



# Scottish Police Federation

5 Woodside Place Glasgow G3 7QF

## Joint Central Committee Conduct Subject Committee

Ref: CS/DJK/LS

### MINUTES

21 April 2015

#### 1. Attendance

North Area Committee	John Crawford
North Area Committee	Neil MacDonald
North Area Committee	Sandy Smart
East Area Committee	Amanda Givan
East Area Committee	Steven Herd
West Area Committee	Jim Foy
West Area Committee	Malcolm Macdonald
Deputy General Secretary	David Kennedy (meeting Chairman)
Business Administrator	Lesley Stevenson

Apologies were received from Phil Maguire.

#### 2. Opening of Meeting

As the previous Conduct Secretary had taken up his new post as Deputy General Secretary and the election of his successor would not occur until the JCC meeting in May, the Subject Committee was required to nominate an interim Secretary for the conduct of the meeting. Jim Foy was proposed and seconded. There being no further nominations, Jim Foy was duly appointed. Following that, the Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the Conduct Subject Committee meeting.

#### 3. Nomination of Conduct Secretary

The Chairman informed the Committee that both Neil MacDonald and Jim Foy had intimated their intention to stand for the post of Conduct Secretary. The Conduct Committee, in accordance with the Rules, agreed to nominate both candidates from the Committee to the JCC.

#### 4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated JCC Circular 8 of 2015 and were approved.

#### 5. Legal Assistance

The Chairman told the Committee that there had been 36 criminal cases since the last meeting.

The Chairman raised the question of the DAS Scheme, the solicitors to be used, the use of a call centre and a helpline for the future legal advice and assistance scheme.

## **6. 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 increased by 12.1%.

The number of complaint cases recorded in the North decreased by 15.7%

The number of complaint cases recorded in the East increased by 15.6%

The number of complaint cases recorded in the West increased by 30.3%

The Chairman told the Committee that the total number of allegations recorded in complaint cases in the financial year to date by Police Scotland was 5653 with each unique complaint case containing 1.44 allegations. Quality of service accounted for 14.7% of all allegations. The greatest number of assault allegations was recorded in Greater Glasgow accounting for 26.2% of the total.

In relation to 'custody' locations, taken here as cell, cell/passage, charge bar and detention rooms, allegations there account for 3.9% of the on duty total.

The Committee discussed resignations and Jim Foy said that he had spoken to Chief Supt. Ellie Mitchell regarding this matter. It was noted that it was crucial that members were aware that due to the 2014 Conduct Regulations, required to resign is no longer a disposal.

## **7. Conduct**

The Chairman told the Committee that there had been no misconduct hearings since the last meeting although there had been two resignations prior to hearings. Currently there were 11 suspended officers in Police Scotland.

## **8. Performance**

It was noted that there were currently no performance issues outstanding.

Jim Foy raised the matter of conduct training and was informed that the SPF Vice Chair was dealing with this issue. It was agreed that this matter would be further discussed at the Standing Committee meetings the following day.

## **9. Police Appeals Tribunal**

It was noted that currently there were two PATs ongoing.

## **10. Police Investigations and Review Commissioner**

It was noted that there were currently four investigations ongoing and 15 case handling reviews.

It was also noted that the Chairman would speak to PSoS regarding fatal accident inquiries.

## **11. National Vetting**

There was no update. It was agreed that this item could be removed from future agendas.

## **12. Competent Business**

John Crawford raised the issue of the longevity of warnings. The Chairman said that he had written to John Gillies regarding this. A response was awaited.

## **13. Closure**

Date of next meeting: 28 July 2015

The Chairman gave thanks to the Committee for all their help whilst he had been Conduct Secretary. Members expressed their thanks to David Kennedy for all the work he had done on this Committee prior to his election as Deputy General Secretary.

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