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Through Education

## National's sights on P will hit the target:

Promises made by National leader John Key today to 'crack down on gangs' in the war on P, is a big step in the right direction according to MethCon Group director Mike Sabin.

Since the late 90's and the failed experiment by former Police Commissioner Peter Doone to modernise the New Zealand Police, the Police have taken their eye off the ball while trying to satisfy government concerns of increasing volume crime and road trauma," said Mr. Sabin.

"Since that time organised crime has worked quietly away in the shadows, growing stronger and grooming their market within New Zealand communities."

As a former Police specialist in the area of P, and having worked on a number of electronic and surveillance operations Mr. Sabin saw for his own eyes how the 60 000 plus gang members across New Zealand were building for a major offensive on the unsuspecting public.

"Ninety percent of the illicit trade in drugs is controlled by organised crime, and it is an industry worth hundreds of millions of dollars per annum," said Mr. Sabin.

"I am pleased to see a pledge to take back the ground New Zealand citizens have lost to these gangs, I just hope the Police put the man power and resources to work to achieve it, because over the last 8 years they haven't."

For the past year Mr. Sabin has been researching solutions to New Zealand's significant methamphetamine problem, and is poised to release his findings and a series of recommendations on the 28th of May at Parliament.

"From the research I have done on methamphetamine on the world stage, it is clear there is no one silver bullet, but with a commitment from our leaders to acknowledge the problem and make the right sort of changes, this is a war I know we can win, and win well", said Mr. Sabin

"We will never arrest our way out of this problem as long as the demand for it exists, but one thing is for sure, a focus on organised crime from Police and government is well over due and likely to yield good results for communities", said Mr. Sabin.

(The research paper referred to above will be released on the 28th of May. An embargoed copy will be made available prior to this).

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Mike Sabin  
Managing Director  
Methcon Group Ltd (NZ's only specialist methamphetamine education providers)

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