



Scottish Police Federation

5 Woodside Place Glasgow G3 7QF

Joint Central Committee Conduct Subject Committee

Ref: CS/DJK/LS

MINUTES

20 January 2015

1. Attendance

North Area Committee	Brian Dick
North Area Committee	Sandy Smart
North Area Committee	John Crawford
East Area Committee	Gordon Dixon
East Area Committee	Grant McDowall
West Area Committee	Jim Foy
West Area Committee	Philip Maguire
West Area Committee	Graham Gosling
Deputy General Secretary	Robert Milligan (meeting Chairman)
Vice Chairman	Graeme Ednie
Conduct Secretary	David Kennedy
Business Administrator	Lesley Stevenson

Apologies were received from Stevie Herd.

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 JCC Circular 48 of 2014 and were approved.

4. Legal Assistance

The Conduct Secretary told the Committee that there had been 29 criminal cases to date with data protection cases featuring heavily.

Members discussed the application process, the use of alternative solicitors and the costs of the scheme.

5. Complaints Against the Police

The Conduct Secretary gave an update to the Committee informing them that the total number of complaint cases recorded by Police Scotland in the financial year to date had reduced by 6.8%.

The number of complaint cases recorded in the East increased by 1.3%

The number of complaint cases recorded in the North decreased by 22.5%

The number of complaint cases recorded in the West decreased by 0.5%

The Conduct Secretary told the Committee that he had attended a meeting with Les Brown, CAAPD to discuss complaints and how they were dealt with and it was acknowledged that Chief Superintendent Ellie Mitchell was doing a lot of work on this. Members also discussed whether any aspect of complaints handling needed to be raised out with the Force but agreed that at this stage further discussions should be had in-house.

6. Conduct

The Conduct Secretary told the Committee that there had been seven misconduct hearings in 2014 where the outcomes were; three dismissals, one dismissal following a refusal to resign, two required to resign and one fine. There had been two misconduct meetings where the outcomes were written warnings. Currently there were 13 suspended officers in Police Scotland.

The Committee discussed the Force's response to allegations of plagiarism and it was agreed that this should be raised at the Diploma Management Committee.

7. Performance

The Committee was informed that there had been no performance cases in the North and West and one attendance case in the East. Members discussed the Standard Operating Procedure Ill Health and the Role of the Statutory Medical Practitioner and Competency Related Threshold Payments as they related to performance.

8. Police Appeals Tribunal

It was noted that currently there was one PAT under the old regulations and one under the new regulations.

9. Police Investigations and Review Commissioner

It was noted that there were currently nine investigations ongoing and 35 case handling reviews. The Conduct Secretary told the Committee that he would be meeting with them in the near future regarding fatal accident inquiries.

It was noted that Professional Standards had issued a form to be completed by the complainer in relation to case handling reviews and the Conduct Secretary was to speak to Police Scotland about this.

The Conduct Secretary gave the Committee members posters from PIRC to be distributed within their local areas.

10. National Vetting

The Conduct Secretary told the Committee that the issue of warnings remaining on personal records was still being examined. He said that Police Scotland were keen to secure an early resolution.

11. Reclassifying Offences

It was noted that this issue was being dealt with by HMIC and his report would be shared when received. It was agreed that this item could be removed from future agendas.

12. Competent Business

There were no items.

13. Closure

Date of next meeting: 21 April 2015

Members expressed their thanks to Gordon Dixon and Rab Milligan who were attending their last meeting of the Committee.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their contribution to the meeting and wished them well in the forthcoming elections.