SOUTH WALES POLICE

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| RISK ASSESSMENT: Officers on Patrol |  | LOCATION: Forcewide  REFERENCE: SRG 48/11 |
|  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| COMPLETED BY: P.C. 1955 S. Gorwill  DATE COMPLETED: REVIEW DATE: |  | OTHER RELEVANT RISK ASSESSMENTS:  APHSA Cycling risk assessment |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Work Activity | |  | Risk |  | In | Further Action Required | |
| Ref  No | Description | Hazard | (H-M-L) | Control Measures Required | Place | By when | Person responsible |
| 1 | Preparation for  Patrol | Injury to officer because of inadequate briefing | M/H | * Assess likely risks to officers’ safety including physical risks of route, * patrol patterns, available intelligence, crime indicators, weather, time of   day, seasonal factors   * Ensure that all available relevant information is passed on to officers * Consider availability of additional resources when deploying officers taking account of information/ intelligence * Consider need for personal protective equipment (PPE) commensurate with patrol conditions expected and   ensure same is readily available   * Officers to self-declare themselves fit for current work/role and make the organisation aware of any illness or impediment(s) to their operational capability.  Officers must be current in their immunisation in accordance with Force/OHU policy * Police Officers to take responsibility for their own safety by asking questions and contributing information during briefing |  |  | Briefing Officer |
| 2 | Deployment of inappropriate officer | Injury to officer because of inadequate dissemination of information | M | * Selection of appropriate officer * Situation to be assessed and officer deployed accordingly |  |  | Supervisory Officer |
| 3  4 | Isolation communications system failure  Encountering the unknown and lack of immediate support | Injury to officer because of Communication breakdown  Injury to officer because of inadequate dissemination of information | M/H  M/H | * Be aware of location and commitment * Be aware of communications systems black spots * Officers at all times to be aware of their location * Officer to maintain regular contact. * Supervisors to consider issue of additional equipment * Follow up/ investigate any loss of contact with officer/Airwaves team * Lone working procedures * Ensure airwave batteries are charged prior to patrol * Ensure that new information is passed onto officers * Officers to be trained in assessing situations and in deciding where reinforcement is needed * Officers to inform controller before entering any potentially hazardous situations and when leaving location * Officers to continually assess situations on the ground and provide updates to Communications Room * Communications Room to disseminate updates to supervisors etc * All officers to be trained in Dynamic   Risk Assessment |  |  | Supervisory Officer  Supervisory and Individual Officer |
| 5 | Physical ill health and stress due to rigours and pressures of work | Officers becoming unwell through stressful experiences or duties | M | * Awareness training in stress symptoms to be provided to individuals * Sickness and absence reports to be monitored to identify developing health problems * Supervisors to be aware of welfare requirements * If required counselling arrangements to be offered for officers and their families. * Consider critical incident debrief * Monitor hours worked in compliance with Working Time Regulations * Wellness programme * Regular breaks |  |  | Supervisory Officer |
| 6 | Inadequate staffing Levels | Injury to Officers due to lack of personnel | M/H | * Assess likely risks to safety. * Consideration to be given to criminal intelligence and crime statistics * Identify/publish safe staffing levels * Consider the need of deploying in pairs or greater concentrations * Double crewing if intelligence dictates |  |  | Supervisory Officer |
| 7 | Hazards arising from specific location hazards  Town Centres  Remote locations  Water sites  Railway lines  Construction Sites  Landfill sites  Energy infrastructure  Airports etc. All potential vulnerable sites | Injury to Officers due to lack of local knowledge  Injury to Officers due to lack of local knowledge | M/H | Refer to local risk assessment for specific information on local sites – including information on known accident ‘black spots’. Dynamic risk assessment of changing locations / situations   * Keep a look out for vehicles in motion * Wear high visibility jacket to be seen more easily * Be aware of radio black spots, and other location hazards * ‘Time out’ procedure with control room if required * Provision of adequate safety briefing prior to deployment * Officers should patrol in pairs, whenever operational circumstances allow * All officers complete the Police Life * Saving Certificate * Throwlines supplied in vehicles * Officers should be made aware/appreciate weight/buoyancy characteristics if deployed in body armour * Contact Comms for authorisation and to confirm Network Rail permission * Officers to remain 2 metres from lines * Seek site guide / site induction if necessary * Wear hard hat * Do not enter unsafe structures * Seek site guide * Be aware of plant / vehicles in motion * Seek site guide * Contact Comms for authorisation * Seek authorisation to enter air side * Amber lights on vehicle required * Intrinsically safe radio * High vis jacket BS EN 471 Class 3 |  |  | Supervisory and Individual Officer  Supervisory and Individual Officer |
| 8 | Hazards arising from searching (not POLSA operations) –  such as wounds  from concealed weapons/sharps, hostile persons/assault, infection with BBV etc. | Injury to officer because of inadequate briefing | L/M | * Follow established searching procedures/training – e.g. quadrant technique as covered in OST for people, vehicles, buildings/enclosed structures and open areas * Prior to searching a person, adopt position of control and test compliance.  Ask to empty pockets. Make correct use of ‘search wand’ if available and/or run over with pen, Maglite or Ampelprobe, with gloved hand, scrimp the clothing * Search wand and/or Ampleprobe should be carried in marked vehicle |  |  | Briefing and Individual Officer |
| 9 | Dealing with actual and potentially violent confrontations | Injury to Officers due to inadequate training | H | * Whenever possible before tackling offenders, especially in crowds, officer to : * Assess danger to self and consider all options, including withdrawal (dynamic assessment) * To report situations to controller and where necessary await * reinforcements before tackling offenders * Issue, use and inspection of appropriate PPE   Officers to be trained in:   * Diffusing potentially violent situations * Officer Safety Techniques * Firearms and knife awareness * Tactical communication and mental health awareness * Use and limitations of Personal   Protective equipment (PPE)   * Officers issued with personal first aid kits |  |  | Supervisory and Individual Officer |
| 10 | Health Hazards –  Infestation e.g. Lice | Officers becoming infested with lice or similar | L/M | * Awareness training in infestation * Limit physical contact with prisoners and other likely carriers * Provision of protective clothing where necessary * Delousing facilities, showers and consider changes of clean clothing to be available for prisoners in custody * Apply good hygiene practice including use of disposable gloves |  |  | Supervisory and Individual Officer |
| 11  12 | Health hazards –  communicable diseases e.g. Infection – hepatitis, HIV or other communicable disease  Detaining suspect for transport | Officers becoming infected with a communicable disease  Officers becoming injured due to failing to follow approved restraint techniques or not being trained in it. | M/H  M/H | * Arrangements for laundry/ clean of clothing & equipment * Provide awareness training in operational and universal precautions and on how to avoid contact with * body fluids * Consider use of search retrieval tool ampel probes & Needlestick gloves) when searching persons, clothing or belongings * Refrain from putting hands in * suspects pockets where needles may be present * Safe packaging and labelling of confiscated items * Avoid contact with body fluids and avoid being bitten * Follow good hygiene practice, cover cuts and wash hands after task * Officers to be vaccinated and be reimbursed through by the force * Seek medical advice following needlestick injury or direct contact with body fluids * Provision of inoculations   Arrangements to be in place for:   * Testing and treatment * Counselling of officers and their families * Application of OST techniques * Officer trained to apply principles of moving and handling * Suitability of vehicles to be considered |  |  | Supervisory and individual officer  Supervisory and individual officer |
| 13 | Working / patrolling on or near uneven ground, slippery surfaces,  slopes, changes in level etc. | Officers becoming injured due to slips, trips or falls | L/M | * Appropriate footwear to be worn * Officers to proceed with caution; be aware of changes in surfaces and/or weather conditions.  Carry torch if * required * Cease running pursuits if conditions are not safe (dynamic risk assessment) |  |  | Individual Officer |
| 14 | Climbing fences, walls and gates | Officers becoming injured due to slips, trips or falls | L/M | * Officers to assess the risk of danger to oneself, taking into account the dimensions/construction of wall, fence or gate and the ground on the other side |  |  | Individual Officer |
| 15 | Hazards arising from forced  entry i.e. manual  handling (enforcer), broken glass, wood splinters, hostile persons/animals, restricted workspace etc | Injury to Officers because of inadequate dissemination of information, or untrained Officers  Injury to Officers because of inadequate dissemination of information, or untrained Officers | M | * Where operational circumstances allow only MOE-trained officers should be involved in forced entry in accordance with policy * Provision and correct use of protective equipment * Local risk assessment to address hazards and other issues relating to particular entry location * For all pre-planned operations, refer to MOE Risk Assessment * It is accepted that officers in their operational roles can be required to make spontaneous forced entries to premises, primarily for the protection of life and property.  However, in taking this action the risks to officers, staff and public may outweigh the risk(s) to the occupant, and it may be advisable to request and await appropriately trained and equipped staff (i.e. MOE Officer or Fire Brigade).   Officers should also consider: -   * Availability of keys from neighbours and/or sheltered accommodation warden etc. * Alternative means to affect an entry * Use of the extendible baton/Casco to force entry should only be made as a last resort, in these circumstances officers must: * Stand clear/to one-side of any glass to be broken * Shield the eyes from flying glass * Wear leather patrol gloves and arm protection (i.e. wrap something around the arm) * Following use in these circumstances the baton must be inspected for damage and/or glass residue.  If such damage or contamination is present the baton must be taken out of service until repaired/replaced |  |  | Supervisory Officer  Supervisory Officer |
| 16 | Potential fire from leaking fuel. | Injury to Officers or Members of the public | M/H | * No-smoking embargo at location * Ensure all vehicle ignitions are switched off where possible * Eliminate other potential sources of fuel ignition * Illuminate scene where necessary * If vehicle on fire withdraw from vicinity * & officer not to place themselves at unnecessary risk |  |  | Individual Officer |
| 17 | Broken glass or jagged edges from damaged vehicles | Injury to Officers due to failure to wear correct P.P.E. | M | * Uniform gloves to be worn where appropriate |  |  | Individual Officer |
| 18 | Driver /  passenger air-bags | Injury to Officers due to failure to be aware of actual or potential dangers | M | * Unless essential, avoid being in close proximity of un-activated air-bags |  |  | Individual Officer |
| 19 | Movement of vehicle | Injury to Officers due to failure to be aware of actual or potential dangers | M/H | * Assess stability and safety of vehicle and load before taking action * Consider assistance from other services |  |  | Individual Officer |
| 20  21 | Potential RTC whilst transporting children  Potential RTC whilst transporting children (Cont.)  Vehicle stop checks  Struck by vehicle – speed  enforcement (on foot) | Injury to Officers or others due to failure to comply to regulations  Injury to Officers or others due to failure to comply to regulations  Injury to Officers due to failure to adhere to safety regulations | M/H  M/H  M/H | * As a general rule children should not be transported in police vehicles unless absolutely necessary (*i.e. to move them from a place of danger to a place of safety*). * Should there be no option but to move the child the following measures should always be considered: -  1. Use of Social Services or a specialist contractor. 2. The child’s parents/guardian should be invited to use their own vehicle or fit their own restraint mechanism (e.g. child/booster seat), appropriate to the child’s age and weight, in the police vehicle. (*Rear facing baby seats must not be used in a seat protected by a frontal air-bag unless it has been deactivated*).  * Where the above are not practicable (e.g. in an emergency situation) the officer/driver should carry out a dynamic risk assessment balancing the risk of transporting a child under 12 against leaving them in the present location.  If a decision to move a child under 12 is made, they may be moved only as far as the nearest place of safety this must be carried out in the safest way possible i.e.:  1. Children over 3-years of age must travel in the rear seat, be restrained by an adult seat belt and be accompanied by an adult. 2. In the case of children under the age of 3-years the parent/guardian should ravel in the rear of the car using a eat belt and holding the child on their lap.  (*The child should not be restrained using an adult seat belt nor should a seat belt be used for more than one person*). 3. The vehicle must not be driven in response or pursuit mode whilst carrying children and general requirements of the Road Traffic Act must be complied with.  * Refer to force policy for further information * Selection of a safe and suitable identified enforcement site. Only in well lit areas (at night) * Provision and correct use of reflective clothing (conforming to EN 471 Class 3) * Signal to stop from footpath/verge. * Give early signals; ensure driver has clear view of you.  Consider alternatives to stopping (e.g. alternative technology).  Ask driver to display hazard warning lights.  Invite driver to safe areas out of vehicle – alternative is to talk to driver through passenger window * Adherence to Force speed enforcement policy and procedure |  |  | Individual Officer  Individual Officer  Individual Officer |
| 22 | Manual Handling | Injury due to inadequate training or failure to comply | L/M | * Refer to APHSA Manual Handling risk assessment |  |  | Supervisory and Individual Officer |
| 23 | Dealing with dogs | Injury to Officers due to Dog Bites | M | * Consider dog handler, RSPCA  or local authority * Consider use of PPE such as gauntlets, dog shield, hand held dog scaring device * If it is necessary to seize a dog, the first action must be to confine and contain the dog * Bring any vehicle being used as close to the dog as possible, before trapping the dog * Consider the demeanour of the dog and consider use of dog graspers * Exercise particular caution to tethered dogs as they are likely to be more aggressive * If the dog is considered to be dangerous, request assistance and guidance of Police dog handler who has wide range of PPE available |  |  | Individual Officer |
| 24 | Zoonotic diseases from contact with dogs and kennels | Injury to Officers due to contact or being bitten by dogs | M | * Tetanus vaccinations to be administered to any person bitten by a dog * Always wash hands after contact with dogs or kennels |  |  | Individual Officer |
| 25 | Handling of firearms -  Accidental discharge of firearm | Injury to Officers or members of the public due to accidental discharge of firearm | M/H | * Firearms awareness training to be given to all Police Officers * Weapon to be made safe as soon as possible by Authorised Firearms Officer * All firearms to be stored in secure place * Firearms only to be handled by Police * Officers (or trained Police Staff) |  |  | Supervisory and Individual Officer |
| 26 | Entering sites/premises of other agencies / organisations -  Exposure to  unknown hazards | Injury to Officers because of inadequate dissemination of information or failure to wear appropriate P.P.E. | M/H | * First point of contact to be official reception, site office or equivalent * Brief site safety induction to be given to officers * Cognisance to be taken of all hazard warning signs unless exceptional circumstances prevail * Appropriate PPE to be worn as necessary |  |  | Briefing Officer and Individual Officer |
| 27  28 | Hazards arising from lone working Definition of Lone Working -  “An individual  working on their own in a potentially vulnerable / at- risk location where there is likely to be an absence of immediate aid.  It is required by the job, task-driven  and authorised by the line manager”.  Exposure to hazardous substances  (including spillages, abandoned containers, drugs, forensic chemicals,  burning vehicles and/or premises) | Injury to Officer due to being overpowered by numerous assailants.  Injury to Officers through exposure or ingress of hazardous chemicals | H  H | Supervisor to consider dual patrols/double-crewing subject to information/intelligence  •     5Provisions and correct use of communications equipment (as above at 1f) and access to back up  if/when required.  Correct use of radio procedure, ‘time out’ and updating control room  •     Provision of training and PPE  •     Officers to carry out dynamic risk assessment in accordance with officer safety training, terminate isolation if circumstances demand and report upon return to police station  •     The onus for advising that an individual is to lone work lies with the individual, who should advise their line manager  •     Upon notification, the line manager will:  Assess personal suitability for lone working, taking into account experience, trust and health matters  ii) If personal suitability is OK, provide a briefing upon local arrangements  (e.g. how to raise alarm, security requirements, where to park, fire arrangements, arrangements for regular contact with Comms)  iii) Consider appointing an additional person to work, or suspend task if risk is assessed  as too high.   * For spillages/abandoned containers - Identify the substance if possible by looking for hazard warning symbols, UN codes.  Contact control room, seek information from Comms * For drugs – always wear gloves and mask when handling or working in confined space.  Bag, seal and remove to property store for retention or disposal by authorised contractor * Forensic chemicals – avoid contact by allowing SOCO to do their work. Afterwards, mark with warning sticker, bag if necessary * Burning vehicles and/or premises - summon fire and rescue service and any other back-up required. * Withdraw to safe distance and secure the area * Partnership working |  |  | Supervisory Officer  Individual Officer |
| 29 | Hazards arising from work at height including falls, falling objects etc. from working at  height – pursuit,  surveillance, negotiator etc | Injury to Officers due to slips, trips or falls | M/H | * Avoid working at height if at all possible. * Where this is unavoidable proceed with extreme caution taking note of any warning signs (do not proceed if signed fragile roof) beware of roof openings (i.e. sky-lights etc.) and make appropriate use of edge protection provided * Consider use of specialist assistance as appropriate such as rope entry team, firearms abseil trained personnel etc. * Provision and correct use of head protection where there is potential for falling objects from overhead structures |  |  | Supervisory and Individual Officer |
| 30 | Hazards arising from work in a confined space Such areas can include: -  sewers, culverts,  industrial chemical tanks, basements and even grain silos found farms. Some confined spaces may also be subject to additional hazards in the  event of adverse weather conditions (flooding) and nearby chemical spills (traffic accidents where vehicles  containing  chemicals are involved and spills run into  road drains etc). - lack of oxygen, explosion, poisonous gases and water, sewage, chemicals, hot materials etc. | Injury to Officers by failing to follow Force guidelines regarding working in confined spaces | M/H | Definition: “A workplace where there is the potential for dangerous fumes or lack of oxygen, which is not effectively controlled by natural or mechanical ventilation; difficult access and egress may also be a significant risk’   * Advice and assistance should be sought from the Specialist Search and Rescue Team * There is no expectation on any officer to enter a confined space and this is considered a ‘high risk’ activity * Risk assessment and permit to work |  |  | Individual Officer |
| 31 | Hazards arising from the need to approach a landed  helicopter or other aircraft | Injury to Officers from the actual or potential hazards in or around aircraft | H | * A helicopter or aircraft with engines running or anti-collision light flashing (normally a red beacon light on tail or belly of aircraft, sometimes a strobe light – indicating engines are about to start up) should not be approached * Specialist advice should be sought from Air Support * Officers should attract the pilot’s attention and signal that they require him/her to shut down by standing in a position where they can be easily seen but away from the danger area (rotors/props/jet engine intakes and exhausts) – ideally at the front * Operations after dark require a torch to attract the pilot’s attention – approaching an aircraft after dark in an unlit area should be avoided at all times |  |  | Individual Officer |
| 32 | Decomposing  Bodies  Recovery and handling of dead body -  Unknown hazards  Infection from body fluids and air-borne pathogens | Officers becoming infected from the handling of dead bodies | H | * Cordon area * Seek assistance from undertakers in first instance if recovering a body * Awareness training on hygiene and precautions against infectious diseases * Minimise handling * Provision and correct use of appropriate (Impervious) PPE * Body to be transferred as soon as possible into leak-proof body bag * Establish a safe clean down procedure for equipment and personnel * Ensure that sufficient personnel are available * Provision and correct use of appropriate equipment e.g. stretchers, trolleys etc. * Provide Manual Handling training * Carry out a manual handling risk assessment where appropriate |  |  | Individual Officer |
| 33  34 | Bomb Factory  Unplanned discovery of suspected bomb making materials  Attendance at pre planned operation  Weather  Inclement  Sun Burn | Injury to Officer/s from potential explosions  Officers becoming unwell due to exposure to the extremities of weather | H  M | * If on arrival at a premises an officer suspects that there is evidence of a bomb factory the following action should be considered: * Secure premises and remove persons present (support of other resources may be required) * Contact Comms. * Use of  radio/phone  should be made from a minimum of 15 metres from the premises * A suitable cordon should be set up from the premises concerned * On no account touch/move any item, obtain information/description of items and report to Control Room * Any pre planned operation will be in conjunction with Counter Terrorism, with a full operational briefing/risk assessment and deployment of resources as appropriate   Provision and use of wet weather  clothing  • Skin protection in hot sunny weather  – officers to consider covering skin and/or using own sun screen  • To avoid dehydration drink sufficient fluids |  |  | Supervisory and Individual Officer  Individual Officer |
| 35 | Attendance at scenes of fires - fire, smoke, falling or exploding objects | Risk of injuries and / or ill health caused by inadequate and / or inappropriate arrangements to minimise the hazards associated with attendance at Fire and Arson Incidents e.g burns or the effects of smoke inhalation. | M/H | * Attend scene and assess risk to * officers and public * Await assistance from fire service and other officers * Follow lead of partnership agency * Ensure fire and rescue services are summoned FCC. * Create a suitable safety cordon. * Gather information of persons trapped or not accounted for. Gather information on location of fire and other details. * Stay up wind if possible (cement / asbestos dust). * Liaise with fire and rescue service Incident Commander prior to scene examination (CSI’s, CID etc) regarding scene hazards and take appropriate measures accordingly |  |  | Individual Officer |
| 36 | Exposure to traumatic  experience (e.g. RTC, suicide, death of child) | Welfare issues | M/H | * Post-incident defusing by supervisor Informal discussions on shift, monitor team spirit and facilitate mutual support. * Provision of information, instruction and training for supervisors * Initiate Trauma Risk Management process * Access and referral to psychological support from Occupational Health * Line managers to risk assess incident exposures, which may result in a requirement for psychological monitoring for vulnerable groups |  |  | Supervisory Officer |
| 37 | Hazards from cycling | Injuries relating to cycling | L/M | * Refer to APHSA Cycling risk assessment   . |  |  | Individual Officer |
| 39 | Chemical or Detergent Suicide Incidents. | Risk of injuries and / or ill health caused by inadequate and / or inappropriate arrangements to minimise the hazards associated with exposure to harmful chemicals | M/H | * Refer to permanent operational order. * Contact FCC and confirm suspicion of detergent suicide * Undertake dynamic risk assessment * Do not enter if suspicious odour (rotten eggs or similar) * Confirm warning notices displayed to responders * Confirm sealing tape around windows, doors, vents * In vehicles check for hose pipe and open containers * Confirm safe RVP – up wind – SAD CHALET * Ensure no persons enter building or vehicles * Evacuate the vicinity and create suitable safety cordon |  |  | Supervisory and Individual Officer |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Signature of assessor:  Name and rank:  Date: |  | Signature of head of division/department:  scanrlewis120110Name and Rank: ACC Richard Lewis  Date: 20th May 2015 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Signature of force health and safety advisor:  Name:  Date: |  |