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POLICE SUPPORT STAFF COUNCIL

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**To: Clerks to Police Authorities (copy enclosed for Treasurer)
Chief Constables (copy enclosed for Force Personnel Manager)
GMB, TGWU and UNISON police staff branches**

**Forces in Scotland (for information only)
GMB, TGWU and UNISON police staff branches (for information only)**

cc: Members of the PSSC

12 June 2003

JOINT CIRCULAR No. 24

Dear Sir/Madam

PSSC REVISED HANDBOOK – CONSULTATION EXERCISE

You will be aware that the Police Support Staff Council (PSSC) set up a Handbook Review Working Group last year to oversee the revision of the terms and conditions of service handbook. It comprised members from Association Police Authorities, Association of Chief Police Officers, UNISON, GMB and T&GWU. The Working Group has spent the last 12 months working up revisions to the PSSC Handbook of Terms and Conditions of Employment in line with the terms of reference agreed by the Council in 2002.

At the full meeting of the PSSC it was jointly agreed that the attached revised draft handbook represents the best that is achievable through negotiation. Both Sides of the Council are recommending to their constituents that the revised Handbook is accepted for implementation.

The PSSC is now consulting police forces, police authorities, and trade union police branches on the revised handbook. A Joint commentary on the changes that have been made to the handbook is also attached.

The revised handbook will replace the current version with effect from 1st September 2003. As a result any reference in Police Support Staff contracts of employment to national terms and conditions arrangements will from this date be to the revised handbook. The Employers Side and Trade Union Side have agreed to consult forces, authorities and trade union police branches on the revised handbook before signing off this work. Each Side of the Council will be responsible for collecting the responses of their respective constituents by no later than 12 noon on 25 July.

Please note that the Trade Union Side has expressed a strong wish to rename the Council as the Police Staff Council. This request relates to the change in the role of their members in the context of police reform and the desire to reflect the enhanced status of their members in the title of the machinery. The Employers' Side of the Council would welcome the views of Employer Side constituents on the proposed name change

If you require any further information on this circular, please contact Emine Ali (020 7296 6746) or Graham Baird (020 7296 6722) at the Employer Side, or Ben Priestley (020 7551 1272) or Marian Jeffrey (020 7551 1549) at the Trade Union Side.

Yours faithfully

Charles Nolda
Ben Priestley

National Joint Secretaries

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