

## **PROTECTIVE SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 22 JUNE 2010**

### **CUMBRIAN SHOOTINGS**

#### **REPORT BY CHIEF CONSTABLE AND CHIEF CONSTABLE**

##### **Introduction**

1. The President of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) Sir Hugh Orde made the following statement on 9 June 2010:

“Following the tragic events in Cumbria, as with any major incident, the public would expect that we should take steps to ensure that colleagues across the police service are made aware of the facts of what happened and of any lessons that can be learnt. These peer reviews will benefit from being led by the senior police officers who hold the professional lead in their areas of expertise across the police service in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. They are therefore uniquely placed to identify the issues going forward.”

##### **Reviews**

- 2.1 The reviews will consist of Firearms Licensing, Firearms Response, Firearms Tactics and Manual.
- 2.2 The ACPO lead on firearms licensing Assistant Chief Constable Adrian Whiting will review the file and the procedures adopted in relation to the award of a firearm licence and shotgun certificate to Mr Bird.
- 2.3 The Firearms response will be led by ACPO lead on police use of firearms Assistant Chief Constable Simon Chesterman. It will cover the response and resources available to deploy to the scene.
- 2.4 The Firearms tactics and manual will follow from the conclusion of the first two reviews and examine whether any accumulated learning should lead to changes to the ACPO firearms manual or tactics.
- 2.5 It is expected that these peer reviews will be concluded by the autumn and will be made public when available.

##### **Firearms and Licensing in Sussex**

- 3.1 The Force Firearms and Explosives Licensing Manager, Carol Pople, will attend the Protective Services Scrutiny Committee on 22 June 2010 to brief members on the position in Sussex in relation to firearms licensing and will suggest that the Authority might institute a procedure to enable a small group of members to inspect the operation of firearms licensing in Sussex.
- 3.2 The Lead Member for Rural Affairs, Mr Bob Tidy, recently visited the Firearms and Explosives Licensing Department and strongly endorses this proposal.

**Recommended** – That an inspection process be instituted in relation to firearms licensing in Sussex.

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