

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

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

In Attendance: - Andy Smith (IPCC)

Before the start of the meeting, the Committee had a discussion with Andy Smith about how the IPCC approach to dip sampling and the rationale that they work to. The Chair commented that he would like the Committee to adopt a more simplified approach to dip sampling and to be clear about their objectives from the process. The Chair agreed to look at how this might be achieved.

1. General

(1) Apologies

(2) Declaration of Members' Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None.

(3) Minutes of the Meeting held on the 16th July 2008 and Matters Arising

(i) Minutes

Resolved:-

That the minutes of the meeting of the Professional Standards Committee held on the 16th July 2008 be approved and signed by the Chair.

There were no matters arising.

2. Independent Police Complaints Commission

(1) General Update

There were no issues to be considered under this heading.

(2) Police Complaints – Statistics for England and Wales 2007/08 plus supporting papers

Mick Hayward introduced the report and drew Members' attention to a number of key issues, in particular, in respect of Warwickshire's performance against other forces.

(3) Police Custody as a 'Safe Place': Examining the Use of Section 136 of the Mental Health Act 1983

After Mick Hayward had briefly commented on the report, Phillip Morris-Jones pointed out the additional pressure that the outcomes of this report would place on custody suites and the need for custody visitors to be aware of these pressures.

Mick Hayward confirmed that he would ensure that these concerns were drawn to the attention of Debbie Mullis at the Authority who was responsible for managing the custody visitors. He added that the Action Plan arising from this report would be considered later in the agenda.

(4) Police Misconduct and Unsatisfactory Performance Procedures

Mick Hayward commented that he was keen to encourage local managers to deal quickly and efficiently with low-level local complaints. Good progress was being made but further work was still needed.

With regard to training, Chief Inspectors and Inspectors would be expected to attend a 2 day training course on how to deal with local complaints.

3. Any Other Items

None.

4. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Wednesday 28 January 2009 at 2pm.

5. Reports containing Exempt Information

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 Meetings held on the 16th July and the 10th September 2008 and Matters Arising

The minutes were considered and amended as agreed at the meeting.

It was then Resolved:-

That the exempt minutes of the meetings of the Professional Standards Committee held on the 16th July and the 10th September 2008 as amended be approved and signed by the Chair.

There were no matters arising.

7. Learning the Lessons

- (1) ANPR Update**
- (2) Vulnerable People**

The Committee received updates from Mick Hayward on work currently ongoing within the Force to address these issues.

8. IPCC Recommendations from “Near Misses in Police Custody” Report Published March 2008 and Police Custody as a “Place of Safety” Report Published September 2008

The Committee received updates from Mick Hayward on work currently ongoing within the Force to address these issues.

9. 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.

The meeting closed at 4.00 pm

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Chair of the Committee