



# Scottish Police Federation

5 Woodside Place Glasgow G3 7QF

## Joint Central Committee Health & Safety Subject Committee

Ref: CS/DJK/LS

### MINUTES

22 April 2014

#### 1. Attendance

North Area Committee	Peter Jones
North Area Committee	John Crawford
North Area Committee	John Drysdale
North Area Committee	Graham Sloan
East Area Committee	Amanda Givan
East Area Committee	Brian Jones
East Area Committee	Paul Redwood
West Area Committee	Martin Bertram
General Secretary	Calum Steele
Chairman	Brian Docherty
Vice Chairman	David Ross (Chair to the Meeting)
Business Administrator	Lesley Stevenson

Apologies were received from the Deputy General Secretary.

#### 2. Opening of Meeting

The Chairman opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.

#### 3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minute of the previous Health & Safety Subject Committee meeting had been circulated and was approved with the removal of the words "for ratification" from item 14. Competent Business.

#### 4. Previous Actions

There were no previous actions and it was agreed that this item could be removed from future agendas.

## **5. National Health & Safety Meetings**

### **5.1 Joint UK H&S Meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting would be circulated when received. Members discussed pregnancy; the Northern Ireland new parents pack, roadside safety, shift survey and a carbon monoxide incident.

### **5.2 Association of Police Health & Safety Advisors (APHSA)**

Peter Jones had been unable to attend the last meeting of this group but was to meet Alex Kirk and Gary Stimpson the following week.

### **5.3 Force Executive H&S Meeting**

Peter Jones attended the last meeting of this group on 19 March. Amongst the items discussed was SPA governance. Health and safety seminars were to go ahead on 13/14/15 May and it was hoped around 90 people would take part. The Vice Chairman said he would report comments made on governance to the SPA.

## **6. Local Area Committee Updates (inc WPIs)**

### **6.1 North Area**

Graham Sloan reported that no relevant issues had been raised in the North Area.

### **6.2 East Area**

Amanda Givan reported that no major issues had been raised in the East Area although the four divisions appeared to be approaching issues differently and this potentially could create difficulties.

### **6.3 West Area**

Martin Bertram reported that at the West Area Committee it had been noted that some police vehicles had huge mileages on them, in one case in East Kilbride 160,000. He also said there had been issues with officers regularly losing meal breaks and high visibility jackets. He advised that these issues were being monitored locally and would if necessary be raised at the Territorial Health and Safety Meeting.

### **6.4 SPA**

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

## **7. Uniform**

Peter Jones told the Committee he was to send a letter to Colin Heppenstall regarding EIA's. Discussions were ongoing relative to kit-lists, earpieces and a potential change from CS spray to PAVA.

## **8. National Operational Planning**

Peter Jones had reviewed training packages relative to the Commonwealth Games. He said that following risk assessments of x-ray machines it had been agreed that officers would work with this on a 20 minute rotation.

Amanda Givan had spoken with Chief Inspector Stuart Orde regarding probationer training as there were some concerns that training on basic police powers, officer safety and diversity may not be completed satisfactorily within the three and a half weeks available for the last recruits before the Commonwealth Games commenced. Members discussed officers with little training and cadets being used to police the Games and agreed that there were serious concerns which the Vice Chairman agreed to raise at the Probationer Training Review Group.

Peter Jones raised the transport arrangements for the Ryder Cup and the Committee also discussed body armour and the fact that it had been removed by officers at the Scottish Open.

## **10. National Incidents Statistics**

It was noted that statistics to the end of March had been received and Amanda Givan said there were no significant issues contained within. Peter Jones expressed the view that once again there appeared to have been massive underreporting of incidents.

## **11. National Federation Training**

Peter Jones and Amanda Givan attended a Health and Safety Course run by North Yorkshire JBB on 10/11 April. They reported that it was a good course and they were to investigate the viability of it being delivered to representatives in Scotland.

## **12. SPF Custody Sub Group**

Peter Jones attended a meeting of the above group earlier in the day. The next meeting of the H&S Custody Division Group would be held the following week. Peter told the Committee that he had carried out a site visit at the new Kittybrewster police building and said that the custody facilities there were expected to be the best in the UK.

The General Secretary told the Committee that he had spoken to Prison Officer Association representatives at the Labour Party Conference who had recently returned from a course on high-risk prisoners. It had been clear to them that their members did not have the necessary skills to observe medical conditions and that clearly there were implications for police custody staff. It was agreed that Peter Jones would liaise with representatives of the POA and report back to the next meeting.

The Committee also discussed transporting prisoners, adverse custody reports, needlestick injuries and spitting and the filling of police court and security officer posts with police officers.

### **13. Operational Support Division (OSD) SPF Sub Group**

Peter Jones told the Committee that he had attended a meeting of the above group earlier in the day and reported that Operational Support Division had not held a H&S meeting yet and advised that he would raise this with the Operational Support Command Team.

Amongst other matters discussed were insurance for dog handlers carrying dogs in their own vehicles and the hot-bedding of body armour, ballistic body armour and the firing range. Members also discussed an incident where a homemade firearm had discharged and a case of a faulty CS canister.

### **14. Competent Business**

The Chairman asked and Peter Jones agreed to become involved in the Association of Chief Police Officers Public Order Policing Strategy (ACPOPOPS) and the new Public Order Monitoring Group.

The General Secretary said that he would approach the JNCC Working Practice and Review Group to have the H&S Secretary invited to future meetings.

### **15. Closure**

Date of next meeting: 29 July 2014

The Vice Chairman thanked everyone for their contribution to the meeting and wished them a safe journey home. The Chairman gave particular thanks to David Ross and wished him a long, happy and healthy retirement.