



Scottish Police Federation

5 Woodside Place Glasgow G3 7QF

Joint Central Committee Health & Safety Subject Committee

Ref: CS/DJK/KB

MINUTES

30 September 2015

1. Attendance

North Area Committee	David Smith
North Area Committee	Steve Thomson
North Area Committee	Linsey Burns
East Area Committee	Brian Jones
East Area Committee	Hugh Loudon
East Area Committee	Stephen Clark
West Area Committee	Martin Bertram
Vice Chair	Graeme Ednie (meeting Chairman)
Health & Safety Secretary	Peter Jones
Administrator	Kirsteen Brown

Apologies were received from Andy Hastie & Stuart Finnie.

2. Opening of Meeting

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

3. Minute of Previous Meeting

The Minute of the previous Health & Safety Subject Committee meeting had been circulated with JCC Circular 36 of 2015 and was approved.

4. Joint UK H&S Meeting

A meeting was held on 17/18 September and the H&S Secretary gave a full update.

The Minutes will be circulated when available.

5. Association of Police Health & Safety Advisors (APHSA)

There had been no meetings.

6. Force Executive H&S Meeting

The Health & Safety Secretary provided the meeting with the following update;

DCC Richardson had recently instructed the removal of throw lines and other lifesaving equipment from all Police vehicles despite concerns being expressed to the DCC from both the SPF and the Force H&S. Efforts were ongoing in an attempt to persuade the DCC to reconsider his position.

(UPDATE 13.09.15- decision being reviewed and reported to next H&S board in November, meantime Status quo to remain)

DCC Richardson had agreed to facilitate training for SPF H&S representatives in conjunction with Chief Inspector training courses scheduled to run between now and end of year.

DCC Richardson had also agreed to issue a memorandum reminding ACC's of the statutory provisions in respect of appointed Safety Reps undertaking their functions.

There had been discussion in relation to a paper on Earpieces, following which DCC Richardson had asked for further work to be carried out in order to progress to personal issue.

Finally he advised that PSoS had identified Fire as their main H&S risk with some 80+ buildings being regarded as High Risk (mainly custody centres). New Fire Strategy Documents were out for consultation and SPF had already submitted their responses.

The Minutes when published will be circulated through area leads to Representatives.

7. Area Committee Updates

Steve Thomson informed the Committee that he was concerned about the number of attendees at their Area Committee meetings and advised he would express his concerns at the FTOB's meeting in the North later in the week. He also expressed concern regarding the low morale of staff within the Aberdeen Control Room which he considered was due to low staff numbers, high demands and long working hours.

The H&S Secretary agreed to arrange a meeting with Chief Superintendent Alan Spiers to discuss the concerns raised.

Brian Jones updated the Committee on the circumstances surrounding the Control Room at Bilston Glen and expressed his concerns that no improvements appeared to be forthcoming.

The Secretary advised he had received a notification that morning that nearly all of the concerns previously raised in connection with Bilston Glen were being addressed and that 5 of the 6 recommendations were almost completed.

Martin Bertram advised the West Area Subject Committee would be unable to reach a quorum for the meeting the following day.

The Chairman requested that each Area Committee record all absences at their meetings and ensure the Area Secretary was notified. A copy of the communication should also be forwarded to the H&S Secretary

8. Uniform/PPE/OST

The Health & Safety Secretary provided a summary of the items discussed at last meeting;

SPF presented its report on notebooks following the survey carried out by Martin Bertram. ACC Higgins accepted the recommendation that the current notebook was not fit for purpose and asked that a short time working group be established to obtain a new notebook as soon as could be managed. The H&S Secretary would sit on that group.

Uniform issue lists were discussed and approved with the usual request from SPF regarding EIA's to be carried out. Discussion was held around the addition of Gaelic branding, on the wicking tops, which PSoS had to comply with by October 2015. After much discussion, it had been agreed the branding would appear on one sleeve.

Winter clothing was discussed and an agreement had been reached that a business case for specialist kit would need to be prepared, i.e. salapets and footwear to be held as a pool of equipment available for use by those officers required for specific duties in adverse weather at any given time.

Kit list for Divisional vehicles was discussed. It was noted that ACC Higgins had instructed that the Vehicle Users Group devise a list, which was broadly in line with what the SPF had supplied to the group.

Minutes when available will be circulated through the area leads onto the representatives.

9. National Operational Planning

There was nothing to report.

10. National Incidents Statistics

Due to changes around reporting mechanisms no figures were available. The H&S Secretary is to have discussions with H&S Manager (Stephen Merchant) to try and agree a process for the exchange of information in a mutually acceptable format.

11. National Federation Training

- The Health & Safety Secretary updated the Committee regarding the following;
- Inspection training had been delivered to Safety Representatives at the last Area Subject meetings.
- During the week commencing 14 September, basic H&S inputs were delivered to new representatives.
- As previously discussed, agreement had been secured for all SPF H&S Reps to attend PSoS H&S training courses.

- The area leads had completed the IOSH Managing Health and Safety Course last week.
- Training modules would continue to be delivered at Area Subject Committee meetings.
- Stephen Clark provided feedback following his recent attendance at the Basic Training Course.

12. SPF Custody Sub Group

The Group has not met recently but will be re-constituted with the return of our Custody Representative in the East.

13. Operational Support Division (OSD) SPF Sub Group

This Group has not met recently but will be re-constituted for the next meeting.

14. TTEWG

There had been no meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for 22 October 2015.

15. Public Order Monitoring Group

No update available

16. Security

There was no update from the last meeting.

17. Competent Business

The Secretary presented documentation in relation to Improvement Notices, for approval by the committee. After discussion the documents were approved.

18. Closure

Date of next meeting: 19 January 2016.

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