



Scottish Police Federation

5 Woodside Place Glasgow G3 7QF

Joint Central Committee Health & Safety Subject Committee

Ref: CS/DJK/LS

MINUTES

1 May 2019

1. Attendance, Opening of Meeting and Minutes of Previous Meeting

North Area Committee	Gordon Forsyth
North Area Committee	Gordon Milne
North Area Committee	Ross Polworth
North Area Committee	Mike Purdie
East Area Committee	Stephen Clark
East Area Committee	Andy Toombes
East Area Committee	Ricky Wood
West Area Committee	Jamie Carruth
West Area Committee	Dougie Chalmers
West Area Committee	Ian Florence
West Area Committee	David Hunter
West Area Committee	Kenny Kean
Vice Chair	David Hamilton (meeting Chair)
Assist. to the General Secretary (H&S) AGSH	Brian Jones
Business Manager	Doug Keil
Business Administrator	Lesley Stevenson
Journalist and Communications Adviser	Sarah Vesty

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

Apologies were received from Dougie McKinlay, Gordon Cumming and Campbell Smith.

The Minute of the previous meeting had been circulated withy JCC Circular 5 of 2019 and was noted.

2. Matters Arising

1. The AGSH was asked to write to ACC Paul Anderson relative to custody officers being asked to monitor prisoners on VDUs for long periods of time.

The AGSH had not written yet. A Short Life Working Group had been created.

2. Airwave issues were to be emailed to the AGSH in order that he could raise with Colin Gill.

None were received.

3. Standing Items

3.1 SPF H&S Updates

Area Committees

North

Gordon Forsyth reported that there were no real big issues outstanding in the North Area. He said there would be a meeting the following week where amongst the items to be discussed were estates and maintenance; custody issues and an officer who had contracted TB in the Tayside area. In relation to the last item, concerns were expressed about the SPF not being invited to the Gold meeting; the provision of masks at particular incidents; risk assessments and information to the wider membership.

East

Stephen Clark reported on issues relating to custody and the recent review regarding pc-led custody centres. He also said that a request for shields to be placed in vehicles in Edinburgh had been made following a stabbing incident. The Committee also discussed winter clothing.

West

Ian Florence reported on the Deep Dive in L Division and said it had been very well received. He said a Mini Dive had been carried out in relation to custody and a report had been sent to the AGSH. He reported on estates, plain clothes allowance, taser and capital expenditure.

Members then discussed the Health and Safety procedures which could follow the actions taken in L Division to date.

Custody Sub Group

There had been no meeting.

Operational Support Division Sub Group

There had been no meeting.

3.2 PSoS H&S Updates

Force Executive H&S Board

The meeting was held on 8 April and the AGSH and Stephen Clark attended. Issues included the attendance of ACCs and Head of Estates etc; driver training; noise at work and lack of ear defenders; RIDDOR statistics; H&S training; driver licence checks; body armour; fleet and equipment; safe transportation of firearms; naloxone; H&S fire update; SPELS first aid training; devolving H&S responsibility; national vehicle testing equipment; new drink driving machines; the Home Office approved Procurement Group and the fleet web portal on vehicle checks. The AGSH reported that the Force had agreed that it would purchase footwear for officers.

APHSA

The AGSH met with James Bertram on 2 April 2019 and discussed the 365 Assurance Plan. Which will have significant impact on the health and safety culture of Police Scotland. The AGSH reported that the Health Screening for hearing tests will be introduced with 8000 officers to be identified for screening in year one. The Committee discussed locus protection equipment and training. The AGSH would be meeting with Mr Bertram the following day.

Uniform

The last meeting was held on 8 February 2019 at the SPC. Issues included cycle kit/uniform; non binary gender fluid headgear and dog instructor boots.

Taser

The Vice Chair gave an update on Taser and said that the University of the West of Scotland had recently carried out a research project. A recent PIRC finding where the use of Taser was discussed. The committee reported that our membership were very appreciative of SPFs rebuttal of PIRC.

The Committee also discussed the procurement of body armour and heard some initial feedback on the armour options being considered.

Wellbeing Group

The AGSH met with DCC Fiona Taylor on 14 February and amongst the matters discussed were meal breaks, flu vaccinations and mental health.

The Vice Chair attended the Wellbeing Group on 12 March 2019 where there had been an input from the anti-corruption unit. A paper was to be presented the following week and the AGSC and Voice Chair were to discuss the matter with the team.

The Committee discussed wellbeing assessments and noted there was online resilience screening available to all.

Public Order Monitoring Group

The Committee discussed PSNI deployments and the procurement of equipment. There were some problems with equipment being issued to staff. Brexit preparations and PSNI deployments were also discussed.

Telematics

The Vice Chair reported that telematics had been installed in most of the fleet and that he and the AGSH had asked for Risk Assessments. They reported that there was a safety issue with the siting of the DMAS box in BMW X5 cars. Beyond that a number of complaints regarding the distraction that the units cause at nights had been made. The Vice Chair invited members to send any examples of difficulties with the units through Area leads for his attention.

3.3 Other H&S Meeting Updates

Joint UK H&S Meeting

The last meeting was held on 18 April and Stephen Clark attended. The Striking the Balance document had been discussed and the Civil Nuclear Constabulary and Ministry of Defence Police were to be invited onto the National Lead Body on First Aid.

NPCC Driver Training Group

The AGSH reported on Section 19 of the road Safety Act 2006 which will introduce mandatory refresher training. This training will impact on all response officers and training is expected to be at least 2 days as it has to be training and not merely an assessment. This will have significant impact on driver training.

Training, Tactics & Equipment Working Group (TTEWG)

The Vice Chair had attended the MPCC TTEWG meeting in Manchester. The Group discussed CS deployment and dispersal devices, and Public Order trained officers using baton rounds. It was noted that Greater Manchester Police now issue safety glasses and protective bump caps at football to protect officers without the need for a full Level1 PO deployment.

3.4 Inspections/Investigations

A paper had been circulated and comments from Area Leads were awaited.

The AGSH reported on the ongoing accident/investigations and said that there had been 23 in the last two years which were now available on the database. He said that evidence had now been gathered for the future and had led to monthly meetings with DCC Fiona Taylor.

He said that the issue of overtime at Bilston had been raised with the DCC.

3.5 Training

The AGSH said there were a number of new representatives on the Committee who required training. A provisional date of 27/30 May had been suggested however was agreed to be too soon. It was agreed that this would be arranged off table.

The AGSH said that the first trench of the Force Executive training had been carried out. He would discuss further training options off table with the Vice Chair.

3.6 Risk Assessments for Temporary Places of Duty

The AGSH said that the paper had been submitted to the Force and their comments were awaited. The Committee discussed this matter and it was agreed that the AGSH was to raise the matter with the DCC.

3.7 Driving Authorisations

The Committee discussed D1 driving capabilities and driving authorisations for high performance vehicles and armed response vehicles. It was agreed that this item should remain on the agenda.

4. Correspondence

There were no items.

5. Competent Business

The Committee discussed a failure in a lifesaving throw line and it was noted that a sample had been sent to Glasgow University to have the standard checked. An update is awaited.

6. Closure

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

Date of next meeting: 7 August 2019