



## Minutes of the North West Branch Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 – Teams meeting

### Attendees:

Andrew Swapp – Chair  
Jenny Jones – Secretary  
Jeannie Barr – Acting Chair of the EPS- guest  
Dharmesh Nayee  
Bernard Kershaw  
Andrew Sharrock  
David Lawrence  
Ewan Hall  
Jayne Heaney  
Helen Salvini  
Mark Taylor  
Kevin Topping  
Rachel Hutchinson  
James Webster  
Sarah Riley  
Paul Goddard  
Alison Love  
Adam Patel  
Dave Dowling  
Dave Marsh  
Duncan Shaw  
Sandra Little  
Kirstie Banks-Lyon  
Mike Schofield

<p><b>1. Welcome &amp; Introductions</b> Andrew Swapp welcomed all members of the branch to the catch up meeting. He advised that due to covid pressures the branch had been unable to meet for the last 18 months but work was underway to restart branch work. AS then acknowledged the work of 3 NW branch members who have recently left the society, Mark Bartlett, Lancaster City Council, Phil Stockford, Highways Agency &amp; Martin Blackburn, Isle of Man. All 3 members have been actively involved with branch events for a number of years and AS will write to them to thank them for their support.</p> <p><b>2. National update</b> AS thanked Jeannie Barr for joining the call and asked her to provide an update on national EPS work. JB gave the following information:</p>	<p><b>Actions</b></p> <p><b>AS to write to 3 departing members</b></p>
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- Changes at Director level with some departing and some new starters , a new director recruitment will begin in January 2022 to fill any vacant posts
- Strategy day to be held in January to review the current EPS strategy and ensure it is still fit for purpose
- Huddles held over last 2 years being reviewed following feedback, may look at alternate daytime/evening sessions to try to accommodate more people
- Focus on support work in 2022 – try to re-invigorate mentoring, buddying & peer support which had to stop during covid due to work pressures
- Stress Awareness sessions to be made available from JB
- Professional Working Groups developing a programme for 2022 with published speakers & theme events.
- PWG's now involved in National Operating Committee to ensure joined up working
- Qualifications being progressed – Technical Level 4 vocational qualification being considered to cover areas that current academic qualifications don't include with topics such as the CCA and what it covers & the core competency framework
- Lots happening in 2022 – watch this space!

Bernard Kershaw passed thanks to JB for all of the PWG work recently, noting an excellent CBRN presentation which he attended.

Jayne Heaney advised that she is due to retire in 2023 and would like to offer her support to some of the national work. JB agreed to link with JH about this offer and also advised that the society would love to have a pool of people who would be willing to call on for specialist support, presentations etc, members were asked to contact JB if they felt they could assist.

AS thanked JB for her attendance & update.

### 3. Branch update

AS advised that the branch survey, which was created by Dharmesh Nayee, was recently sent to all members has received 22 responses and all were keen to re-instate branch events, however as we have a good number of members on the call today it was felt that it might be beneficial to re-send the survey and allow members a little longer to complete. DN agreed to re-activate the survey and Jenny Jones to re-send the link. Once all responses are received the executive group will meet to discuss a way forward for 2022. To ensure branch work isn't stalled why the executive committee reviews the results, AS agreed to work with Kevin Topping & a colleague in the North West Regional Organised Crime

**JH to liaise with JB**

**All to consider supporting national pool of staff**

**DN & JJ to work on re-circulating branch survey**

**AS & KT to plan Cyber event**



Unit to progress a virtual session on Cyber issues for the branch in early 2022, details will be sent out once confirmed.

**AOB**

AS thanked all for their continued support at what is still a challenging time & wished all members a safe and happy Christmas & New Year.