

**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 11 AUGUST 2009 IN THE POLICE AUTHORITY  
CONFERENCE ROOM, CONSTABULARY HEADQUARTERS, WINSFORD**

*Present:*     *Authority Members:*                     *Lay Members:*  
                  D Cargill                                     H Mawdsley  
                  E Lam                                       H Waller  
                  T Savage                                   D Willetts

*Authority Officer:*  
D Taylor, Deputy Chief Executive

1.     **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

The Deputy Chief Executive invited nominations for the appointment of Chairman and reminded the Committee that the Regulations only allowed for lay members to be appointed as Chairman.

Helen Waller was nominated and seconded. No other nominations were received.

*RESOLVED:*

That H Waller be appointed Chairman of the Committee for the forthcoming year.

(H Waller in the Chair)

2.     **MEMBERSHIP**

The Deputy Chief Executive reported on the membership of the Standards Committee following the recent changes to the lay membership.

*RESOLVED:*

That the membership of the Committee, be noted.

3.     **MINUTES**

*RESOLVED:*

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2008 be confirmed as a correct record.

4.     **REGIONAL STANDARDS TRAINING: KEY ISSUES & FEEDBACK**

The Deputy Chief Executive provided Members with feedback on the key issues raised during the regional standards training session, held in Preston on 16 June 2009. Members who had attended the session welcomed the

opportunity to share good practice with other Standards Committee members and indicated their support for holding of an annual regional training session.

*RESOLVED:* That

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) support be given for an annual regional standards training event.

## 5. ENHANCED ROLE FOR THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Deputy Chief Executive presented a series of proposals for enhancing the role of the Standards Committee and for better promoting the standards and ethics agenda amongst Members of the Authority.

It was reported that the draft proposals had been presented to Authority Members at the Discussion Day on 20 July who had indicated their support for the increased role, and that following discussion by the Committee, a report would be submitted to the Authority on 29 September 2009 to seek approval to changes to the Committee's terms of reference.

The report set out a series of changes which would give the Committee a greater role in the standards agenda including a consultation and advisory role in developing and reviewing the Authority's ethical frameworks; reviewing on an annual basis the Members expenses and allowances and any proposed changes to the scheme; the promotion of training of Authority Members on standards issues; and the monitoring of Members attendance and training. The report also set out proposals for greater promotion of the work of the Committee including inviting the Chairman to attend meetings of the Authority's Audit Committee.

Members welcomed the proposals and the opportunity to undertake a greater role on standards issues and raised a number of issues including the application of standards across the police service in Cheshire and the type of documents and policies which the Committee may be invited to review, to which the Deputy Chief Executive responded. Members were reminded that the primary role of the Committee was to ensure adherence to the Code of Conduct by Authority Members and whilst they may have an interest in the wider ethical framework in which the service operated, did not have any remit beyond Police Authority Members.

In response to a Member's query on the standards agenda and the role of the Independent Advisory Group (IAG), the Deputy Chief Executive undertook to present to the next meeting a brief report outlining the standards framework under which the members of the IAG operated.

*RESOLVED:* That

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) the proposals for enhancing the role as set out in paragraphs 7 & 8 of the report, be endorsed;

- (3) a report be presented to the Police Authority on 29 September 2009 to seek amendments to the Committee's terms of reference, to reflect the changes outlined in recommendation (2) above; and
- (4) a report be presented to the next meeting of the Committee on the standards framework under which the IAG operate.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

*RESOLVED:*

That the date of the next meeting of the Committee, scheduled for Thursday 10 December 2009 at 9.30am, be noted.

7. URGENT BUSINESS

(There were no matters of urgent business).

*Duration of meeting: The meeting commenced at 10.00am and concluded at 10.50am.*