

STATEMENT FROM:



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Armstrong hails Police for latest Mid-Ulster drugs seizure

Mid-Ulster MLA Billy Armstrong has praised Police for their actions in seizing £11,000 worth of drugs in the Cookstown and Tobermore areas on Friday night.

The Ulster Unionist MLA said:

“This latest seizure is proof that the Police are being pro-active in trying to remove the scourge of drugs from our local communities.

There was a time when local people would have regarded the illegal drugs trade as something which happened in big cities, and not something which was a concern for those of us living in small towns and rural communities.

This latest seizure of drugs with an estimated street value of £11,000 as a result of searches in Cookstown and Moneymore, and coming so soon after the seizure of drugs in Maghera, demolishes that myth.

Sadly, the menace of drugs and the reach of unscrupulous dealers has spread throughout Northern Ireland and the Police can only succeed with the help of local people and communities. There is no question that drugs wreck lives and destroy families and communities and everyone must assist the Police with information in order to help them remove both drugs and their dealers from our midst.

In addition to working with the Police to help them tackle drug dealers and reduce the supply of drugs, we must also work even harder to educate our young people to ensure that the demand for drugs is reduced. Young people must realise that they are risking their long-term health – and even their lives - for a short-term high.

If we can succeed in reducing the demand for drugs, we will remove the incentive for drug dealers to supply them.”

ENDS