



Scottish Police Federation
5 Woodside Place Glasgow G3 7QF

**Joint Central Committee
Operational Duties Standing Committee**

Ref: CS/DJK/KB

MINUTES

30 September 2015

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
Andrea MacDonald	West Area Committee
Brian Docherty	Chairman
Calum Steele	General Secretary
Graeme Ednie	Vice Chair
David Kennedy	Deputy General Secretary
Jackie Muller	Equality Secretary
Peter Jones	H&S Secretary
Kirsteen Brown	Administrator

Apologies were received from the Conduct Secretary.

2. Opening of Meeting

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

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minute of the last meeting had been circulated with JCC Circular 36 of 2015.

4. ACDP, Police Diploma & Special Constabulary

Grant McDowall advised the Special Constables Governance Group met on the 8th September at the SPC

The following items of discussion were worthy of note.

- The question of using special constables to lead on rural crimes.
- A recruitment need in the north area.
- The question of employers being encouraged to permit their employees to become special constables.
- Misconduct procedures for special constables
- Management of Working Time Regs for special constables
- Future Accreditation of special constables training.

A long discussion took place surrounding special constables. The General Secretary recognised the work that special constables do and appreciated their assistance but is mindful that it's voluntary, and for some a second job. This is a gateway to join the service and should not be used as a lead on Wildlife or Rural Crime due to the nature of the types of crime that is committed. The meeting agreed.

He stated that local authorities/councils/communities should be made aware of the budget pressures on rural crime and due to a special constable having very little training cannot properly detect and or deal with the crime, as they don't have specialist skills. The SPF will be attending the 3 main political party conferences and this will be utilised to voice their concerns to the councillors and activists.

5. CBRN

David Hamilton gave an update on the Home Office operational response package. He stated there remained difficulties with this and a further update was awaited. The Chairman said he would contact ACC Higgins for an update.

6. Consideration of JCC Consultation

There was nothing to report.

7. Post Incident Procedures

The General Secretary highlighted a number of pertinent issues that had come to light following recent high profile events.

David Hamilton and the Deputy General Secretary suggested that they should run a one day course for as many officer bearers as soon as possible and preferably before Christmas. A discussion took place around the involvement of PIRC when dealing with PIP.

8. Workforce Agreements (WFAs)

There was nothing to report.

9. Custody

Malcolm Macdonald received a memo regarding suitably trained custody constables replacing duty officers. This raised concerns as the Force published this without consultation. This would be raised at the next meeting and the Committee would receive an update.

Opposite sex searches had been raised with the Equality Secretary and she was to make enquiries and report back.

The H&S Secretary would attend the Custody National H&S Meeting the following week. It was agreed that the H&S Secretary should attend national meetings and area representatives should attend local meetings.

10. Force Armed Policing Group

The Chairman gave a full update on the last meeting. Malcolm Macdonald received notification of a Firearms Staff Development Day between 7 – 11 December requesting an hour long input from the SPF. At this stage the format was unknown and Malcolm Macdonald was to request further information.

11. Communications

Graham Sloan was requested by his NAC to ask for clarification as to why the Minutes are only sent in draft form and we only approve them at the next meeting. They felt that the need for more precise information should be afforded to them at an early date.

The General Secretary said that it was normal practice to approve Minutes at a subsequent meeting and until then Minutes would remain as drafts. The notes that each representative takes at meetings should be sufficient to give an update to area Committees.

Brian Jones and David Hamilton requested access to the Central Meeting Register (CMR). The General Secretary said that the way CMR forms were submitted was unsuitable for general access. He said they contained views and comments that were entirely useful for appropriate updates but not for circulation. The Deputy General Secretary said that wider access could also raise Data Protection issues.

The Equality Secretary asked if there was a problem with the @rep email addresses as some officers were stating that they hadn't received emails. The addresses are all correct and the onus was on the rep to log into their account. The Deputy General Secretary stated that all @reps email addresses will be used in the very near future and not the pnn addresses. Malcolm Macdonald posed the question of forwarding to a pnn and while that was accepted the SPF would only send out to the @rep email address.

The Deputy General Secretary reminded the Committee that access to their diaries was required.

12. Protecting the Frontline

The motion below was discussed under Competent Business at the last meeting:

Protecting the Frontline from 'one size fits all'

This Area Committee asks Central Conference to note the increase in departments; specialist teams and units in Police Scotland have resulted in a much diminished frontline.

To recognise the diverse range of communities, geography and local expectations in our country mean there cannot be a 'one size fits all' approach to Policing in Scotland.

To seek a "bottom-up" review of resource allocation that puts properly resourced community and response policing back at the heart of our service.

It was agreed that this matter would be raised at the political party conferences.

The General Secretary provided a confidential report on a recent meeting he had with the Cabinet Secretary for Justice. He said there was enthusiasm to help identify coherent structures of service and he was content that the concerns and views of the SPF were being recognised by the Government.

13. 3C

The Chairman would be attending the next 3C meeting on 8 October and would ask to be kept advised of developments whilst not attending future meetings. The JCC will be kept updated.

In relation to the H&S Inspection of Bilston Glen, Peter Jones informed the Committee that he had notification that 5 of the 6 recommendations he had made, if not fully implemented, was 95% complete.

The General Secretary asked that Dave Forsyth be thanked for his contribution and all the work he had carried out in relation to this. The General Secretary identified that the issues highlighted had been raised with HMICS.

14. Competent Business:

DCC Rose Fitzpatrick invited the SPF to attend the Review of Superintendent Ranks Strategic Review Group. The General Secretary attended the 2nd Meeting with Niven Rennie. He gave an update on what was being discussed. It was agreed that Andrea would attend future meetings of the steering group on behalf of the SPF.

Andrea Macdonald received a letter inviting her to attend the Impact on Inspecting Ranks Steering Group. The first meeting was the following day and Andrea would attend and give an update.

Malcolm Macdonald raised the question about British Summertime. The General Secretary reminded the meeting that he had written to the Chief Constable on this subject in the past

and had received an assurance the SPF suggested solution would be considered. The Deputy General Secretary said he would speak to Stevie Diamond regarding this.

An annual invitation to attend the POAS Conference on 28/29 October was received. Grant McDowall and Graeme Ednie would attend.

15. Closure

Date of next meeting: 20 January 2016

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