



# Scottish Police Federation

5 Woodside Place Glasgow G3 7QF

## Joint Central Committee Health & Safety Subject Committee

Ref: CS/LS

### MINUTES

23 January 2018

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

North Area Committee	Grant Letham
North Area Committee	Steve Thomson
North Area Committee	Linsey Burns (by VC)
East Area Committee	Stephen Clark
East Area Committee	Ricky Wood
West Area Committee	Paul Connelly
West Area Committee	Stuart Finnie
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 and was approved.

#### 2. Matters Arising

##### Deployment of Firearms resources

Any issues/queries should be passed to the SPF Vice Chair to raise with C3.

##### Risk Assessments for Temporary Places of Duty

The AGSH raised the matter with James Bertram and agreed to keep as a standing item on the Agenda.

##### Commercial Events

The matter had been raised with ACC Higgins. The Vice Chair had met with Sharon Milton, Events Planning.

##### Driving Authorisations

It was agreed at the last meeting that the Vice Chair and AGSH should arrange a meeting with ACC Gillian Macdonald to take this matter forward. She had however moved on from

this Department. It was agreed that the AGSH should discuss with Chief Supt. Stuart Carle, Road Policing.

### **3. Standing Items**

#### **3.1 SPF H&S Updates**

##### **Area Committees**

###### **North**

Steve Thomson advised that the last meeting had been held on 8<sup>th</sup> January in Aberdeen.

Matters of discussion included 12 hour working in custody, ear-defenders, lack of medical provision in E Division (custody), taser – numbers, training and shields in OST training.

**ACTION:** The Committee discussed the issue relating to shields and the SPF Vice Chair agreed to raise the matter at the next Use of Force Monitoring Group which he attends.

###### **East**

Stephen Clark advised that the last meeting had been held on 9<sup>th</sup> January.

Matters of discussion included Rank ratio reductions in 'J' Division, refreshment breaks, uniform, plea bargained cases, sharp containers being removed from vehicles and since replaced, H&S training for representatives and defibrillators for all police stations.

###### **West**

Paul Connelly advised that the last meeting had been held on 10<sup>th</sup> January.

Matters of discussion included ambulance service using police and the effect of this on police resources and mental health provision. The SPF Vice Chair asked the Committee to send examples to him in order that he can raise with the 2026 Project Lead.

##### **Custody Sub Group**

The Committee noted that the custody sub group had met earlier that day. Four actions had been raised to raise with James Bertram. These related to solicitor access rooms, 12 hour shifts, booking in of custodies and risk assessments for custody suites in the West and East areas.

There had been no meeting of the Operational Support Division Custody Sub Group. The next meeting was scheduled for 30 January 2018.

#### **3.2 PSoS H&S Updates**

##### **Force Executive H&S Board**

The last meeting of this Group was held on 9 November 2017 and Stephen Clark attended in place of the AGSH. The next meeting is scheduled for 2 March 2018. Matters on the agenda include fire safety; H&S Wellbeing Performance Report, defibrillators, the dive unit,

custody, flu vaccinations, vehicle equipment, breath screening devices and life vests (self-inflating chosen) for vehicles.

The Committee discussed high risk deployments (e.g. large cannabis cultivations etc) and it was agreed that this matter would be raised at the OSD meeting on 30 January 2018 by Brian Jones.

### **Wellbeing Group**

It was agreed that this item should be a standing item on future agendas.

The Vice Chair attends meetings of this Group on behalf of the SPF. Items on the agenda include wellbeing champions, Working Time, mental health and airwave. As part of the UK Airwave project, ASPs have negotiated the inclusion of Scotland re the provision of a free (valued at £500.00) health assessment for officers/staff.

The AGSH advised that PSOs currently provide free health assessments (not obligatory) for staff who fulfil certain roles (PPU etc). The assessments are not available to all. The Vice Chair stated that he has raised this via the SPA seeking for these assessments to be made available to all staff – the matter is ongoing.

### **APHS**

The AGSH gave an update. Matters discussed included Assessment to Help which is a confidential assessment on mental health issues. This has yet to be rolled out. The AGSH had written to DCC Livingstone regarding safety representatives and how behind schedule they were with safety inspections. They also discussed the on-going issue of overloading cars. It was agreed that vehicles were not fit for purpose due to the kit requiring to be carried.

### **Uniform/PPE/OST**

The AGSH attended the last meeting of this Group where matters discussed included trousers, maternity wear, waterproof high-vis jackets, Kevlar gloves, and jackets for officers attending football games.

They also discussed body armour, their protection levels and it was noted that a meeting was to be held the following day regarding procurement.

### **Taser WG**

The AGSH said he had attended a meeting on 28 December in Jackton. The Committee discussed the reluctance of officers to take on this specialism and it was agreed that a meeting should be arranged with Chief Supt. Matt Richards and Supt. Davie Baird OSD to discuss this issue.

### **3.3 Other H&S Meeting Updates**

#### **Joint UK H&S Meeting**

An update was given. Matters discussed included anti-coagulants, DVI vaccinations, hepatitis B, temporary traffic signs, and the lack of vehicle maintenance checks.

#### **Training, Tactics & Equipment Working Group (TTEWG)**

The last meeting of this Group was held on 3 November in Birmingham and chaired by DCC Brandon. The next meeting was to be held on 25 January.

### **3.4 Inspections/Investigations**

The ASGH advised the Committee there were currently 9 ongoing Accident/investigations, with three recently completed pertaining to the Serious Assault/ Attempted Murder within Custody Division, the Culpable and Reckless Conduct with a Firework in Edinburgh and the Road Collision on the A78.

### **3.5 Training**

The Committee discussed and agreed in principal, to a one-day accredited training course at a cost of £600. The Committee noted that the work currently being carried out on the Federation office in Dundee was almost complete and noted that the office was intended to be used as a future training venue. Members were asked to consider those requiring training. The matter would be raised at the JCC the following month.

## **4. Correspondence**

The ASGH advised that he had written recently to the DCC designate identifying the appointed national and area health and safety Representatives and Chief Supt. Roddy Newbigging pertaining the Force obligation under the working time regulations to record officers refreshment breaks. In verbal reply Chief Supt. Newbigging advised between 40-45 % were recorded in the west, with only 1-7% recorded in the East and the North areas.

## **5. Competent Business**

The Vice Chair said that the structure of the Subject Committee meetings was currently being reviewed. The Committee discussed this suggestion and it was noted that it would be further discussed at the JCC meeting the following month.

## **6. Closure**

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