

Devon and Cornwall Police Authority

Minutes

A meeting of the **Standards Committee** was held on 22 April 2008 in the Conference Room, Devon and Cornwall Police Authority, Endeavour House, Woodwater Park, Exeter.

Present:

Mrs A Mayes.....Chairman

Mr M Bull, Mr B Greenslade, Mr M Harvey, Mr M Hicks, and Mr C Wallin

Officers in Attendance

Miss J Norris (Assistant Chief Executive)

SC/63 Apologies For Absence

There were no apologies for absence

SC/64 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made in respect of any items on the Agenda.

SC/65 Minutes

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- The number of Members who had received Code of Conduct training.

RESOLVED

- (i) that the minutes of the meeting held on 30 October 2007 be approved as a correct record
- (ii) that, subject to Mr M Hicks declaration of interest being amended to read that he is a member of the Isles of Scilly Council, the minutes of the special meeting held on 29 January 2008 be approved as a correct record.

SC/66 Report on South West Independent Members Group meeting - 28 March 2008

The Chairman and Mr Harvey had both attended the recent meeting and found it very useful and interesting.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- The suggested (by the SWIG meeting's guest speakers) frequency of scheduled meetings that would be required to enable assessments to be made quickly
- A new Chief Executive has been appointed at the Standards Board

RESOLVED to note the report

SC/67 Update on Standards Board Assembly 2008

The Chairman is on the Assembly Steering Group and provided an update on their work.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- The 2008 Assembly will be at the Convention Centre, Birmingham.
- Fire, Police and National Park Authorities – will have sessions aimed specifically at them

RESOLVED to note the report

SC/68 Joint Working

The Assistant Chief Executive explained that, as requested by the Committee, letters had been sent to the County, Unitary and National Park Authorities to ascertain their interest in joint working on ethical standards issues. 3 responses had been received.

RESOLVED that this item be deferred to next meeting of the Committee to allow further responses to be obtained.

SC/69 Standards Committee Best Practice /Compliance Checklist

The updated compliance checklist, based upon an Audit commission diagnostic tool was presented.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- Putting information about how to complain and the procedure on the Authority's website
- Distribution of the Standards Board Bulletin
- The need to check that all Members had signed up to the new Code adopted on 5 October 2007
- The procedure for members to sign up to the Code of Conduct on appointment and re-appointment
- Activities undertaken by the Committee which could be added into the checklist

SC/70 Case studies

The Committee read and discussed the case studies from the pilot projects on local assessment.

The meeting closed at 11.00hrs