy because they're exactly the sort of driver whose excesses we want to curtail."

He said he wanted more cameras because "we're expected to abide by the law".

In an interview with MCN he turned the sticky matter of his prior convictions into an argument for speed cameras, effectively claiming he had been rehabilitated by them.

He said he had previously been a "speeding addict" but had learned his lesson, proving cameras worked.

He indicated his approval for hidden cameras, claiming they would help deter habitual speeders as offenders would be unable to predict when they

might be caught.

And he didn't stop there.

Last year Hughes created a special team of expert witnesses and lawyers, called Road Safety Support, to scare people out of even thinking about contesting speeding charges.

Anyone thinking of doing so was threatened with massive court costs

'Like a very stupid dog chasing its tail'

to pay for the team.

After one poor driver had to pay £9400, Hughes boasted: "We are saying to drivers who think they can try it on, 'Come and get us if you think you are hard enough'. We have won every case we have supported."

So if Hughes ends up

accepting a speeding penalty for the alleged 90mph in a 60 zone in North Wales during his holiday, he will look a fantastic hypocrite.

On the other hand, if he ends up contesting charges, he'll presumably have to direct his special legal team to beat his own challenge, like a very stupid dog chasing its tail.

The best part, though, is that the team is a private company, registered with Companies House as Road Safety Support Ltd. And the director is one Meredydd John Hughes.

That's right - those massive court costs for contesting speeding charges are payable to Hughes' own company.

So if he ends up contesting the charges and losing, he could well be ordered to pay costs to his own company, too.

As director, he'll presumably have a say in what those costs are.

Below is the Company information ref. Employees and directors of Road Safety Support Ltd purchased via the internet from Companies House for £1 in 2 minutes

Company Register Information

Company Number:	06176687	Date of Incorporation: 21/03/2007
Company Name:	ROAD SAFETY SUPPORT LIMITED	
Registered Office:	MAYFLOWER HOUSE, 128A HIGH STREET, BILLERICAY ESSEX CM12 9YB	
Company Type:	PRI/LTD BY GUAR/NSC (Private, limited by guarantee, no share capital)	
Country of Origin:	United Kingdom	
Status:	Active	
Nature Of Business (SIC(92)):	None Supplied	
Mortgage: Number of Charges:	(0 outstanding / 0 part satisfied / 0 satisfied)	

Previous Names

No previous name information has been recorded over the last 20 years.

Key Filing Dates

Accounting Reference Date:	31/03
Last Accounts Made Up To:	(NO ACCOUNTS FILED)
Next Accounts Due:	21/01/2009
Last Return Made Up To:	
Next Return Due:	18/04/2008
Last Bulk Shareholders List:	Not available

Current Appointments

Number of current appointments: 4

SECRETARY: **HOWES, THOMAS WILLIAM**

Appointed: 21/03/2007 **Date of Birth:** 20/06/1949

Nationality: BRITISH

No. of Company appointments: 4

Address: MAYFLOWER HOUSE
128A HIGH STREET
BILLERICAY
ESSEX
CM12 9YB

This is a Service Address

DIRECTOR: **HALL, TREVOR ALAN**

Appointed: 21/03/2007 **Date of Birth:** 09/01/1957

Nationality: BRITISH

No. of Company appointments: 1

Address: MAYFLOWER HOUSE
128A HIGH STREET
BILLERICAY
ESSEX
CM12 9YB

This is a Service Address

DIRECTOR: **HOWES, THOMAS WILLIAM**

Appointed: 21/03/2007 **Date of Birth:** 20/06/1949

Nationality: BRITISH
No. of Company appointments: 4
Address: MAYFLOWER HOUSE
128A HIGH STREET
BILLERICAY
ESSEX
CM12 9YB

This is a Service Address

DIRECTOR: **HUGHES, MEREDYDD JOHN**
Appointed: **21/03/2007** **Date of Birth: 15/05/1958**
Nationality: BRITISH
No. of Company appointments: 1
Address: MAYFLOWER HOUSE
128A HIGH STREET
BILLERICAY
ESSEX
CM12 9YB

This is a Service Address

Company Register Information