



Scottish Police Federation
5 Woodside Place Glasgow G3 7QF

**Joint Central Committee
Operational Duties Standing Committee**

Ref: CS/DJK/LS

MINUTES

18 January 2016

1. Attendance

Graham Sloan	North Area Committee
David Hamilton	North Area Committee
Brian Jones	East Area Committee
Grant McDowall	East Area Committee
Malcolm Macdonald	West Area Committee

Brian Docherty	Chairman
Graeme Ednie	Vice Chair
David Kennedy	Deputy General Secretary
Calum Steele	General Secretary

Peter Jones	H&S Secretary
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Lesley Stevenson	Business Administrator
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Apologies were received from Andrea MacDonald and the Equality Secretary, Jackie Muller.

2. Opening of Meeting

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending.

Superintendent David Moffat from the Pathways to Policing Project attended the meeting and gave an input to the Committee on the work of the project.

Superintendent Moffat answered a number of questions from the committee and he was thanked for his time and input.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minute of the last meeting had been circulated with JCC Circular 50 of 2015.

4. ACDP, Police Diploma & Special Constabulary

The Deputy General Secretary advised that there would be a meeting to discuss Special Constables later in the week. He also said that he had received a paper by ACC Derek Robertson seeking to amend the Regulations for Special Constables. The paper would be circulated to the JCC for comments. He also said it had been suggested that Performance Regulations could also be applied to Specials.

It was noted that there was advertising for special constables nationally.

5. CBRN

David Hamilton gave an update on CBRN. The Committee discussed respirator filter masks and new suits which were hoped to be in place by 2017. It was agreed that these issues would be raised at the Force H&S meeting.

6. Consideration of JCC Consultation

There was nothing to report.

7. Post Incident Procedures

The Committee discussed the Firearms Post Deployment & PIP PSoS SOP which was live. The Vice Chair said that there had been significant changes made to the process and that the Force had taken on board previous SPF suggestions. He said he would try to arrange a meeting with managers to discuss it.

8. Workforce Agreements (WFAs)

The Deputy General Secretary said that British Summertime would be included in the workforce agreement.

The Committee discussed the shift proposal for firearms officers. The Deputy General Secretary reported that the feedback he had received was that we wouldn't be in favour of it due to seven day working and nightshifts.

The Vice Chair suggested a mission statement would be helpful, laying out the standards the SPF expected to be applied in any shift pattern. It was agreed that the Committee would send their thoughts on this to the Vice Chair. It was further agreed that the Chairman would seek to arrange a meeting with ACC Bernie Higgins on this matter.

9. Custody

Brian Jones reported on the H&S findings for vehicles used for custody. He advised the Committee that one custody vehicle had been taken off the road to be adapted.

10. Force Armed Policing Group

The Chair advised that most of the Papers of relevance had been discussed during the previous item under Post Incident Procedures.

An update was also provided by the Deputy General Secretary on the progress of proposed Shift patterns for Armed Policing.

11. Communications

There was nothing to report. It was agreed that this item could be removed from future agendas.

12. Protecting the Frontline

The General Secretary reported that this message was consistently delivered at all the party political conferences and heavily influenced the SPF submission to the Scottish Parliament Justice Committee on the draft budget. The question of a specific SPF led conference or other event remained under considerations.

The meeting noted that the General Secretary was to meet with the Cabinet Secretary in the near future and he would discuss this matter with him then.

13. 3C

The Chairman told the Committee that this continued to be a challenge.

Brian Jones raised the issue of Bilston Glen and said that there were concerns regarding the resources etc of the call centre. He would share data when received.

14. Review of Superintending Ranks Strategic Review Group

The General Secretary gave an update on behalf of Andrea MacDonald who had attended the last meeting. He said that the Review had been split into two groups; a steering group and project group. The work of the group was as expected and it was noted that there had been discussions of devolving some responsibilities to the inspecting ranks eg prison letters and missing persons. It was noted that if roles were added, remuneration would need to be reviewed. It was noted that Andrea had received a copy of the interim business findings and the General Secretary had asked that the interim findings be shared with the Scottish Police Consultative Forum.

David Hamilton raised the matter of the Sergeant Survey and the lack of autonomy. It was agreed that this should be raised at LNCC's.

15. Impact on Inspecting Ranks Steering Group

The General Secretary provided the meeting with an overview of the interim findings from the second inspecting ranks survey.

16. British Summertime

It was noted that as this matter had been resolved, it could be removed from future agendas.

17. Competent Business:

David Hamilton told the Committee that recently, COPFS had highlighted an emerging national issue in relation to the sufficiency of evidence contained within reported domestic abuse assault cases. In particular, the issue relates to using injuries caused to a victim as corroboration to the offence when no other evidence appears to be available. He asked whether it was a problem in other areas. It was agreed that this issue would be put to Shelagh McCall, QC at the Conduct Seminar later that week and also that any examples were to be sent to Lesley Stevenson for collating.

18. Closure

Date of next meeting: 12 April 2016

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