

The **PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE** met at **LEEK WOOTTON** on the **5th AUGUST 2009**.

Present:-

Independent Members:- Mike Edwards (**Chair**) and Dorrette McAuslan

County Councillors:- Eithne Goode and Phillip Morris-Jones

Police: - Andy Parker and Mick Hayward

Police Authority: - Neil Gulliver

1. General

(1) Apologies

(2) Declaration of Members' Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None.

(3) Minutes of the Meeting held on the 29th April 2009 and Matters Arising

(1) Minutes

Resolved:-

That the minutes of the meeting of the Professional Standards Committee held on the 29th April 2009 be approved and signed by the Chair.

(2) Matters Arising

Minute 2 – Independent Police Complaints Commission

Mick Hayward confirmed that the Force did not have a policy in place with regard to the deployment of police dogs against young children. It was very much a judgement call for the officers involved.

2. Independent Police Complaints Commission – General Issues

Mick Hayward circulated two press releases from the IPCC relating to the publication of 2008/09 Annual Report and its 2008 Public Confidence Survey. The first press release put a strong emphasis on the need for a consistent police pursuit policy to help reduce the number of fatalities and he pointed that the Force were already looking to introduce guidance to officers on the Force's police pursuit policy.

3. Any Other Items

None.

4. Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee should be held on Wednesday 4 November at 2pm.

5. Reports containing Exempt Information

(1) Minutes

Resolved: -

That the members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the following agenda items on the grounds that their presence would involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 3, 4 and 7 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

6. Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on the 29th April 2009 and Matters Arising

(1) Minutes

Under Minute 7, it was pointed out that the reference to the 'Police Authority Agenda' should read 'Professional Standards Committee Agenda'.

It was then Resolved:-

That the exempt minutes of the meetings of the Professional Standards Committee held on the 29th April 2009 as amended be approved and signed by the Chair.

(2) Matters Arising

Minute 7 – Learning the Lessons – Bulletin 6

Phillip Morris-Jones queried how appropriate information from the bulletins was made available to Custody Visitors. Mick Hayward confirmed that he would follow this up.

7. Learning the Lessons – Bulletin 6

(1) Quick Time Bulletin 2

was considered.

Mick Hayward reported that the Force had already taken positive steps to address the urgent issues highlighted in the bulletin.

(2) Bulletin 7

was noted.

8. 'Near Misses in Custody – April 2008 – March 2009

was considered.

Mick Hayward introduced the report and stated that his Department needed to be aware of all incidents in custody and had also provided a useful insight into the types of issues custody staff had to deal with.

9. Forensic Medical Examiners

This report was noted.

10. Dog Bites

was noted.

11. Complaints Against the Force

The Committee considered the report by the Chief Constable in detail and highlighted issues relating to a number of items included in the report.

The meeting closed at 4.00pm

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Chair of the Committee