

The **PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE** met at **LEEK WOOTTON** on the **30th APRIL 2008**.

Present:-

Independent Members:- Dorrette McAuslan and Steve Nicklin

Magistrate Member:- Alan Woodward (**Chair**)

Police: - DCC Andy Parker and Supt Mick Hayward.

Police Authority: - Eric Wood and Neil Gulliver

1. General
(1) Apologies

An apology was received from Phillip Morris-Jones.

(2) Declaration of Members' Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None.

2. Independent Police Complaints Commission
(1) Letter from the Chair of the IPCC

In noting the letter from the Chairman of the IPCC, the Committee were also informed that John Crawley had announced his impending retirement as the West Midlands Commissioner for the IPCC.

(2) Learning the Lessons Bulletins 2 and 3

In response to a question by the Chair, Mick Hayward confirmed that he had been able to identify key personnel responsible for the business areas referred to in the bulletins and action would be taken where appropriate. In addition, there will be regular reports to the Force Management Group on progress on key lessons. The bulletins would also be available on the Force intranet.

The Chair asked that this action be reinforced by ensuring that the key issues in the bulletins were picked up as part of the training programme. Steve Nicklin suggested that the bulletins should be issued directly to the District Commanders with a request that they are widely distributed to all officers. Mick Hayward responded by saying that he would highlight the key issues with District Commanders and that he also met regularly with the Head of Training and Development to discuss including key issues in the training programme.

Eric Wood referred to section 2.9 of Bulletin 2 in relation to Forces working with the Health Service and asked about the development of protocols being produced between the Force and Warwickshire PCT. Andy Parker replied that he would check on progress and let Eric Wood have an update.

(3) Confidence in the Police Complaints System: A Second Survey of the General Population

was noted.

(4) Guidance on the Recording of Complaints under the Police Reform Act 2002

In noting the report, the Committee acknowledged the invaluable work undertaken by Tony Ladwiniec.

(5) Deaths During or Following Police Contact: Statistics for England and Wales 2006/07

Mick Hayward introduced the report and highlighted the impact that such deaths had on an organisation.

In response to a question by Steve Nicklin, Mick Hayward commented that the IPCC took a keen interest in police pursuits and wanted to visit the Force to attend a training day for officers on pursuit. An invitation could be extended to a member of the Committee. The Force did have a policy which was very rigidly applied by an authorised officer in the Communications Centre.

(6) Near Misses in Police Custody

Mick Hayward reported that an action plan was currently being developed and he would keep the Committee up-to-date with progress.

(7) Police Complaints: Statistics for England and Wales 2006/07

Mick Hayward pointed out that neglect/failure in duty was highlighted as a major issue in the report. This was also a serious issue for the Force and was being addressed.

3. Any Other Items

The Chair informed the Committee that this was Mick Hayward's last day as a Police Superintendent but he would be continuing as Head of Professional Standards in a civilian role.

The Committee agreed to record their appreciation of his work as a police officer and wished him continued success in the future.

It was noted that further items would be considered under the exempt part of the agenda.

4. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Wednesday 16th July 2008.

5. Reports containing Exempt Information

It was Resolved that the members of the public be excluded under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 from the Professional Standards Committee's 30th April 2008 meeting for the following agenda items on the grounds that their presence would involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

**6. Minutes of the Meetings held on the 28th January 2008 and Matters Arising
(i) Minutes**

Resolved:-

That the minutes of the meeting of the Professional Standards Committee held on the 28th January 2008 be approved and signed by the Chair.

There were no matters arising.

7. Police (Conduct) Regulations 2008

The Committee considered a report by the Chief Constable on the introduction of the new Regulations.

8. Complaints Against the Police

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

It was then agreed to return to Agenda item 3.

3. Any Other Items

(1) Forfeiture of Pension

Eric Wood informed the Committee on the current position relating a case which they would need to consider in the near future.

(2) Training in Human Rights

The Committee considered what action was required on this issue and the action that the Authority were required to take under the Human Rights Act.

The meeting closed at 4.30 pm

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Chair of the Committee