


<p>ITEM 6 POTENTIAL PROJECTS</p> <p>11. Future Outerwear. The WG was shown the RN pattern foul weather jacket to highlight the design features that could be incorporated into future RAF foul weather garments such as an integral hood and reflective material on the sleeves that enables all round visibility in low light conditions. The chair advised that RN pattern jackets would be released to RAF personnel for trial purposes. A soft-shell short jacket was also viewed as a potential replacement for the general purpose jacket. Both projects were endorsed by the DPWG.</p>	
<p>ITEM 7 BADGE APPROVALS</p> <p>12. FP Centre Badge. Not approved – query over design.</p> <p>13. DEMS Badge. The WG required an actual sample of the badge in order to ensure it conformed to current limitations.</p> <p>14. Decision. Cer & Pol to advise accordingly.</p>	<p>Cer & Pol</p>
<p>ITEM 8 AIR CADET ORGANISATION</p> <p>15. Rank Badge Rationalisation. The WG viewed designs of rank insignia for use by ACO cadets and staff featuring embroidered titles to denote the varying levels of cadet membership, as well as eliminate the FOD risk presented by the current use of 'ATC' and 'VRT' gilt badges. Endorsed in principle but samples required.</p> <p>16. Decision. ACO Logs 1b to produce sample badges of each type.</p> <p>17. RAFA Youth Wristband. The WG endorsed the wearing of the charity rubber wristband as an alternative to those already approved, subject to working environment and one such trinket at any time only.</p> <p>19. Decision. ACO Logs 1b to promulgate via AP138C.</p>	<p>ACO Logs 1b</p> <p>ACO Logs 1b</p>
<p>ITEM 9 – THREADS AND DEFECT REPORT SUMMARY</p> <p>20. Adm Spt briefed the committee in respect of trends identified from 'threads' reports received between meetings. Threads were agreed to be an outmoded medium of feedback and GC&GS would seek to bring an online facility in place.</p> <p>21. Decision. GC&GS to review.</p>	<p>Adm Spt</p>
<p>ITEM 10 – AOB</p> <p>22. WO SD Hats. GC&GS WO proposed that in line with female WOs (who wear the officer pattern hat) and ongoing rationalisation that male WOs adopt the male officer pattern Service Dress hat with cloth peak. A technical review of all service dress hats was in progress. This proposal was endorsed by the WG for consideration at Committee level.</p> <p>23. Decision. SO2 GC&GS to raise at Committee level.</p> <p>24. Court Mounting of medals. An increase in the number of medals being issued prompted a review of court mounting at public expense. RN policy states that officers and ratings with 6 or more medals are entitled to this, but RAF policy only permits for ORs of TQCS.</p> <p>25. Decision. DACOS A4 to raise matter with D Com Cap?</p> <p>26. SNCO Mess Dress. Following the introduction of initial issue to personnel</p>	<p>SO2 GC&GS</p>

<p>on promotion to Sergeant, the question was raised apropos maintenance and garment life. It was noted that officers receive a tax allowance for uniform replacement and maintenance and it was proposed that this should be extended to SNCOs in receipt of the initial issue uniform.</p> <p>27. Decision. SO2 GC&GS to investigate.</p> <p>28. Local Purchase Orders. SWO Honington raised concerns that where stock shortfalls were identified, individuals were being advised to select and purchase alternatives, with subsequent reimbursement, contrary to procurement rules. GC&GS were to investigate further and correct where appropriate.</p> <p>29. Decision. GC&GS to advise units of correct procedure.</p> <p>30. Other Arms head-dress. AP1358 prohibits the wearing of other arms accoutrements with service dress, however, the WG noted that an accepted practice was observed for personnel on the strength of 16 Air Assault Brigade and Cdo qualified personnel on the strength of Cdo Brigades (?) to don the maroon or green beret respectively.</p> <p>31. Decision. Cer & Pol to investigate and report back.</p> <p>32. Qualification Badges. SWO Hon (des) raised the matter of weapons qualification insignia worn on combat uniform, noting that the current design prohibits more than two badges per blanking plate.</p> <p>33. Decision.....?</p> <p>ITEM 12 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>34. The next meeting will take place in Jan 13?</p> <p>35. Decision. Cer & Pol to advise members accordingly.</p>	<p>SO2 GC&GS</p> <p>GC&GS</p> <p>Cer & Pol</p>
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9. Court mounting of medals. The WG unanimously agreed that the court mounting of medals for all SP should be carried out at public expense.
a. **Decision.** Steering Group to review for consideration at AFBSC level.

Steering Group

10. SNCO Mess Dress (No5). The WG were invited to consider the addition of a waistcoat to SNCO No5, returning their findings at the next sitting. The question of a maintenance allowance was raised and following discussion, the WG endorsed a proposal to issue a replacement No5, if necessary, on promotion to WO.

a. **Decision.** GC&GS to estimate cost and submit to SG for consideration.

GC&GS

ITEM 4 AGENDA ITEMS

11. A6 Force WO invited the WG to consider the wearing of the telecommunications badge (below) by trade qualified WOs. It is the Service's oldest trade badge and currently worn only by FS and below. The WG could find no modern reason to preclude the WO cadre from displaying the badge on No1 dress.

a. **Decision.** Steering Group invited to endorse proposal.

Steering Group



12. HON SWO requested that RAF Regt pers qualified as snipers and sniper instructors be permitted to wear the appropriate badge on No1 dress. The WG noted that the badge (below) would need to be produced in RAF colours and that the lead time for introducing a new badge would be lengthy. No objections were made and the RAF Regt representatives were asked to submit a statement of user requirement (SUR) to produce the new badge.

a. **Decision.** Steering Group invited to endorse proposal.

Steering Group
RAF Regt (SUR)



13. The WG addressed the matter of Military Provost Guard Service (MPGS) personnel employed at RAF units and whether they should wear RAF berets with their own cap badge.

a. **Decision.** GC&GS to conduct further investigation and report back out of committee.

GC&GS

14. Greatcoat rank badges. With the exception of QCS, the rank badges affixed to WO and OR greatcoats are the No1 style. The WG considered this to be out of step with other arms and agreed that the larger rank badges should be used on all WO/OR greatcoats. A larger WO badge would need to be produced.

a. **Decision.** GS&GS to provide cost estimate for SG consideration.

GC&GS

15. Pace sticks. HON SWO proposed that unit Discip staffs were permitted to carry a pace stick whilst carrying out their role. The WG endorsed this proposal with the caveat that only Q-DI unit Discips would be permitted to carry their pace stick routinely when not engaged in drill instructional duties and that the direction in AP1358 would remain extant for other personnel.

<p>16. Canes. Further to pace sticks, the prominence of Force WO posts raised the matter of whether the incumbents should be authorised to carry a cane as a badge of office whilst on formal visits to their respective areas. The WG aired caution that strict control would need to be exercised in order to allay confusion on units where canes were associated with the Station Warrant Officer.</p> <p>a. Decision. Cer & Pol to submit rewrite of relevant dress regulations for WG comment prior to SG ratification.</p>	<p>Cer & Pol</p>
<p>17. Summer and Winter dress dates. Withdrawn to afford individual flexibility and comfort when wearing working dress, the WG considered whether the Service should return to seasonal dress states to reinforce uniformity and coherence. As a wide impacting proposal, the WG decided that further investigation would be necessary. It was noted that Stn Cdrs may direct dress states locally.</p> <p>a. Decision. WG members to consult their respective areas and return their findings in advance of the SG.</p>	<p>All WG members</p>
<p>18. RAuxAF insignia. Cmd WO Res advised the WG that RAuxAF regulations stated that 'A' badges were only worn on No1 and No5 dress, contrary to AP1358 direction. It was accepted that AP1358 needed amending to reflect this policy as the overarching document for dress regulations.</p> <p>a. Decision. AP1358 to be amended to reflect policy change.</p>	
<p>19. Berets. The wearing of berets with No2 dress by officers was proposed. RAF Regt Officers are currently the only commissioned personnel afforded this option. No objections were raised.</p> <p>a. Decision. SG to consider.</p>	<p>Steering Group</p>
<p>20. Hosiery. The WG sought views as to the availability of Barely Black hosiery for female personnel following a small number of reports suggesting otherwise. WG female reps stated that some difficulties were encountered as not all outlets held stock, but generally, they were able to satisfy Service dress requirements.</p> <p>a. Decision. Closed.</p>	
<p>21. Combat Uniform. Corps WO asked for AP1358 to direct that the trouser hems of combat uniforms were to be bloused over the top of the boot using the fitted draw cords or privately purchased bands.</p> <p>a. Decision. Carried, amendment approved.</p>	<p>Cer & Pol (completed 10 Dec 14)</p>
<p>22. Warm Weather Uniform. The WG considered whether No7 dress was sustainable for RAF pers based in Cyprus. It was noted that a wider review of warm weather uniforms was in progress.</p> <p>a. Decision. In progress.</p>	
<p>23. Wearing of Uniform. Members were briefed on the reissue of the 2008 IBN for the wearing of uniform, reinforcing 'blue' modes of dress as the norm and addressing concerns in Joint environments.</p> <p>a. Decision. In progress.</p>	<p>GC&GS</p>
<p>24. Other Arms accoutrements. The WG noted that an accepted practice had been established whereby personnel posted to 16 AAB wore the maroon beret of airborne forces with their parent Service cap badge. Personnel who have passed the All Arms Commando Course similarly don the green Cdo beret when posted to FLEET Cdo units. These practices are contrary to RAF dress regulations, however, the WG acknowledged, particularly in the case of Cdo qualified personnel, that the matter was emotive and required review.</p> <p>a. Decision. SG to review and present findings to AFB.</p>	<p>Steering Group</p>
<p>25. Embroidered rank badges. Privately procured wire and cotton embroidered WO rank slides were noted to have gained popularity, albeit unauthorised for wear. The WG had no objection to the practice as long as a</p>	

<p>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. The SG wished to examine cost implications in order to support possible proposals to the DP Board.</p>	
<p>a. Decision. SO2 C&GS to provide a cost estimate to SG by 30 Apr 15.</p>	SO2 C&GS
<p>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.</p>	
<p>9. ACO Embroidered badges. The use of ACO embroidered badges, vice gilt, had been previously approved.</p>	
<p>ITEM 4 – STEERING GROUP TOPICS</p>	
<p>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.</p>	
<p>a. Decision. SO2 C&GS was to include the re-designed wet weather jacket on the briefing to the DP Board.</p>	SO2 C&GS
<p>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.</p>	
<p>a. Decision. Closed..</p>	
<p>12. Wristbands. The SG approved the annual endorsement of the wearing of one Service charity wristband vide AP1358 Ch1 para 0159.</p>	
<p>a. Decision. To be reviewed 2016.</p>	Steering Group
<p>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.</p>	
<p>a. Decision. SO2 C&GS to provide cost estimate for consideration at the DP Board.</p>	SO2 C&GS
<p>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.</p>	
<p>a. Decision. SO2 C&GS to provide cost estimates for consideration by the DP Board.</p>	SO2 C&GS
<p>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.</p>	

<p>a. Decision. SO3 Cer & Pol to provide background information to support proposal to the DP Board.</p> <p>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 AO FP 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.</p>	<p>SO3 Cer & Pol</p>
<p>a. Decision. The Chair agreed to discuss the matter with AO FP.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Decision. Closed.</p>	<p>Chairman</p>
<p>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.</p> <p>a. Decision. SO3 Cer & Pol was to amend the uniform specification for greatcoat ranking and investigate the provision of an larger WO badge.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>SO3 Cer & Pol</p>
<p>a. Decision. SO3 Cer & Pol was to advise the WG members.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>a. Decision. SO3 Cer and Pol to clarify when and where canes may be carried and by whom. ACO HQ to be advised.</p>	<p>SO3 Cer & Pol</p>
<p>21. Summer and Winter dress dates. The SG rejected further examination of a return to seasonal dress states.</p> <p>a. Decision. Closed.</p>	
<p>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.</p> <p>a. Decision. SO3 Cer & Pol was to amend the AP1358 accordingly.</p>	<p>SO3 Cer & Pol</p>
<p>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.</p> <p>a. Decision. SO3 Cer & Pol 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.</p>	<p>SO3 Cer & Pol</p>
<p>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..</p>	

<p>a. Decision. SO3 Cer & Pol was to amend the AP1358 to permit lesser denier hosiery (vice 15) with No 2 SD.</p>	<p>SO3 Cer & Pol</p>
<p>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.</p>	
<p>a. Decision. SO3 Cer & Pol was to draft suitable amendment for inclusion in the AP1358.</p>	<p>SO3 Cer & Pol</p>
<p>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.</p>	
<p>a. Decision. Closed.</p>	
<p>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 chair asked whether the RAF still required a KD uniform range, prompting CASWO to seek CAS' views on the subject. Plans to develop a lightweight No1 uniform were in progress but secondary to other ongoing projects.</p>	
<p>a. CASWO was to consult CAS on the matter of warm weather uniforms.</p>	<p>CASWO</p>
<p>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 CASWO to raise with CAS for direction.</p>	
<p>a. Decision. CASWO was to request direction on a revised IBN from CAS.</p>	<p>CASWO</p>
<p>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 Chair expressed concern regarding the slide colour, which C&GS 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 CASWO 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.</p>	
<p>a. Decision. SO3 Cer & Pol was to continue development of embroidered WO badges and a specific design for CASWO and submit proposals to the SG members.</p>	<p>SO3 Cer & Pol</p>
<p>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.</p>	
<p>a. Decision. Closed.</p>	
<p>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.</p>	
<p>a. Decision. SO3 Cer & Pol was to draft a revised Ch14 of AP1348 for consideration by SG members at the next meeting.</p>	<p>SO3 Cer & Pol</p>
<p>ITEM 5 - ANY OTHER BUSINESS.</p>	

<p>32 Name Badges. The RAF Branding Guidelines contain the specifications and designs of the official RAF name badges.</p> <p>ITEM 05 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>33. The next meeting will take place after the DP WG Jun meeting at a date in mid Jul 15.</p> <p>a. Decision. SO3 Cer & Pol was to determine dates for n=both the next WG and SG and advise the SG members.</p>	<p>SO3 Cer & Pol</p>
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