



Scottish Police Federation

5 Woodside Place Glasgow G3 7QF

Joint Central Committee Conduct Subject Committee

Ref: CS/DJK/LS

MINUTES

15 October 2013

1. Attendance

North Area Committee	Steve Ross
North Area Committee	Brian Dick
North Area Committee	Sandy Smart
East Area Committee	Steven Herd
East Area Committee	Gordon Dixon
West Area Committee	Jim Foy
West Area Committee	Philip Maguire
West Area Committee	Scott Wilson
Chairman	Brian Docherty
Conduct Secretary	David Kennedy
Business Administrator	Lesley Stevenson

Apologies were received from the General Secretary, Deputy General Secretary, Vice Chairman, John Ferguson, and Grahame Gosling. John and Grahame were replaced by Steve Ross and Scott Wilson respectively.

2. Opening of Meeting

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the Conduct Subject Committee meeting.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated and were approved.

4. Legal Assistance

The Conduct Secretary gave an update regarding legal assistance. He said that federation solicitors would be attending all local meetings to allow members to meet the senior partners and to ask any questions regarding legal matters.

It was noted that the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) solicitors had confirmed that the DCC designate had delegated authority regarding legal funding for on duty complaints.

The SPA will thereafter deal with any outstanding appeals. The Conduct Secretary agreed to keep the Committee updated as these appeals were progressed.

5. Complaints Against the Police

The Conduct Secretary told the Committee that he was awaiting a meeting with the Complaints Against the Police (CAPS) Unit regarding Operational Statements and said that the SPF position was the status quo.

Sandy Smart asked about the solicitor access process. The Conduct Secretary outlined the process and the protocols in place in. Sandy Smart also made comments regarding Officer Safety Training Instructors providing expert witness statements. The Conduct Secretary said he would raise the matter with Police Scotland, particularly the matter of tactical reporting. Concern was raised about the quality of statements being provided by some members and this would also be raised with training.

6. Conduct

The Conduct Secretary told the Committee that there had been several meetings with Scottish Government officials and PSoS representatives regarding the new conduct regulations. A number of drafts had been considered and it was hoped that the changes tabled by the SPF would be accepted. A final draft is awaited.

7. Efficiency

The Conduct Secretary told the Committee that there had been several meetings with Scottish Government officials and PSoS representatives regarding the new performance regulations. A number of drafts had been considered and it was hoped that the changes tabled by the SPF would be accepted. A final draft is awaited.

8. Police Appeals Tribunal

The Committee was informed that there were three appeals on-going.

9. Police Investigations and Review Commissioner

John Mitchell, Senior Investigator PIRC attended the meeting, gave a presentation and answered questions from the floor.

10. National Vetting

The Conduct Secretary told the Committee that he had met with Superintendent Jim Boyd who has now retired. A replacement is awaited. Any queries relating to vetting should be directed to the Conduct Secretary to be progressed.

The Conduct Secretary confirmed that several applications relative to internal vacancies, which had initially been rejected, had been appealed and overturned. He said that a meeting had taken place with Police Scotland and policy documentation was awaited regarding how complaints and previous warnings would be viewed when a member

was applying for a new position. Any enquiries should be directed to him through Area Secretaries.

11. Competent Business

There were no items.

12. Closure

Date of next meeting: TBC

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