



Scottish Police Federation

5 Woodside Place Glasgow G3 7QF

Joint Central Committee Health & Safety Subject Committee

Ref: CS/LS

MINUTES

17 April 2018

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

North Area Committee	Grant Letham
North Area Committee	Gordon Forsyth
North Area Committee	Linsey Burns (by VC)
North Area Committee	Mike Purdie (by VC)
East Area Committee	Stephen Clark
East Area Committee	Hugh Louden (by VC)
East Area Committee	Wilkie McCloskey
West Area Committee	Paul Connelly
West Area Committee	Phil Maguire (by VC)
West Area Committee	Campbell Smith (by VC)
West Area Committee	Gordon Cumming (by VC)
West Area Committee	John Munn (by VC)
West Area Committee	Stewart Gailey
Vice Chair	David Hamilton (meeting Chair)
Assist. to the General Secretary (H&S) AGSH	Brian Jones
Business Administrator	Lesley Stevenson

The Chair opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance. The Minute of the previous meeting had been circulated withy JCC Circular 7 of 2018 and was approved.

2. Matters Arising

Deployment of Firearms resources

The Vice Chair advised that these matters should be highlighted to C3 through the AGSH or himself.

Risk Assessments for Temporary Places of Duty

See item 3.6

Driving Authorisations

See item 3.7

3. Standing Items

3.1 SPF H&S Updates

Area Committees

North

Grant Letham said that the North Area last met in Aberdeen on 2 April 2018. Amongst the matters discussed were the lack of risk assessments within Custody Division; concerns regarding the potential closure of Arbroath; the lack of consultation regarding satellite supervision relative to D Division custody; the lack of locus protection equipment, vehicle overweights, and the slow progress regarding ear protection for officers.

East

Stephen Clark said that the East Area last met on 20 March 2018. Amongst the matters discussed were resourcing issues and OBL's particularly in E Division; the lack of suitably trained response drivers across the area and in particular in E Division; the storage and disposal of PAVA; ongoing concerns regarding the transportation of firearms and the lack of trained officers to make the weapons safe. This matter had been raised at the H&S Board and ACC Telfer was to progress.

West

The West Area last met on 4 April 2018 and amongst the matters discussed were resources and the lack of response drivers across the central belt; the lack of recognition by Gold Commanders for suitable refreshment facilities despite PSoS Memo 185/2017; the suitability of training provided to manage catastrophic blood loss and concussion type injuries, ambulance incidents and the lack of ambulance cover in large areas of the West resulting in police conveying injured parties to hospital; ongoing concerns regarding the reluctance of ITFC's to deploy firearms resources to violent incidents and custody backfill and satellite supervision.

Custody Sub Group

The AGSH advised that this group last met on 17 April 2018 and amongst the matters discussed were the lack of risk assessments across the entire estate in Custody; satellite supervision with the potential consequences for the Force being severe should an FAI be required; concerns regarding the retraining of staff who were utilised for backfill; the wearing of PPE in custody suites and insufficient fire alarm provisions within primary custody centres.

Operational Support Division Sub Group

There had been no meetings of this Group since April 2017.

3.2 PSoS H&S Updates

Force Executive H&S Board

The AGSH said that the H&S Board last met on 10 April 2018 and amongst the matters discussed were driver training; control of noise at work; AED's and defibrillators; fire safety, formal inspections; RIDDOR statistics; and the recognised failure in the number of risk assessments in place across PSoS.

APHSA

It was reported that this group last met on 7 February 2018 at Dalmarnock and amongst the matters discussed was the increase in the number of slips, trips and falls during pursuits on foot. The H&S team would be approaching the Force regarding the personal issue of footwear. It was noted that high-viz trousers were to be sought as standard deployment replacing the black over trousers. Noise at work was also discussed with a desire to introduce ear defenders following the work of an independent consultant. Safety alerts had been published relative to ticks and overloading of police vehicles.

Uniform

The AGSH advised that the Uniform Group last met on 13 March 2018 and the main items discussed were spotter jackets for tactical deployment at football matches. It had been agreed that the European agreed blue yoke jackets would be sought. A new trouser from the South Yorkshire procurement contract was currently being trialled. It had been agreed that personal issue of winter uniform would be provided to officers who have snow gates duties in their locality. Dog handlers are to be issued with more than one pair of operational boots in case of boots being soaked with no alternative in place.

It was noted that PPE/OST is now under the remit of the Use of Force Working Group.

Taser WG

The Taser WG met on 9 March 2018 in Jackton and the main items discussed at the meeting were the number of applicants rising to 657 with C and N Divisions struggling to attain their respective numbers. Training for specialist trained officers (STO's) began on 12 March 2018 with the first deployment of STOs still scheduled for May 2018.

Wellbeing Group

The Vice Chair said that he attended the last meeting of this Group earlier that week and amongst the matters discussed had been working time regulations and the lack of accurate recording. It was noted that sergeants' shifts should include briefing and debriefings and that a new night worker health assessments was being introduced.

3.3 Other H&S Meeting Updates

Joint UK H&S Meeting

This Group last met on 2 February 2018 in Birmingham. Amongst the matters discussed were safety inspections and risk assessments; working time regulations and the concerns regarding the inaccuracies associated with working time; Safety rep training; uniform/PPE and the weight of body armour; fatigue and stress; lack of risk assessments across custody and the lack of driver training in locus protection and standard driving courses.

Training, Tactics & Equipment Working Group (TTEWG)

The Group last met on 28 March 2018 in Preston and the main items discussed included D1 authorisations, a CBRN update and corrosive attacks being on the increase. It was noted that in 2017, the CBRN Advisory Unit dealt with 790+ incidents/enquiries/concerns and the Salisbury incident had highlighted how quickly PPE suits were used by those deployed to deal with such incidents. A paper had been submitted to the UK Government for additional funding for additional/replacement suits and additional training and equipment for the Fire Service. Other matters discussed were mutual aid for the Royal Wedding, a CAST update and Bedfordshire Police looking to deploy Special constables on PSU duties. It was reported that the Metropolitan Police had encountered significant issues regarding proscribed flags. They had gathered significant knowledge on how to deal with these issues and are willing to share their knowledge. It was noted that protestor removal teams were now providing national guidance on lock on removal at height, confine spaces and marine environments.

3.4 Inspections/Investigations

It was noted that of the 13 outstanding accident/investigations, 6 had now been completed and will be lodged in the near future. The other 7 were still ongoing.

3.5 Training

It was noted that training was ongoing for all safety representatives with the North and East having received their training and certification from RRC. The West will receive their training in the near future. Executive training is being identified for the Trustees.

3.6 Risk Assessments for Temporary Places of Duty

The Committee was informed that Jackie Lambert, Safety Advisor had submitted a paper for consultation. The paper had been sent to Woodside Place.

3.7 Driving Authorisations

It was reported that there were over 3300 officers still requiring to be trained in standard response training. It was agreed that the AGSH would write to ACC Wayne Mawson highlighting the Committee's concerns relative to this.

4. Correspondence

The AGSH shared the response he had received from ACC Mawson regarding a letter he had written to him highlighting the number of health and safety breaches of legislation being committed currently by Police Scotland. The letter of reply failed to answer any of the points raised but highlighted the work being done by the Force to address health and safety.

5. Competent Business

An issue where a prisoner had managed to damage a van and obtain a piece of wood as a weapon was discussed. The AGSH said James Bertram was to carry out an accident/investigation on this and he would share the results when they were known.

The Committee discussed the budget cuts to fleet and were asked to send any examples of vehicles not fit for purpose to Woodside Place.

6. Closure

It was noted that Steve Thomson, North Area Secretary was due to retire from the Police Service in the near future. Thanks were given for all his contributions over the years and best wishes were sent for his future.

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

Date of next meeting: TBC