

Devon and Cornwall Police Authority

MINUTES

A meeting of the **Standards Committee** was held on 25 April 2006 in the Conference Room, Endeavour House, Pynes Hill, Exeter starting at 10:00rs.

Present:

Chairman Mr M Harvey
Mr M Bull, Sir Simon Day, Mrs A Mayes and Mr M Nevitt.

Officers:

Miss S Henley (Secretary), Miss J Norris (Assistant Chief Executive)

SC/22 Election of Chairman

RESOLVED that **Mr Martin Harvey** be elected Chairman.

SC/23 Election of Vice-Chairman

RESOLVED that **Mrs Anne Mayes** be elected Vice-Chairman.

SC/24 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

SC/25 Declarations of Interest

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

SC/26 Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 October 2005 be confirmed as a correct record, subject to the inclusion of Sir Simon Day's attendance.

SC/27 Report on the Standards Conference for Cornwall 3 November 2005

There was a good opportunity to become more involved with members of Cornish local authorities

Issues discussed during consideration of this topic included;

- Networking opportunities with Monitoring officers and Standards Committee members in Devon & Cornwall.
- Geographical representation of membership on the Standards Committee.

RESOLVED to note the report.

SC/28 Report on Cornwall Standards Forum 6 April 2006

It is felt quite strongly that, similarly to the previous agenda item, good working relationships and networks need to be built between regional agencies particularly within Devon & Cornwall. Whilst the Police Authority does have the resources to deal with any investigations and advice in-house, the development of contacts with other Monitoring Officers within the region gives the option, in appropriate cases, to request the assistance of another authority.

RESOLVED to note the report.

SC/29 Report on South West Independent Members Group Meeting – Thornbury, 24 March 2006

Representation for this meeting stretched from the Isles of Scilly to Gloucestershire. It was felt that the last meeting although well represented by a number of organisations, was largely centred around local government issue as opposed to Police Authorities.

Issues discussed included;

- Role and training of independent members of standards committees
- Potential of future forums to be used as training opportunities
- Future Police Authority support provision to Independent Members

RESOLVED to note the report.

SC/30 Hearing Procedure Training

The Secretary updated members with the current arrangements for the Hearing Procedure Training due to take place in July.

The Assistant Chief Executive updated members with course content and also early notification of a ½ day training seminar to cover areas such as code of conduct. Details are yet to be arranged.

RESOLVED to note the report.

SC/31 Standards Committee Best Practice / Compliance Checklist

A compliance checklist for the Standards Committee has been compiled based upon an Audit Commission diagnostic tool. The checklist was presented to the committee for consideration.

Issues discussed included;

- Items 17 & 18 on the checklist involving training issues of independent members.
- Future training possibilities
- Design and Maintenance of Check List
- Raising the profile of the Standards Committee
- Maintaining robust and independent practices within the Committee

RESOLVED

- (i) To note the report.
- (ii) For the checklist to be updated regularly and presented to Committee at each meeting

The meeting closed at 11:35hrs