



**LINCOLNSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE
19TH MARCH 2009
2.00PM – 4.15PM**

PRESENT:

Members: Mr C Underwood-Frost (Chairman), Mrs A Crowe JP, Mr P Dilks, Mr J Marriott, Mr P Przyszlak, Dr B Wookey

Officers: Ms D McGovern (Chief Executive), Superintendent H Roach (Professional Standards Department), Mr J King (Committee and Administration Officer)

Apologies: Mrs J Pears (Vice Chairman)

Observer: Mr B Fippard, Mr F Mann

38/08. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND/OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

None.

39/08. MINUTES – 7TH NOVEMBER 2008

Resolved:	Responsible Officer:
1. That the minutes of the meeting held on the 7 th November 2008 be taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.	-

40/08. ACTION SUMMARY

Resolved:	Responsible Officer:
1. That the Decision and Action Summary be noted.	-

41/08. POLICE AUTHORITY RISK REGISTER

Resolved: 1. That the Risk Register be noted.	Responsible Officer: -
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42/08. INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITS – OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2008

The Committee and Administration Officer presented a statistical analysis of Independent Custody Visiting (ICV) reports from October to December 2008 for consideration.

Resolved: That 1. the summary of custody visits to designated police stations during October to December 2008 at Appendix 1 be noted; 2. the summary of re-occurring issues at Appendix 2 be noted; 3. the analysis of custody visiting times at Appendix 3 be noted; 4. the number of custody visits undertaken by individual custody visitors at Appendix 4 be noted; 5. Custody Visitors be surveyed to ascertain their views about being named within the report.	Responsible Officer: - - - - CAO
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43/08. WORK PLAN 2008/2009

The Chief Executive presented an updated version of the Committee Work Plan for 2008/2009, which included a draft protocol on the oversight and scrutiny of Professional Standards within the Force. The Head of Professional Standards broadly welcomed the protocol but advised that the dip sampling checklist provided at Appendix 2 to the document would need to be updated to bring it in line with current regulations and local practices.

Resolved: That 1. progress with the Committee Work Plan attached at appendix 1 be noted; 2. the draft protocol on Oversight and Scrutiny of Professional Standards be approved, subject to minor amendment, and circulated to Committee members; 3. a half-day training session on dip sampling completed complaint files be arranged for members of the Committee.	Responsible Officer: - CAO HoPSD/CAO
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44/08. CONSIDERATION OF COMPLAINTS STATISTICS – OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2008

The Head of Professional Standards Department (HoPSD) gave a brief summary of the complaints statistics for the period October to December 2008. The Committee was advised of an expected rise in the number of recorded complaints compared with last year's 13% decrease, although no particular reasons for the projected increase had been identified. Members noted that the target for the number of locally resolved complaints had been exceeded. The HoPSD advised that extra guidance and training on local resolutions had been provided to officers, which had contributed to the target of 50% being exceeded.

Resolved: That <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. the report be noted;2. the Committee be provided with a statistical breakdown of recorded complaints against police officers and Police Community Support Officers for the next meeting.	Responsible Officer: - HoPSD
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45/08. FEEDBACK FROM CONFERENCES

Resolved: That <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. feedback from the Chairman and Chief Executive following attendance at conferences/training events be noted;2. all Members be re-circulated with the Conference feedback proforma.	Responsible Officer: - CAO
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46/08 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the following items involved the disclosure, or likely disclosure, of exempt information a defined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.	Responsible Officer: -
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47/08.

Resolved:	Responsible Officer:
That	
1. the Custody Visiting Scheme be amended to allow the Chief Executive (or his/her nominated representative) the power to suspend a Custody Visitor until any allegations made against them have been fully investigated by the Police and a decision made whether to charge that individual with a criminal offence;	CAO -
2. the Scheme be amended to require Visitors to notify the Authority as soon as they become aware that they are the subject of a Police investigation;	CAO
3. Visitors be re-vetted every 3 years;	CAO
4. the Committee fully support the action taken by the Chief Executive as detailed at paragraph (2.1) of the report.	-

48/08. LEARNING THE LESSONS REPORT – OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2008

Resolved:	Responsible Officer:
That	
1. the report be noted;	-
2. Appendix 1 to the report include details of any further action/monitoring required in respect of individual recommendations.	HoPSD

49/08. BREAKDOWN OF COMPLAINTS RECORDED – OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2008

Members considered a report that gave a detailed breakdown of all the complaints recorded for the quarter ending December 2008. The breakdown (by category) summarised the detail of each complaint.

Resolved:	Responsible Officer
1. That the report be noted.	-

37/08. EXAMINATION OF POLICE OFFICER COMPLAINT REGISTERS AND DIP SAMPLING OF COMPLETED COMPLAINTS FILES

Members dip sampled completed complaint files, including complaints from juveniles, performing a detailed inspection to satisfy themselves that cases had been properly and fairly dealt with. Following questions, this was confirmed in all cases.

Resolved:	Responsible Officer
1. That the complaint files be noted.	-

CHAIRMAN