

**MINUTES OF THE ANIMAL WELFARE MEETING
HELD REMOTELY ON 26th APRIL 2021 at 4:00 PM**

PRESENT: Martyn Evans – Chair - Animal Welfare Visitor (ME)
Jennifer Deasington Vice Chair – Welfare Visitor (JD)
Lisa Winnett – Animal Welfare Visitor (LW)
Gillian Hathaway – Animal Welfare Visitor (GH)
Louise Crawford - Animal Welfare Co-Ordinator, Dog Trust (LC)
Martyn Smith - Chief Inspector (MS)
Nicola Warren – Scheme Administrator, OPCC (NW)
Ceri Davis – Assistant Scheme Administrator, OPCC (CD)


The meeting commenced at 4:02 p.m.

	Notes and Actions	Action
1.	Apologies	
	Apologies for absence were received from Sergeant Julie Pearse, Caroline Herbert, Elis Park and Anthony Davies.	
2.	Minutes and Actions from Previous Meetings	
	The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record. We noted that all actions had been completed.	
3.	Scheme Update	
	NW advised us that visits could resume from May 2021 as restrictions had been reduced and the visits could be conducted outside. NW confirmed she would circulate the Risk Assessment and Operational Policy to Animal Welfare visitors again as reminder prior to restarting the visits.	NW
	JD confirmed she would produce a Rota and requested that all visitors provide their availability.	All Visitors

	<p>The visitors raised their concerns regarding the tenure dates as a number of tenures were due to expire in 2022 which meant a number of experienced Animal Welfare visitors would be leaving the scheme at the same time. NW confirmed the tenure dates would remain in place until a decision on the length of tenure could be confirmed following the Police and Crime Commissioner elections.</p> <p>The Chair requested an update on the recruitment process. NW informed us the recruitment process would commence in the coming weeks and the number of new recruits appointed would be dependent on the Commissioner's decision with regards to the length of the tenure for scheme members.</p> <p>Some members were unsure what their tenure dates were following the extension last year so NW agreed to circulate tenure dates to all members as a reminder.</p>	CD
4.	Operational Update from the Dog Section	
	<p>MS informed us the dog section had been deployed to Bristol twice in April to assist Avon and Somerset police with "Kill the Bill" protests. These were long operational days for the dogs but with great exercise opportunities available for the animals. No dogs were injured during the deployment.</p> <p>Chief Superintendent Hobrough met with PD Chucky and PD Toby to thank them for some excellent work they had been involved in which had also been shared on social media.</p> <p>MS advised us he anticipated the dogs would be deployed on mutual aid to Devon and Cornwall for the G7 summit and then in November to Glasgow for the United Nations Conference of the Parties (CoP 26) climate change conference.</p>	
5.	Chair Nomination Results	
	NW confirmed there had been a unanimous nomination for the current Chair to remain in post. ME agreed to accept the nomination this year but advised us that he would not stand as Chair in the following year to ensure other members had the opportunity.	
6.	Any Other Business	
	No other business discussed.	
7.	Date of Next Meeting	

	The next meeting will be held at 4pm, on the 19 th July 2021, to be held remotely via a Teams meeting.	
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Meeting concluded at 4:44pm

Jeff Cuthbert B.SC., MDIPD, Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent	
I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with my code of conduct. Any such interests are recorded below. The above request has my approval.	
Signed 	Date 03/06/2021

Contact Officer	
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Background papers	None

