



**LINCOLNSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE
24 JUNE 2009
2.00PM – 4.15PM**

PRESENT:

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

Officers: Ms D McGovern (Chief Executive), Mr N Rhodes (Deputy Chief Constable), Superintendent H Roach, Mrs A Foster (Professional Standards Department), Mr H Hunt (Deputy Chief Executive), Miss G Mason (Research and Performance Officer).

Apologies: Mr J Atter

Observer: Mr Palmer

51/08. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND/OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

None.

52/08. MINUTES – 19 MARCH 2009

Resolved:	Responsible Officer:
1. That the minutes of the meeting held on the 19 th March 2009 be taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.	-

53/08. ACTION SUMMARY

Resolved:	Responsible Officer:
1. That the Action Summary be noted. 2. That PSD and the Secretariat be commended for having completed all actions	-

54/08. POLICE AUTHORITY RISK REGISTER

Resolved:	Responsible Officer:
1. That the Risk Register be noted.	-

55/08. INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITS – JANUARY TO MARCH 2009

The Chief Executive presented a statistical analysis of Independent Custody Visiting (ICV) reports from January to March 2009 for consideration. Members raised a number of questions about the quantitative data, the reoccurring issues and the reasons why detainees were not seen. The Chairman highlighted the lack of visits between 12.01am and 2.00am and requested that efforts be made to encourage custody visitors to visit stations at this time.

Resolved:	Responsible Officer:
<p>That</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the summary of custody visits to designated police stations during January to March 2009 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. Feedback be gathered from custody staff at Skegness Police Station and from ICVs on how the self introduction pilot is working and any further good practice from other Police Authorities; 5. Further information be provided about how prisoners graffiti the cells, if they are searched beforehand; 6. Enquiries be made with regard to one cell in Boston Police Station that has been out of use for 6 months to replace the buzzer and ascertain if this has caused capacity issues or if there are too many cells; 7. In relation to Appendix 1 (Detainees Not Seen Breakdown) further explanation be given about why there were 5 detainees not offered a visit at Boston Police Station, when there were no other instances recorded in all other stations. 	<p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>CAO</p> <p>CAO</p> <p>CAO</p> <p>CAO</p>

56/08. COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

The Chief Executive presented an update on progress made against the Committee Work Plan for 2008/2009 as part of implementing APA best practice. Members noted that the Committee are compliant with the vast majority of the overarching standards. The Chief Executive provided an oral update about the Safer Detention Project and highlighted progress made against custody and mental health issues. Members noted that Dr Wookey would be attending the Finance and Strategy Committee as an observer in relation to the Force's Forensic Medical Provision.

The Committee expressed their appreciation of the progress made against the work plan.

Resolved:	Responsible Officer:
1. The progress with the Committee Work Plan attached at appendix 1 be noted.	-

57/08. CONSIDERATION OF COMPLAINTS STATISTICS – JANUARY TO MARCH 2009

The Head of Professional Standards Department (HoPSD) gave a brief summary of the complaints statistics for the period January to March 2009.

The Committee was advised of a rise in the number of allegations recorded compared with the previous period and previous year. The HoPSD explained that the IPCC had queried the rise and work was being undertaken to further understand the increase. This had to be set in the context of a 13% decrease the previous year when all other Forces had increased, and also that the PSD had taken over recording of all Direction and Control complaints that year.

Mrs Crowe hoped that the IPCC would be at the meeting, and raised a query about the number of IPCC referrals (7 out of 8 instances) that were referred back for local investigation. It was agreed that clarification be sought as to the reasons for this pattern.

Resolved:	Responsible Officer:
That 1. the report be noted; 2. the HoPSD seek clarification from the IPCC with regard to the reasons for the high number of 'local investigation' decisions on the Force's IPCC referrals and to ascertain if regional forces and Most Similar Force's are experiencing similar levels.	- HoPSD

58/08. INSPECTION OF CUSTODY SUITES

The Chief Executive introduced the report and highlighted an amendment to the suggested recommendation. The Committee noted the Police Custody Inspection Framework and the processes in place to facilitate the unannounced inspections.

Resolved: 1. That the Chief Executive and the Head of Criminal Justice and Partnership Department develop protocols for dealing with these inspections.	Responsible Officer: CE
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------

59/08. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

The HoPSD introduced the report and highlighted an amendment on page 12 of the document. The Committee noted that it was the first time that the Professional Standards Department had produced an Annual Report and this reflected the aim to proactively manage activity within the department. The HoPSD advised that the report would enable the department to address particular patterns and trends that have become apparent in the previous year. The Committee thanked the HoPSD for the excellent report, and welcomed the fact that longer term trends would be available in the future.

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

60/08 INDEPENDENT POLICE COMPLAINTS COMMISSION – LEARNING THE LESSONS BULLETIN

The Chief Executive introduced the report and highlighted the contents of the document.

Resolved: That 1. the report be noted. 2. the report be considered as a standing item at the Professional Standards Committee.	Responsible Officer: - CAO
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------

61/08 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved: 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 as defined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.	Responsible Officer: -
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------

62/08. LEARNING THE LESSONS REPORT – JANUARY TO MARCH 2009

The Head of Professional Standards introduced the report that highlighted the learning opportunities in terms of individual learning and organisational learning. The Force's position was also noted with regard to the IPCC 'Learning the Lessons'. There was discussion around a suggestion made by one of the Force's Sector Inspectors about introducing a careless driving education scheme (similar to 'speed seminars') in conjunction with the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership.

Resolved: That 1. the report be noted; 2. Dr B Wookey provide an update with regard to a suggestion about developing careless driving educational schemes with the Road Safety Partnership.	Responsible Officer: - Dr Wookey
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------

63/08. BREAKDOWN OF COMPLAINTS RECORDED – JANUARY TO MARCH 2009

Members considered a report that gave a detailed breakdown of all the complaints recorded for the quarter ending March 2009. The breakdown (by category) summarised the detail of each complaint.

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

64/08. COMPLAINTS UPDATE

Members noted progress on a number of on-going complaints.

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

65/08. 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