

# UNIFORM WORKING GROUP – POCOCK STREET

TUESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2007

## MINUTES

**Present:** Chris Vale Head of Operational Support  
David Selwood Corporate Logistics Manager  
Gadge Nijjar Operational Support Project Manager  
Eddie Brand Staff Side Chairman  
Phil Bell Central/West Representative  
John Whiting North East Representative  
Allan Storrer EOC Supervisor  
Gary Banting Planning & Logistics Manager  
Ann Elliott Acting Contract & Operations Manager

**Apologies:** Tom Lynch West Representative  
Graham Chalk HEMS/MRU/CRU Manager  
Gary Edwards Staff Side Representative  
Joe Easterbrook Staff Side Representative

### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

### **2. Terms of Reference**

Chris Vale to draft

CV

### **3. Membership**

It was decided that A & E should be invited. AOM should nominate a representative. Gary Banting will represent PTS and control services. Steve Wasp will represent CBRN. Resource Centres, Fleet and Operational support should also be represented. Also the Account Manager for whoever is successful with the tender will also be invited.

### **4. Tender of Uniform Contract – Samples**

2 companies have submitted Tenders – Alexandra (the current suppliers) and Dimensions. There are 2 other Trusts involved Great Western and South Western and any other Trusts can join. Views were that there is no dramatic difference in the samples from both companies and that a user trial would be the best option to determine the better uniform. Gadge Nijjar is to organise the list of names of staff aiding with the trial by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May. These names to be supplied by Ann Elliott, Eddie Brand and John Whiting, along with sizes. There should be three names from each representative and is to include 1 female member of staff. The trials will last about 12 weeks. Good feedback is needed and an Evaluation Form should be designed.

**GN/AE  
EB/JW**

Eddie Brand asked if we were to go with a new supplier would there be any delays in supplies and was told that this should not be a problem. Something should be put into RIB asking for any comments as to any changes that need to be made with the uniform and naming the staff doing the trial.

**5. Dress Code for Uniformed Staff (including Wear & Tear Procedure and Itemised list of uniform/outfit issue)**

Attendees were asked to study the Review notes and advise Chris Vale of any changes or amendments that need to be made prior to circulation.

**ALL**

**6. Departmental Issues**

**A & E**

A& E are asking if shorts could be made available as part of the uniform as the CRU team wear them, and also if a summer fleece could be introduced so that there would be 1 heavy and 1 light fleece instead of the current 2 heavy. There should be change made to the tabards as the current issue is illegal if driving over 30 miles an hour.

**E & T**

Gary Banting commented that a First Class Service was given by Alexandra. As they are still putting trainees in Squad Suits that are subsequently destroyed, a saving could be made by getting them cleaned. David Selwood is to get a costing for the cleaning which will, obviously be in line with Infection Control Policy.

**DS**

**Support Departments**

Fleet have a new uniform of lightweight boiler suits.

Estates have high visibility jackets and fleeces.

Blue Fleece – Chris Vale to discuss with Martin Nelhams

**CV**

Make Ready – a different badge is needed for Lightbridge.

All departments are requesting the addition of baseball caps.

Ruck Sacks would replace the current holdall issued. A check of holdall stock needs to be made. Samples of Baseball Caps and Rucksacks need to be organised for the next meeting.

**GN**

It was suggested that a questionnaire be prepared for any minor changes to the uniform and something put in LAS News and RIB asking for any comments and who these comments should be directed to.

**GN**

**7. Wear and Tear Policy**

This needs to be adhered to at all times to keep spending on uniforms to a minimum. Spend last year was exceptionally high due to a recruitment drive.

**8. Dress Uniform**

It has been decided that bespoke Dress Uniforms are financially not viable.

There is stock held at Deptford for High Duty Managers and AOM's and above.

**9. Any Other Business**

When EOC staff work for different department to their normal should that departmental issue be worn i.e. HART Team.

Any new orders for Epauettes for EOC staff or special orders should come through Uniform Working Group.

All agreed that future meetings would be preferred in the Central Area every 2 months.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JULY**