



Scottish Police Federation

5 Woodside Place Glasgow G3 7QF

Joint Central Committee Operational Duties Standing Committee

Ref: CS/DJK/LS

MINUTES

23 April 2014

1. Attendance

David Hamilton	North Area Committee
Peter Jones	North Area Committee
John Ferguson	North Area Committee
Gordon Dixon	East Area Committee
Stewart Ross	East Area Committee
Andrea MacDonald	West Area Committee
Malcolm Macdonald	West Area Committee

Brian Docherty	Chairman
David Ross	Vice Chairman
David Kennedy	Conduct Secretary
Business Administrator	Lesley Stevenson

Apologies were received from Jackie Muller and Graeme Ednie. Graeme was replaced by John Ferguson.

2. Opening of Meeting

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minute of the last meeting had been circulated with JCC Circular 4 of 2014 and was approved.

4. Accelerated Careers Development Programme

There was no update.

5. Police Diploma

The Vice Chairman told the Committee that he had attended the last meeting of this Group. It had been reported that a large number of former Strathclyde officers who had been promised a place on a future diploma course were now to be written to and

advised that a new process would be put in place for which they would need to apply. It was agreed that a pragmatic review of diploma places was required. Andrea MacDonald reported the details of a grievance which had been raised by an officer in this regard. The Vice Chairman asked that the details be passed to the General Secretary as soon as possible as he was to attend a meeting where this could be raised.

6. Special Constabulary

Gordon Dixon reported that he had been unable to attend the last meeting but was aware that a new Strategic Governance group had been established and would meet for the first time on 12 May.

The Chairman reported that at the last two meetings relative to the Commonwealth Games this subject had been discussed but no final arrangements had been made regarding the use of the Special Constabulary.

7. CBRN

David Hamilton reported that the Initial Operational Responders Programme had been rolled out in divisions. Masks for specialist operational responders were being developed. The Chairman told the Committee that he would seek to get David Hamilton an invitation to the Public Order Monitoring Group meetings.

8. Mutual Aid - Northern Ireland

The Chairman reported that there had been assurances from both the PSNI and PSoS that there would be no commitment for Scottish officers to Northern Ireland during the Commonwealth Games and hopefully the same would apply relative to the Ryder Cup.

He said a new Group, the Tactics, Training and Equipment Technical Working Group had been established by ACPO Public Order Policing Strategy and that he would ensure the appropriate SPF leads were kept advised of developments in their respective fields.

9. Consideration of JCC Consultation

The Committee were advised that the only live consultation was in relation to the Stage 1 Consideration of the Assisted Suicide (Scotland) Bill. The Vice Chairman said that SPF would be involved in Lord Bonyon's review of the Criminal Justice Bill in particular on the safeguards being examined relative to corroboration. He also said there would be involvement relative to a number of SOPs on related subjects.

10. SPC Working Group on Probationer Training

There had been no meetings. The Vice Chairman reported that there had been a number of discussions relative to the use of probationers at both the Commonwealth Games and at divisions during the period of the Games. Concerns were expressed for both the probationers themselves, the officers they worked with and the Force's reputation. There is also an issue about accommodation for probationers at SPC during the period of the Games when other officers would be accommodated there. The Vice Chairman

agreed to contact the Head of Probationer Training at the SPC and set up a meeting of the group as soon as possible to address these issues.

11. Post Incident Procedures

It was reported that both David Kennedy and David Hamilton would be meeting with PIRC the following week and that a table top exercise was to be held to tease out issues.

12. Workforce Agreements (WFAs)

Members discussed a stand-alone WFA for specialist officers and the Queen's Baton Relay. They also discussed a separate WFA for specialist officers working at the Commonwealth Games. The Chairman said he would check with the Deputy General Secretary as to whether these agreements had been signed off.

David Hamilton said that a WFA was currently being discussed for the Ryder Cup and consideration would also have to be given to T in the Park. Malcolm MacDonald said that none of these special WFAs should deviate greatly from the regular WFA and that the default position should always be 'no change'.

13. Custody

The Conduct Secretary reported that he was to meet PIRC relative to officers being interviewed in custody suites. He had complaints from officers about overzealous PIRC investigators.

David Hamilton said he was to attend a custody event on 7 May at the SPC and that others were welcome to attend.

Andrea MacDonald said that a series of complaints and grievances about Custody Division had eventually been passed to DCC Richardson.

The Vice Chairman reported that the Custody Sub Group was on the Health & Safety agenda and that Peter Jones would be attending future meetings. He also said that the Prison Officers Association had been told that its members were not suitably qualified to monitor prisoners with medical conditions and clearly this could have implications for the police.

14. Force Firearms Monitoring Group

It was reported that the next meeting this Group would be held in May. Andrea MacDonald reported that the renewal of licences for firearms officers was being considered. Three options were being discussed and it appeared that numbers one and two were cheap and inappropriate and number three, similar to that used by the Metropolitan Police, was favoured. Members also discussed the Drug testing SOP which could have an impact on this licence renewal process.

The Chairman asked that the Public Order Monitoring Group be added to this agenda in future. He said this Group was chaired by ACC Higgins and there were implications for firearms officers regarding attendance at training for them and indeed CBRN officers.

The issue was a memo, 64/2013, in which a procedure was outlined for officers wishing to withdraw from these duties. The Federation had concerns about the potential implications of this memo and it would be considered further.

15. Area Committee Elections

The Vice Chairman reported that each of the areas had submitted information to the General Secretary and he would address the JCC on this issue.

16. Campaign Against Violence (CAV) Days

Members discussed CAV issues and agreed that a number of matters required to be discussed at LNCCs.

17. Communications

It had been agreed that the Deputy General Secretary and David Hamilton would meet to discuss a coordinated approach to this.

18. Competent Business

Members discussed stop/search and a letter from the Chief Constable to Area Commanders which had been the subject of consultation with SPA and ASPS. Pilot projects were planned and there were some concerns about the reporting forms being used.

Andrea MacDonald asked that a JCC Circular on the Working Time Regulations be issued with particular reference to working hours for sergeants and inspectors.

19. Closure

Date of next meeting: 30 July 2014

The Chairman thanked everyone for their contribution to the meeting and wished them a safe journey home.