



Ministry
of Defence

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom

Ref: FOI2019/10608

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

14 October 2019

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 15 September 2019, requesting the following information:

“Can you please provide copies of the minutes of any meetings of the RAF Dress Committee held since 28 Nov 2016.”

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that all the information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested is enclosed, but some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemptions provided for at sections 40 (Personal Data) of the FOIA and has been redacted. Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information in order to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 1998. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact us in the first instance at the address above. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Air Command Secretariat

12 Feb 17

RAF Dress Policy SG Attendees*

RECORD OF DECISIONS OF THE FIFTH RAF DRESS POLICY STEERING GROUP HELD ON 9 FEB 17.

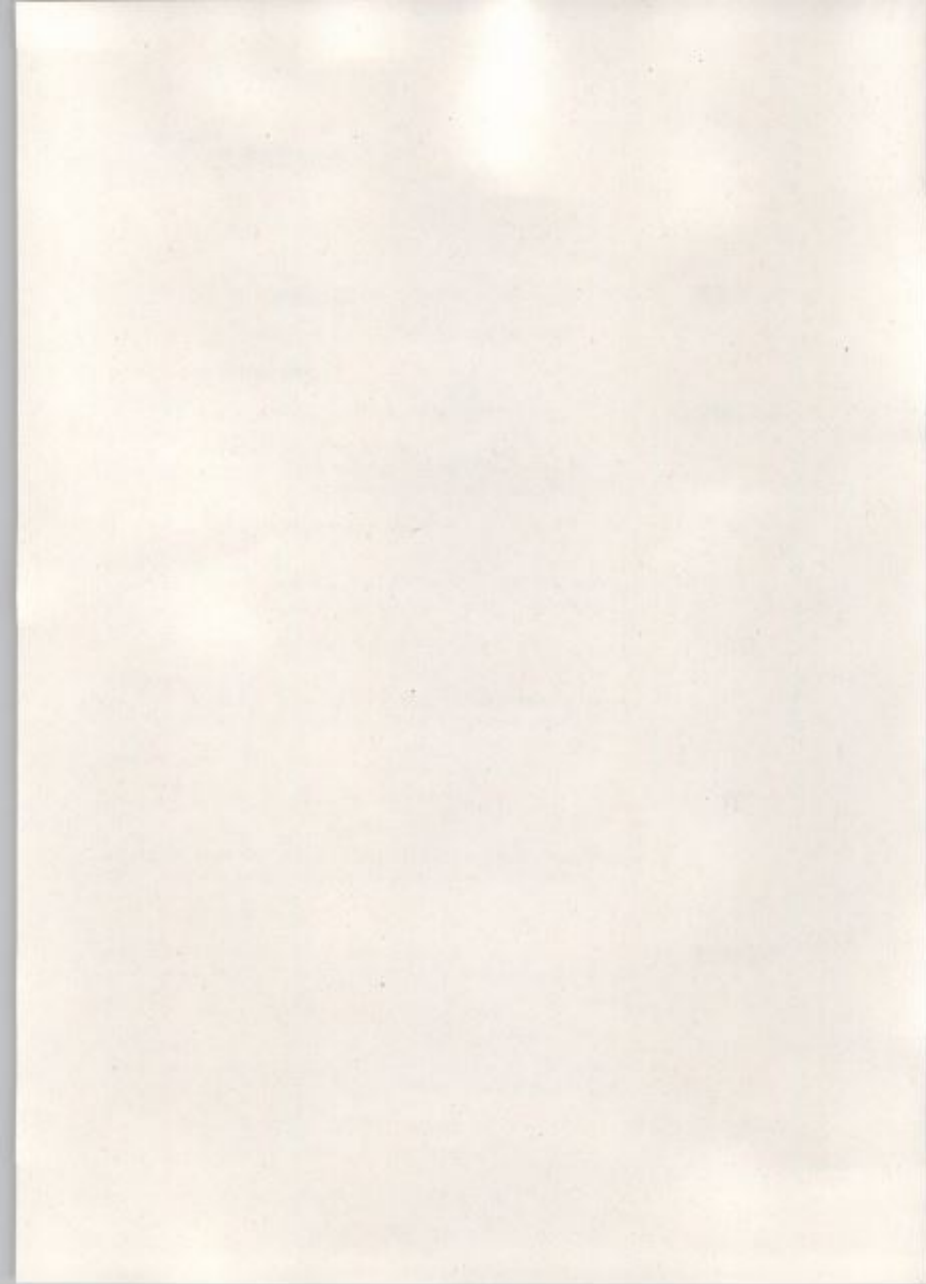
Present	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Apologies	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

	Action
<p>Item 1 - Welcome and Introduction</p> <p>1. The [REDACTED] welcomed attendees to the fifth Steering Group. The task of the SG was to consider the issues raised at the Working Group and, by supporting the underlying staffing process, either decide or direct on those issues or refer them to the RAF Dress Policy Governance Board chaired by DComCap.</p> <p>Item 2 - Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting</p> <p>2. The minutes of the last meeting were accepted and approved.</p> <p>Item 3 Matters Arising from the Last Meeting</p> <p>3. RAF Workwear Project. Foul Weather Jacket replacement contract in place with expected delivery Sep 17.</p> <p>a. Decision. Ongoing.</p> <p>4. Softshell Trial. The SG were shown the softshell replacement for the General Purpose Jacket. A trial would be conducted across a range of Service personnel.</p> <p>a. Decision. [REDACTED] was to identify trial audience. [REDACTED]</p> <p>5. Work was continuing to provide a costing estimate for court mounting of 6 or more medals at public expense.</p> <p>a. Decision. Stn Cdrs' discretion TBC.</p> <p>6. SNCQ/WO No5 SD Sustainment. [REDACTED] advised that a retrospective issue based on 1000 WO/MACR would cost £200K.</p> <p>a. Decision. [REDACTED] to investigate funding routes.</p> <p>7. Wearing of Uniform in Public (WUIP). The Internal Briefing Note was to be issued in April 17.</p>	<p>Closed</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>

	Action
a. Decision [REDACTED] to lead.	[REDACTED]
8. RAF Regt Shoulder Slides. Proposed return to the stiffened shoulder slides endorsed and awaited SUR from FP/2 Gp.	
a. [REDACTED] to monitor progress.	[REDACTED]
9. AP1358 Religious & Cultural elements. AP1358 had been amended to reflect D&I policy.	
a. Decision. Closed.	
10. Maternity Wear Project. Prototype items for the new maternity wear range were discussed with the trial underway.	
a. Decision. Trial personnel were to be selected.	[REDACTED]
11. No5 head-dress. The SG endorsed a proposal to allow local discretion regarding the wearing of hats with No5 whilst transiting to and from events with the caveat that routinely, hats should be worn.	
a. Decision. To be incorporated in the WUIP IBN.	[REDACTED]
12. RAF branded PT clothes. No funding route had been identified for expanding the provision of branded sports clothing.	
a. Decision. 22 Gp to continue Ph1 local issue.	[REDACTED]
13. Court shoes. With a contract review in 2 years (2019) the SG was asked to consider options for changes to the specification, especially regarding width and larger sizes.	
a. Decision. SG members to submit considerations early 2018.	All
14. No5 Female Trousers. The SG endorsed a proposal for the development of trousers as an option for female Mess Dress.	
a. Decision. [REDACTED] to investigate with contractor.	[REDACTED]
Item 4 – Items Referred from the last Working Group.	
15. Recognition Flash. The RAF logo Recognition Flash awaited SLT endorsement.	
a. Decision. [REDACTED] to raise with SLT.	
16. Female Chaplain Shirts. A trial was underway with interim solutions ongoing.	
a. Decision. Closed.	
Item 5 – Wider Dress Policy Matters.	
17. RAF Ceremonial proposed an amendment to AP1538 to enable 2* Full Ceremonial Day dress to be worn without medals where	

	Action
appropriate.	
a. Decision. [REDACTED] to amend AP1358 accordingly.	[REDACTED]
18. Voluntary Bands. A query regarding uniform maintenance for former SP working with RAF Voluntary Bands was redirected as A4 logistics business.	
a. Decision. Closed.	
19. Stable Belt loops on skirts. The SG recognised that tailored belt loops were an unauthorised yet accepted practice.	[REDACTED]
a. Decision. Closed.	
20. Hijab and Niqab. AP1358 was to be amended to include supporting imagery of these garments to ensure dress standards were readily observed.	
a. Decision. AP1358 to be amended.	[REDACTED]
Item 6 – AOB	
21. Parade uniformity. RAF Ceremonial clarified the intent that all SP on formal parades, when in a formed body, were to wear trousers with No1 dress.	
a. Decision. Endorsement by SLT required.	[REDACTED]
22. Parachutist and Sniper combat jacket/smock. Concerns were raised regarding the wearing of specialist garments by SP outwith the trade or qualification.	
a. Decision. AP1358 to be amended.	[REDACTED]
23. Retired Senior Officers' aiguillettes. Further to clarification from DSSec's office, Senior Officers were to adopt the RAF Type 4 (Board) aiguillette in lieu of Types 1 and 2 (Royal).	
a. Decision. Closed. Logistics matter for provision.	[REDACTED]
Item 7 – Date of Next Meeting	
20. The next meeting was to be arranged for mid-July 2017.	
a. Decision. [REDACTED] was to identify a suitable date.	[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



20 Sep 17

See Distribution

MINUTES OF THE 4th MEETING OF THE RAF CLOTHING AND DRESS POLICY STEERING GROUP (DPSG) HELD AT RAF HIGH WYCOMBE ON 20 SEP 17

Present	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Apologies	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]
<p>ITEM 1 – WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION</p> <p>1. The [REDACTED] welcomed the attendees and explained the process for ratifying items referred by the Working Group that sat earlier in the year.</p> <p>ITEM 2 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING</p> <p>2. The minutes of the last meeting were accepted and approved.</p> <p>ITEM 3 – MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING</p> <p>3. Wearing of Uniform in Public. The RAF IBN had been presented to the SLT for endorsement.</p> <p>a. Decision. [REDACTED] was asked to pursue.</p> <p>4. Wearing of head dress with No5 uniform.</p> <p>a. Decision. [REDACTED] will continue to liaise directly with Gp staffs on the shorter term solutions and draft a briefing note on the broader 'workwear' requirement that can be considered for central support funding.</p> <p>5. Utility Jersey. The AP1358 had been amended to reflect the SLT intent that jerseys were to be worn with a shirt and tie with the exception of women were wearing the blouse with the V-neck jersey. Where the CoC specified that No2 SD was to be worn then that was to be with a long sleeve shirt – on other occasions, it is permissible to don a jumper over a short sleeve shirt and add a tie. As previously discussed, consideration was required on the continued inclusion of the round neck jersey in the forms of Dress.</p> <p>a. Decision. [REDACTED] was to include the continued use of the round neck jersey on the briefing notes to D Corn Cap.</p> <p>6. Warrant Officer's SD hat. A proposal to adopt the male officer SD pattern, with WO badge for WOs was not endorsed by the WG, however, a review of the female SD hat was proposed. The SG identified that DE&S would not consider an addition to the headwear range, especially in light of the quantities required and that external sourcing would be cost prohibitive.</p> <p>a. Decision. Closed.</p> <p>7. Court Mounting of Medals. The SG endorsed the WG proposal for court mounting of medals at public expense where individuals had been awarded 6 or more.</p>			<p>Action</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>

The SG wished to examine cost implications in order to support possible proposals to the DP Board.

a. **Decision.** [REDACTED] to provide a cost estimate to SG by 30 Apr 18.

8. Other Arms Head Dress. Currently RAF personnel are not permitted to wear any other arms accoutrements but the use of RMs and Para berets were the routine within those organisations. This issue is part of the revised DIN on the Wearing of RAF Uniform and is covered at para 28.

9. ACO Embroidered badges. The use of ACO embroidered badges, vice gilt, had been previously approved.

ITEM 4 – STEERING GROUP TOPICS

10. Wet Weather Jacket. The possible conversion to an RN design (in RAF colour) of wet weather jacket to include reflective capability requires consideration by the DP Board.

a. **Decision.** [REDACTED] was to include the re-designed wet weather jacket on the briefing to the DP Board.

11. High Visibility Belts. Evidence had shown that the hi-viz belt was in airfield use and the item presented a potential FOD hazard. Current direction provided in AP1358 Ch 1 para 0128 prohibited such use and that only hi-viz jackets and vests met the required PPE regulations for high hazard areas.

a. **Decision.** Closed.

12. Wristbands. The SG approved the annual endorsement of the wearing of one Service charity wristband vide AP1358 Ch1 para 0159.

a. **Decision.** To be reviewed 2016.

13. SNCO/WO waistcoat. The SG remained undecided on the proposal to adopt a waistcoat for SNCO/WO mess dress, noting anecdotally that male officers were issued one and it was seldom worn unless directed. A cost estimate would be required and should consider the potential for withdrawing the officer waistcoat.

a. **Decision.** [REDACTED] to provide cost estimate for consideration at the DP Board.

14. SNCO/WO No5. While introduced as an initial issue from 2009, no provision for sustainment was made. The SG dismissed a tax relief plan in favour of a replacement uniform on promotion to Warrant Officer with consideration of a 'reachback' of 12 months and a minimum 3 years remaining service. Costings would be required for the DP Board to consider.

a. **Decision.** [REDACTED] to provide cost estimates for consideration by the DP Board.

15. Telecommunications Badge. The significance of the badge and the proposal to enable trade qualified WOs to wear it was determined appropriate for AMP's decision.

a. **Decision.** [REDACTED] to provide background information to support proposal to the DP Board.

16. Sniper Badge. The SG acknowledged the intensive nature of the military sniper course but did not consider itself sufficient informed enough to make a recommendation. This matter would be directed to [REDACTED] for clarification. It was noted that the RAF Marksman badge (crossed rifles) remained in clothing literature although marksmanship annotations had long been out of use. Concerns were raised about a creeping proliferation of badges.

[REDACTED]

Steering Group

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

a. **Decision.** The [REDACTED] agreed to discuss the matter with [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

17. MPGS. The SG rejected further consideration of MPGS employed at RAF units to wear RAF berets (with own cap badge) as MPGS personnel adhere to Army Dress Regulations.

Decision. Closed.

18. Greatcoat Ranking. The SG approved the use of full size rank chevrons by all personnel donning greatcoats at the direction of RAF Ceremonial. The SG recognised that development of a WO badge would be a long term project. [REDACTED]

a. **Decision.** [REDACTED] was to amend the uniform specification for greatcoat ranking and investigate the provision of an larger WO badge.

19. Pace Sticks. The SG rejected a proposal to allow the carriage of pace sticks as a 'staff of office' for NCO Discip posts, countering that every officer and NCO was responsible for Service discipline. The pace stick was for use only by QDIs in the process (or transit) of delivering drill instruction or parade preparation.

a. **Decision.** [REDACTED] was to advise the WG members.

20. Canes. The SG expressed concern that a proliferation of cane carriage was being considered for a variety of appointments and upheld the current list provided in AP1358 Ch1. The use of canes by ATC WOs was also reviewed and the SG agreed that only one appointment; that of the Commandant Air Cadets WO, would be permitted to carry a cane during their tenure. [REDACTED]

a. **Decision.** [REDACTED] to clarify when and where canes may be carried and by whom. ACO HQ to be advised. [REDACTED]

21. Summer and Winter dress dates. The SG rejected further examination of a return to seasonal dress states.

a. **Decision.** Closed.

22. RAF Reserves Insignia. The SG were advised of the anomaly within AP1358 and its subsequent correction to reflect that 'A' badges were worn on ceremonial and mess uniforms only. [REDACTED]

a. **Decision.** [REDACTED] was to amend the AP1358 accordingly.

23. Berets. The proposal to allow officers to wear berets with No2 dress was considered to have historical significance. More information was required to properly understand all the implications.

a. **Decision.** [REDACTED] was to research the full background and produce a short brief on the matter to SG members to include set of options for further consideration.

24. Hosiery. The SG were advised that nearly black hosiery was, contrary to reports, easily obtained. A proposal to permit lesser denier hosiery with No2 dress was supported. [REDACTED]

a. **Decision.** [REDACTED] was to amend the AP1358 to permit lesser denier hosiery (vice 15) with No 2 SD.

25. Clothing Range Utilisation. The SG approved the issue and use of No 2 male pattern trousers by females on grounds of fit. DMS pattern shoes could also be worn in lieu of Gibson where considered best for fit and comfort. [REDACTED]

a. **Decision.** [REDACTED] was to draft suitable amendment for inclusion in the AP1358.

26. Combat Uniform. The SG were advised that AP1358 had been amended to include direction that PCS trouser hems were to be bloused over the top of the boot using fitted draw cords or privately purchased bands.

a. **Decision.** Closed.

27. Warm Weather Clothing. The SG acknowledged that a review of warm weather clothing was in progress but that it was a low priority. The [redacted] asked whether the RAF still required a KD uniform range, prompting [redacted] to seek CAS' views on the subject. Plans to develop a lightweight No1 uniform were in progress but secondary to other ongoing projects.

a. [redacted] was to consult CAS on the matter of warm weather uniforms.

28. Wearing of Uniform IBN. The complexities surrounding the content and reinvigoration of the 2008 IBN, particularly in light of security concerns, were considered of sufficient importance to warrant an internal review and for [redacted] to raise with CAS for direction.

a. **Decision.** [redacted] was to request direction on a revised IBN from CAS.

29. Embroidered WO Badges. The SG were shown a sample of commercially available wire embroidered rank slides available as private purchase items to WOs. The [redacted] expressed concern regarding the slide colour, which [redacted] took as a task to ensure that commercial were informed of the correct pantone. The development, at the behest of CAS, of an enhanced badge for the [redacted] was discussed with particular regard to the use of the Royal Arms. The SG concluded that the proposed embellishment, a wreath, did not constitute a change to the Royal Arms badge granted by The Sovereign and that development should proceed.

a. **Decision.** [redacted] was to continue development of embroidered WO badges and a specific design for [redacted] and submit proposals to the SG members.

30. ID Cards on Uniform. The recent directive to wear ID cards has resulted in request for a modification to uniforms to allow a clear 'pocket' to facilitate their wearing. While this is technically feasible it would require a large range of differing solutions depending on the uniform type. The current use of armbands and lanyards was a more flexible solution.

a. **Decision.** Closed.

31. Future Aircrew Clothing System (FACS). The SG were issued a brief on the introduction of two distinct flying clothing modes; coverall and a two piece combat dress. The SG would need to consider the dress implications of the variations within the combat clothing system particularly headwear and certain PPE items such as kneepads.

a. **Decision.** [redacted] was to draft a revised Ch14 of AP1348 for consideration by SG members at the next meeting.

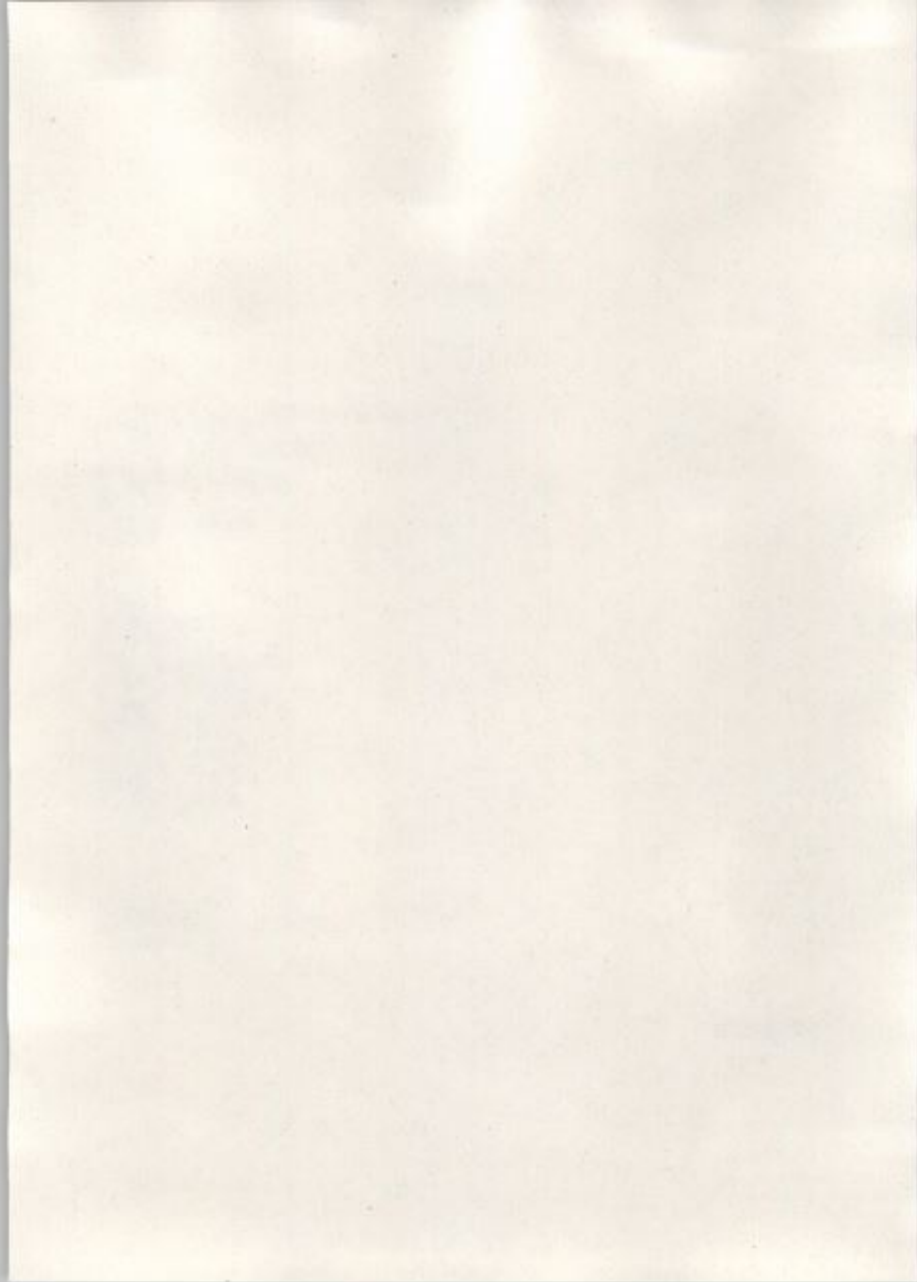
ITEM 5 - ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

32. Name Badges. The RAF Branding Guidelines contain the specifications and designs of the official RAF name badges.

ITEM 05 - DATE OF NEXT MEETING

33. The next meeting will take place after the DP WG Jun meeting at a date in mid Jul 15.

a. **Decision.** [redacted] was to determine dates for both the next

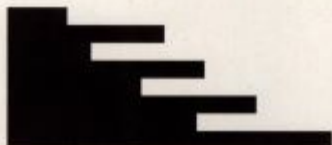


WG and SG and advise the SG members.


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ITEM 7 - RED TAPE CHALLENGE

7. A challenge to the policy regarding wearing of the issue jersey with shirt and tie was presented for SG consideration.

- a. **Decision.** [redacted] and [redacted] to raise with D Com Ops and D Com Cap. A vote of the SG showed 8 members in favour of maintaining the policy as it currently stands.

ITEM 8 - FORMATION BADGE POLICY

8. The SG endorsed a proposal that formation badges should be limited to formed units that deploy as such. Additional considerations included heraldry and heritage. SG members were asked to consider a draft policy and report back for the following meeting.

- a. **Decision.** Draft policy considerations to be presented at next meeting.

ITEM 9 - COMPOSITION OF WORKING GROUP

9. [redacted] proposed that the WG sit with the Gp and Sqn WO cadre and SMEs. No objections were raised.

ITEM 10 - ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

10. PCS Barrack Shirt. The SG acknowledged the RAF Regt intent to adopt the PCS Barrack Shirt as routine dress but that they had yet to submit a funded SUR through the A4 office.

11. [redacted] stated the intent for future SG meetings to be co-chaired by [redacted] and [redacted]. The A1 perspective on dress policy matters was considered essential.

- a. **Decision.** [redacted] to raise with [redacted]

12. Vote of thanks. The [redacted] acknowledged the contributions of [redacted] and wished him well on his departure from the Service.

ITEM 11 - DATE OF NEXT MEETING

13. The next meeting will take place after the DP WG Jun meeting at a date in mid Jul 15.

- a. **Decision.** [redacted] was to determine dates for both the next WG and SG and advise the SG members.

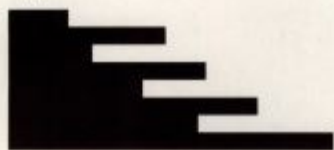
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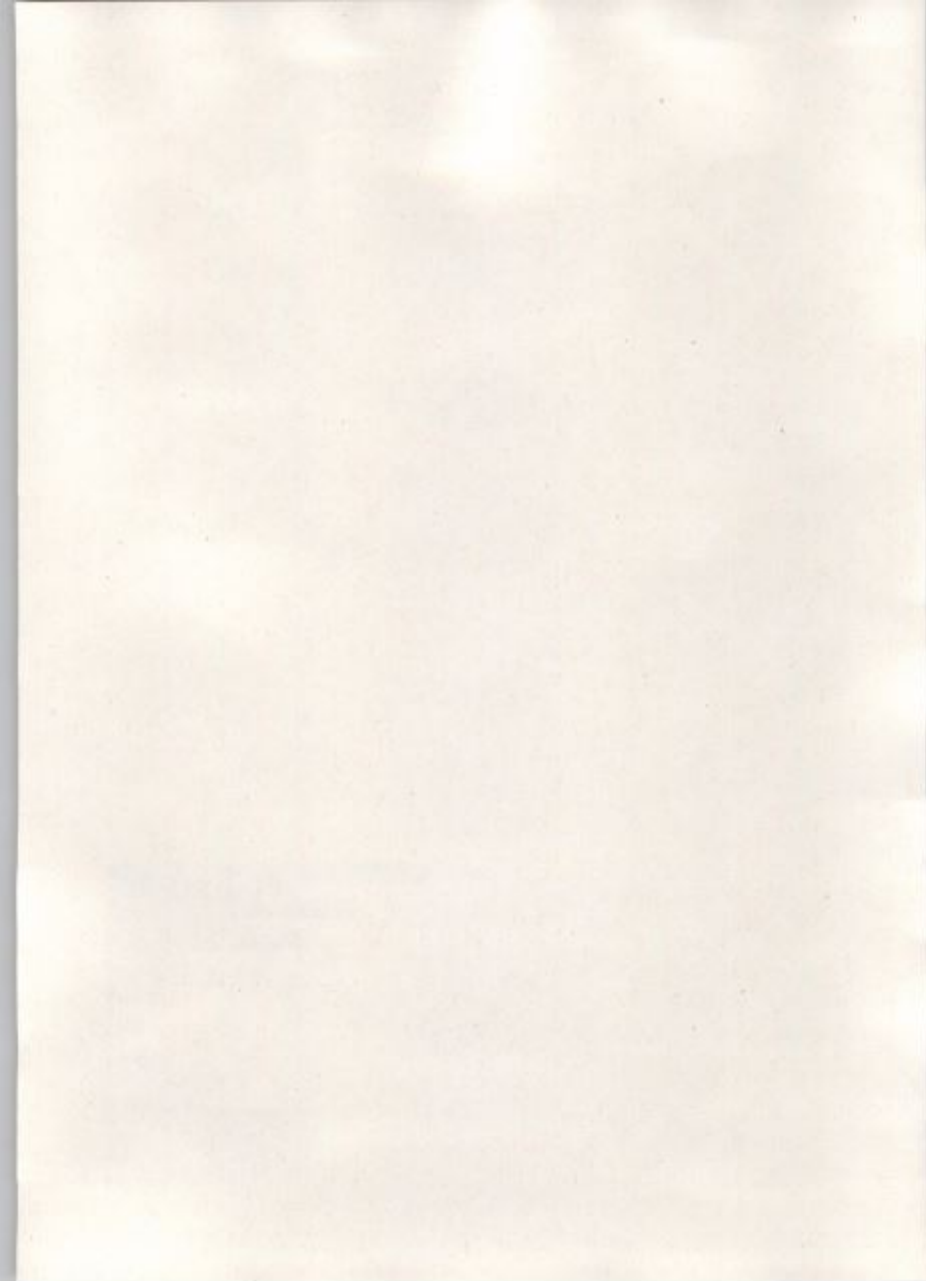
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30 Jul 18

See Distribution

MINUTES OF THE RAF CLOTHING AND DRESS POLICY WORKING GROUP (DPWG) HELD AT RAF NORTHOLT ON 25 JUL 18

Present	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
Apologies	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>ITEM 1 – WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION</p> <p>1. The [REDACTED] welcomed all to the meeting, thanked [REDACTED] Northolt for hosting the DPWG and invited all present to introduce themselves to the other attendees.</p> <p>ITEM 2 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING</p> <p>2. The minutes of the last meeting were accepted and approved.</p> <p>ITEM 3 – MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING</p> <p>3. Nil.</p> <p>ITEM 4 – AGENDA ITEMS</p> <p>4. DIO Badge. A proposal for a DIO emblem for wear on No3 dress was rejected as it was not seen to hold any SS benefit.</p> <p>a. Decision. [REDACTED] to inform originator.</p> <p>5. Telecoms Badge. The WG were advised of amendments to AP1358 to reflect the trades entitled to wear the telecommunications 'Sparks' badge.</p> <p>a. Decision. Closed.</p> <p>6. Wristbands. Charity and other wristbands not of religious significance. A request to allow the wearing of commercial 'arthritis relief' bands was rejected based on limited clinical evidence to their efficacy. A wider concern was raised regarding the widespread wearing of charity wristbands as well and the WG endorsed a proposal to remove the wearing of wristbands when in uniform. The sole exceptions would be wristbands as directed by religious direction and medical alert bracelets.</p> <p>a. Decision. SG ratification required.</p> <p>7. Name Badges. Following the introduction of corporate branding designs for SLT identity badges, the WG believed that clear direction should be issued regarding badge design and content. Three levels of badge were considered appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLT Badge - Rank and Full Name • Representational Posts - Rank and Surname or Full Name • General - Surname only 		<p>Action</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Steering Group</p>

<p>a. Decision. SG ratification required.</p>	Steering Group
<p>8. AP1358 Chapter 5 PTIs – Outdoor training establishments. AT instructors at RAF FD centres have worn non-issue outdoor clothing for several years and sought to include the dress state formally in RAF Dress Regulations. The WG endorsed the concept but asked why RAF No3A PME dress could not be incorporated and sought clarification through the [REDACTED].</p> <p>a. Decision. [REDACTED] to discuss with originator.</p>	[REDACTED]
<p>9. Removal of RAF No7 (KD). The WG endorsed the proposal to remove KD working dress as a dress mode in 2020 as it was recognised that modern fabrics were sufficiently breathable and hardwearing enough for the increased amount of laundering for which KD was developed.</p> <p>a. Decision. SG to ratify for [REDACTED] consideration.</p>	Steering Group
<p>10. Dress and Appearance - Beards. The WG were advised of a proposal to reconsider beard regulations. In line with RN Beard policy, A1 will present new policy suggestion at SLT level.</p> <p>a. Decision. No further W/SG action.</p>	[REDACTED]
<p>11. Canes. The carriage of the Warrant Officer cane/walking stick by [REDACTED] was discussed in terms of the historic precedence and the relationship between canes and OR perception. No conclusive statement was heard.</p> <p>a. Decision. Further investigation req [REDACTED] to present to SG.</p>	Steering Group
<p>12. Project Updates. [REDACTED] briefed the WG of progress regarding the ongoing review of RAF Clothing. This included; new wet weather jackets, softshell GPJ upgrade, new maternity wear, new shirts contract, the review of female footwear and proposed inclusion of a Ladies No 5 Trouser.</p> <p>a. Decision. Ongoing.</p>	[REDACTED]
ITEM 5 – AOB	
<p>13. [REDACTED] stated that he would be stepping down from DPWG attendance in favour [REDACTED].</p>	
<p>14. CAD Livery. A requirement was raised for Civil Airhead Detachment personnel to receive an additional civilian suit for duties outside RAF Northolt.</p> <p>a. Decision. [REDACTED] to contact [REDACTED].</p>	[REDACTED]
ITEM 6 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
<p>15. The next meeting will take place after the DPSG in September.</p>	[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

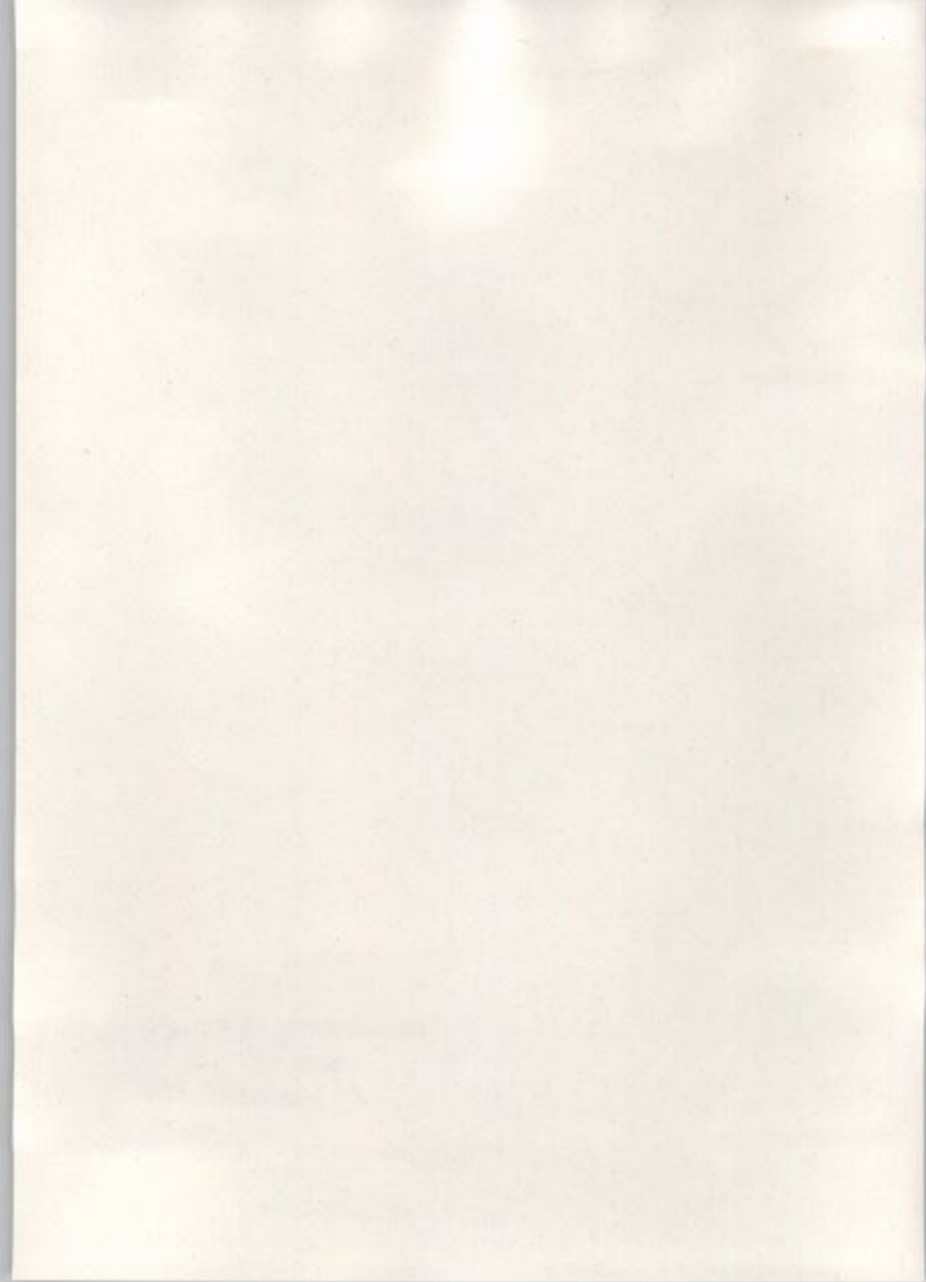
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20 Feb 19

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MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY RAF CLOTHING AND DRESS POLICY WORKING GROUP (DPWG) HELD AT RAF NORTHOLT ON 20 FEB 19

Present	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
In Attendance Apologies	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
<p>Item 1 – Welcome and Introduction</p> <p>1. The [REDACTED] welcomed the attendees to the Extraordinary Working Group (ExWG). The [REDACTED] outlined the direction from the previous Steering Group (Oct 18) and the Co-Chairs' [REDACTED] requirement for Branch and Trade engagement with the Warrant Officer cadre.</p> <p>Item 2 – Presentation</p> <p>2. [REDACTED] delivered the presentation (attached) containing the proposals for consideration.</p> <p>Item 3 – Proposals</p> <p>3. USAF Space Badge. An informal agreement with a previous [REDACTED] (unknown) had provided local approval for qualified personnel to wear another Nation's qualification badge only while at RAF Fylingdales and Buckley AFB (US). The ExWG challenged the informality of endorsement but acknowledged the rationale behind the wearing of a prestigious badge in a multi-national environment.</p> <p>a. Decision. Noting the stand-up of the UK Space Force in Summer 19, the WG were to consider retrospective permission for the badge to be worn.</p> <p>Secretary's note: 18 Apr 19 CAS authorised amendment to AP1358 to reflect that the Space Ops Badge may be worn with No2A, 2B and PCS.</p> <p>4. Branch and Trade Insignia. The ExWG recommendation was to move forward with combined Branch and Trade insignia, noting that separate badges for and within trade environments could be divisive. [REDACTED] informed the ExWG of his concerns regarding the potential delay in progress of the Eng Branch and Trade badges that had been funded and awaiting approval.</p> <p>a. Decision. [REDACTED] agreed to approach BTAs to consider the introduction of a single badge within respective ADRs.</p>			<p>Action</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>

<p>5. Qualification Badges. The ExWG saw no requirement to change or increase the current range of RAF qualification badges. All applications for future Qualification Badges should continue to follow the existing authorisation process, via [REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>a. Decision. Closed.</p>	
<p>6. Insignia for wear on shirts (No2 SD modes). A variety of metal badges depicting aircrew qualifications were viewed. A proposal to permit private purchase of the badges was not viewed favourably as potential for variations was considered significant.</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>a. Decision. SG to consider cost implications of Service Supply.</p>	
<p>7. Medal Ribbon bars for wear on shirts (No2 SD modes). The ExSG recognised that while medals were awarded there were fewer occasions where Ceremonial Dress was worn. Enabling the wearing of medal ribbon bars on No2 SD for certain events could be viewed as a positive move, especially for SP employed in International HQs. As with metal badges, the ExWG considered private purchase inappropriate.</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>a. Decision. SG to consider cost implications of Service Supply.</p>	
<p>8. Additional comments. Concerns were raised in respect of statistic values presented, along with the costs of introducing Service Supplied accoutrements as private purchase was not considered an appropriate avenue, especially if individuals were directed to purchase such items. Recruiting and retention statements were also challenged with Into Training Targets being noted as currently higher than previous years. Tailoring Contracts would also need to be considered in case of an uplift in volume. The ExWG were advised of a handover of CAS to take place in Summer 19 and that ratification of any SG endorsements would likely not occur until Autumn.</p>	
<p>Item 4 – AOB</p>	
<p>9. Nil.</p>	
<p>Item 5 – Date of Next Steering Group Meeting</p>	
<p>10. The next meeting of the Steering Group to review the proposed actions will take place during the second quarter of 2019.</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>a. Decision. [REDACTED] to advise the SG members.</p>	

[REDACTED]

Distribution:

Action:

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

