

# **PATROL ADJUDICATION JOINT COMMITTEE**

## **Executive Sub Committee (Wales)**

**Minutes of the Executive Sub Committee held on  
18<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at the Guildhall, Wrexham.**

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### **Present:**

Councillor Jim Jones, Carmarthenshire Council – In the Chair  
Councillor Bithell, Wrexham CBC  
Councillor Eryl Williams, Denbighshire Council

### **Also Present:**

Colin Eaketts NAW  
Caroline Sheppard, Chief Adjudicator  
Andrew Barfleet, Traffic Penalty Tribunal  
Trevor Sage, Carmarthenshire Council  
Jo Rogers, Wrexham CBC  
Steve Corell, Cardiff County Council  
Derek McEwan, Denbighshire Council  
Gwyn Hughes, Conwy Council  
Louise Hutchinson, Lead Officer, PATROL  
Miles Wallace, PATROL  
Roger Fielding, for PATROL Secretariat  
Chris Shepherd, for PATROL, Secretariat

### **EXEC WALES/09/05 Minutes**

The minutes of the inaugural meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2009 were submitted.

### **Decision**

To agree the minutes as a correct record and to authorise them to be signed by the Chair.

### **EXEC WALES/09/06**

Louise Hutchinson gave a short presentation on the role of PATROL, the operation of the England Joint Committee model, and the relationship with the Traffic Penalty Tribunal. The Sub Committee noted that 250 councils were currently participating members of the England Joint Committee with 4 million penalty notice issued annually and 12,400 appeals to adjudication. The presentation went on to spotlight the development of the Wales model, with 8 authorities currently joined members, Cardiff soon to join, and a number of other authorities planning to join by 2011.

The Sub Committee noted progress towards the appointment of welsh speaking adjudicators, the roll-out of the opportunity for on-line appeals and hearings conducted by phone, an innovation that was recommended to all the Welsh member authorities by way of leading the way in offering this type of service across the piece.

### **Decision**

1. To thank Louise for her presentation.
2. To agree that a letter be sent to all Welsh authorities describing the work that PATROL does as a means of encouraging more authorities to consider membership, and to invite authorities that are not currently members to send representatives to attend future meetings as observers by way of gaining a better perception of the benefits of membership.

### **EXEC WALES/09/07 Traffic Management Act 2004 in Wales**

Colin Eaketts outlined progress in the development of operational and statutory guidance and the timetable envisaged for the issue of these documents in final version. He shared with the Sub Committee the Welsh administration's early thinking in relation to bus lanes enforcement issues and how the views of Welsh authorities would be sought on the shaping of the most appropriate form of regulatory regime by the end of 2009, in tandem with consultation with the Executive Committee.

He also outlined current thinking around the Blue Badge scheme, including the potential to grant authorities the power of seizure in cases of misuse, indicating that the views of Welsh authorities would be canvassed about the most practical delivery mechanisms, again, the views of the Executive Sub Committee would be welcomed on this issue.

### **Decision**

To note the report and to welcome the continued progress being made.

### **EXEC WALES/09/08 Annual Report of the Adjudicator**

The Chief Adjudicator presented her annual report. The Sub Committee noted that this was the first time that the report had contained a discrete section for Wales. Whilst there were no specific case histories included in the report that related to Wales she indicated that encouraging feedback had been received from hearings and telephone appeals, and she encouraged the use of this type of hearing within the developing Welsh model.

She also highlighted on-going work in relation to the review of signs. Some radical ideas were emerging from that review which, although involving huge cost implications, had nevertheless been enthusiastically received. She emphasised the importance of ensuring that the review was not driven exclusively by the needs of the capital at the expense of rural communities, and that all interested parties were given opportunity to input their own thoughts and ideas into the process.

## **Decision**

To thank the Adjudicator for her informative and wide-ranging report; to note the new initiatives in relation to signs described, and to share her views about the importance of there being a comprehensive consultation on proposals for change that ensures that the outcomes reflect the needs of all communities.

## **EXEC WALES/09/09 Next Meeting**

Options were canvassed about the venue for the next meeting and a number of suggestions were made for a meeting in mid Wales.

## **Decision**

1. To agree that the next meeting of the Sub Committee be held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2009 commencing at 12 noon.
2. To authorise the Chair in consultation with the officers to determine the venue and to inform members accordingly.

## **Chair of the Meeting**

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