

Classification **PUBLIC**

Meeting **October 11th, 2011**

Agenda Item **Monitoring Report:
Treatment of Residents and Visitors**



Recommended Motion:

THAT the Board finds that all provisions of the *Treatment of Residents and Visitors* report have been complied with.

Treatment of Residents and Visitors

I hereby submit my monitoring report on your Executive Limitations Policy, “Treatment of Residents and Visitors” according to the schedule set out. This is the second monitoring report for this category in 2011. I certify that the information contained in this report is true.

Signed: _____
Chief of Police

Date: _____

BROADEST POLICY PROVISION:

“With respect to interactions with residents and visitors to Durham region, the Chief of Police will not cause or allow conditions, procedures, or decisions that are unnecessarily unsafe, undignified or intrusive for anyone.”

Interpretation of the Chief of Police:

It is my interpretation of this Policy Provision that it is in fact broad based and does speak to issues not necessarily covered in the specific policies set out below. This policy in fact would encompass core values, the need to treat everyone with dignity and respect. It is my further interpretation that our members are authorized by the law to conduct activities such as the Use of Force that are necessary in the performance of our duty and to accomplish ends. Therefore use of those authorized tactics is “necessary” and does not contravene this policy.

Data Support:

Many of our documents reflect these values and they are talked about and discussed with our members. These would include our Vision, Oaths of Membership, Annual Report, and Business Plan and so on. In addition to those items, our directives are relative to police operations and current to the state of the law with respect to searching of persons and other tactics that police officers employ that otherwise might be considered to violate the spirit of this policy. These are supplemented by Information Technology systems in place to keep our information secure.

Policy Provision #1

“Further, without limiting the scope of the foregoing by the enumeration, the Chief of Police will not:

1. “Elicit information for which there is no clear necessity.”

Interpretation of the Chief of Police:

It is my interpretation of this policy that it applies to the collection of information from residents and visitors in all transactions conducted by the Durham Regional Police Service. It is my further interpretation that information elicited by members and the Service as a whole in carrying out our duties pursuant to the Police Services Act specifically and all other statutes generally, is deemed to be necessary.

Data Support:

Officers can only make enquiries concerning bona fide police functions. Information collected is recorded in appropriate documentation for which there is a monitoring process to ensure standards are achieved when collecting information. Legislation such as the Youth Criminal Justice Act, Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, case law regarding disclosure, Adequacy Standards under the Police Services Act, Service directives, CPIC by-laws, Nuclear Safety and Liability Act and the record retention by-law all ensure that data is treated with the requisite degree of security required. Pursuant to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act all non-law enforcement documentation collecting personal information contains a “Notice of Collection” indicating the purpose and legislated authority

There was 1 public complaint pertaining to improper information collection served during 2011. The complaint was classified as service and is still under investigation.

Therefore, I report compliance with this provision.

Policy Provision #2

2. *“Use methods of collecting, reviewing, transmitting or storing information that fail to protect against improper access to the material elicited.”*

Interpretation of the Chief of Police:

It is my interpretation of this policy that the Durham Regional Police Service complies with the provisions of all statutes governing this area, including but not limited to the Board’s Records Retention By-law as established under the authority of the Municipal Act, CPIC By-Laws, Nuclear Safety and Liability Act and the requirements of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA). That further, the police service will afford all methods available to ensure the integrity of the storing of said information is safeguarded.

Data Support:

As of August 31, 2011 the Service has received 20,810 Criminal Information Requests. This number is in line with the statistics of the previous year. There have been 969 Freedom of Information Requests made between January 1 and August 31, 2011. To date one privacy complaint has been filed against the Service. The argument was made that the subject records fall outside of the scope of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Upon review, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner/Ontario agreed with this argument and closed the file.

In August 2011 the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services conducted a comprehensive Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) audit on the DRPS. The DRPS maintains over 30,500 entries on CPIC and the audit consisted of a review of 200 sample records. The DRPS had a .5% invalid Record Rate (any record where information is not supported by the police file, any record containing incorrect information that results in an erroneous "Hit" or "No Hit", or any record that has not been authorized such as a Special Interest Police or Surveillance record), an improvement from the 1.5% rate in the 2004 audit.

All members of the DRPS are required to take an Oath of Secrecy. CPIC access standards, password protection and strict operating procedures surround the release and access to confidential information including data related to the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

Periodic audits continue to be conducted on police information systems such as the Virtual Mobile Data Terminals (VMDT), Media One, E-parade, and Microsoft Outlook to ensure the content is professional and appropriate and does not contravene any legislation.

Personal information gathered for non-law enforcement purposes, such as Criminal Information Request (CIR) applications, is permitted as long as a ‘Notice of Collection’ is included on the form so that the individual providing the information is aware of the purpose and legislated authority for the collection of their personal information. The DRPS has a ‘Notice of Collection’ on all non-law enforcement forms used to collect personal information.

Personal information collected by Human Resources regarding employment with the Service is not covered by MFIPPA and is therefore not *required* to have a ‘Notice of Collection’ included, however, in keeping with the spirit of the privacy legislation the DRPS has included this information on the Notice to Collect Personal Information form, completed by all potential employees.

The release of information, whether it is through an FOI request or a routine release to an outside agency, is carefully monitored through the Information Release and Privacy Coordinator.

Transmission of information is done through various mediums, including CPIC, fax, e-mails and post/courier. The DRPS has a number of Directives covering these methods: Internet Use by Police Service Members; CPIC – Security, Capabilities and Use; and Records Management/Request for Officer Interview.

Therefore, I report compliance with this provision.

Policy Provision # 3

3. *“Fail to operate facilities with appropriate accessibility, privacy, and safety for residents and visitors to Durham Region.”*

Interpretation of the Chief of Police:

It is my interpretation of the policy that our facilities are to meet Ontario Building Code requirements, Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act requirements, and further to provide ease of use and a sense of comfort, safety and well being to our customers.

Data Support:

Our buildings, generally, are in good condition and meet the requirements that would provide for appropriate accessibility, privacy and safety.

Services available in each Division (during open hours):

- Criminal Information Requests
- Freedom of Information Requests
- Incident Reports
- Property Reports
- Accident Reports
- Vehicle Release
- Public Complaints
- General Inquiries

The following was reported on in my May report and remains current.

Open to the Public

Central East Division in Oshawa and West Division serving Ajax and Pickering continue to provide full time public access. Central West Division in Whitby is open to the public weekdays from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. East Division in Bowmanville is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. while North Division in Port Perry is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m... The Regional Reporting Centre, 650 Rossland Road East, Whitby is open seven days per week from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. providing Incident, Property Reports and answering general inquiries. Collision reports can be taken at the Collision Reporting Centre at this location from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends.

Emergency telephones that ring directly to Communications/911 are located at the three Divisional buildings which are not open 24 hours, and also at the Regional Reporting Centre and our four Community Police Offices (Beaverton, Uxbridge, Courtice and South Oshawa).

Criminal Information Requests

The Criminal Information Request Unit offers their services including while you wait processing and digital fingerprinting as required to the public weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. We also keep the public up to date with the expected response time for these documents by posting notices at each station and updating our external web site on a weekly basis. The Regional Headquarters facility is open weekdays from 08:30 to 16:30 for Criminal Information Requests and Freedom of Information requests.

Accessibility

All Divisions, Community Policing Centres and the Regional Reporting Centre have barrier free public access. East Division currently has poor accessibility but will be remedied when the new East Division is open in 2014. The Uxbridge Community Police Office does not have a lobby with directly accessible public access. Rather the public must come in through the Youth Centre located at the front of the building.

East Division, West Division, the Regional Reporting Centre and Property Bureau are buildings with either a basement and/or second storey but do not have an elevator. The lack of an elevator affects staff rather than the public.

Directional Signage

All Divisional and Community Policing Centre facilities have signs on streets and roadways to direct the public to the building, and off-hour access to police services via a hotline. The DRPS reviews the need to expand service availability to the public throughout the communities served.

Safety

DRPS facilities are operated and maintained in a safe manner. Issues reported to Facilities are addressed promptly. Mandatory inspections of Service facilities are being performed on a monthly basis by members of the Health and Safety Committee. There are no major issues outstanding.

Therefore, I report compliance with this provision.

Policy Provision # 4

4. *“Fail to establish with residents and visitors to Durham Region a clear understanding of what may be expected and what may not be expected from the services provided.”*

Interpretation of the Chief of Police:

It is my interpretation of this policy that we are to make sincere efforts to inform and educate our citizens and take into account their feedback. It is my further interpretation that the activities described below fulfill this requirement.

Data Support:

The following organizational activities all support our achievement of this policy and are listed below:

- Daily Media Transactions from Corporate Communications
- Community Liaison Committees (e.g. committee on diversity issues)

- Annual Report compilation and distribution
- Business Planning Process
- Monthly Board meetings (public sessions)
- Briefings to Council (Municipal and Regional)
- External Web site (www.drps.ca)
- Community Police Office and Municipal Council Interactions
- Community Speakers, including presentations at recruiting fairs, senior safety presentations etc.
- Building signs and road signs directing the public to police facilities
- Interagency Partnerships (e.g. Joint Forces Operations, reciprocal service agreements, school safety presentations), Community Police Offices, satellite Community Policing Centres, and the Police Learning Centre all provide a point of contact for citizens within the Region
- Public Needs Survey

As of September 30th, 2011 Corporate Communications issued 501 media releases which is on pace to match the previous two years (677 issued in 2009 and 676 in 2010). Our external website www.drps.ca has attracted 873,000 individual visitors who generated almost 45 million hits. The majority of media releases also made reference to the DRPS website with instructions to visit the site to view tips, images, and strategies among other useful information.

With respect to our Community Police Offices, I report the following:

Diversity Advisory Committee (DAC)

The DAC is comprised of members from the community, our Police Service and the Police Services Board. We are presently going through a review process to identify community priorities and issues that can be addressed in a more proactive way. We are focusing on developing a more formal outreach program to strengthen present relationships and build new ones with our various diverse communities. We are also looking to “refresh” our membership to ensure we have a better representation of our community and to ensure we are better prepared to deal with any sensitive police related issue that we are confronted with in the future.

Our Committee presently meets on the third Wednesday each month here in Regional Headquarters.

NORTH DIVISION

Leadership from North Division meets 3 or 4 times a year with the respective mayors of Uxbridge, Scugog and Brock. The most recent meeting took place on September 29th. They also do deputations before councils regularly and provide updates on community safety and enforcement initiatives that are supported by statistical and informational handouts.

At least once yearly leadership meets with the Chief and Councilors of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation. They last met with on August 8th and a second meeting took place on August 30th in order to brief them on a strike that was pending at the Casino. We have a liaison officer- Constable Ron Crouch who was specially trained at the Ontario Police College for this role. Constable Crouch has spoken this summer at the Band’s ‘Pow Wow’ and participated in their career day.

PC Danny Mitchell #177, the Local Community Services Officer, speaks and attends at numerous community events.

S/Sgt Griepsma and PC Susan Kelly #872 our Traffic Safety Coordinator for North Division are liaising with municipal works and traffic staff to create a Traffic Management Advisory Committee.

EAST DIVISION

The Community Outreach Program was held in Orono and Newcastle this year. The genesis of the program comes from the business plan and provides an opportunity for the police, and our partnering agencies (Fire and Bylaw) to be interactive with the public. We have advertised and hosted the events which educate our citizens about the services we provide such as Criminal Record checks and crime prevention. Detective John Keating, our Senior Support Coordinator has spoken about his role, while Constables Paul Hawrychuck and Marten Wind have presented crime prevention tips. Going forward and expanding the program throughout Clarington will include information on mental health, our Victim Services Unit and domestic violence.

Detective Sergeant Teresa Hutchinson has started a 'Neighborhood Alerts' program whereby she inputs quality of life type incidents such as theft from auto that can plague neighborhoods. This information is shared with the affected area via the media.

On June 19th, 2011 our Service was well represented in the "Walk a Mile In Her Shoes" in support of Bethesda House.

On September 20th, 2011 Deputy Chief Whiteway, Inspector Ostler and myself, along with several other members of our Service participated in the "Take Back The Night" in Bowmanville.

CENTRAL EAST DIVISION

Divisional leadership met with the Mayor John Henry and his staff at the start of 2011. They have jointly conducted media events on safety initiatives with the mayor on open space enforcement initiatives and on traffic safety prevention and enforcement strategies. They have also met with our City By-Law officials and have worked in partnership with them to address problem locations within the City. City of Oshawa By-Law officers have been trained as bicycle patrol officers through our Police Learning Centre for By-Law mobility and enforcement.

From May 24th to the 27th, we participated in a "Kiss N Ride" initiative that targeted smoking violations on school property, which is a prohibited activity. This was conducted with the support of Tobacco Enforcement Officers. The initiative also addressed roadway safety concerns with an emphasis on use and installment of child car seats.

The following are some of the community partnerships Central East Division continues to work with:

- Safe City Oshawa Partnership – Committee of Council www.safecityoshawa.ca/
- City of Oshawa Harm Reduction Committee
- Mayor's Drop in Centre Committee (sponsored by U.O.I.T.)
- John Howard Society
- Sex Support Workers Circle
- Durham Region Drug Court
- Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario – Liquor Inspections.

The Division has developed a distracted driver's information card to educate drivers personally about driving habits at problem intersections. For the second year in a row, leadership are organizing a senior citizen's Christmas event to connect with our senior's community. This involves our partnership with the local Regiment and supports Remembrance Day and Legion activities as well.

CENTRAL WEST DIVISION

Inspector RETI and S/Sgt. Roche have attended Town of Whitby Council meetings and a number of community meetings. They have participated in the Town of Whitby Community Safety Day and we are active partners in this event where we liaise with the Town of Whitby, Whitby Fire Department, Whitby Hydro and a number of community agencies. This is an event where we educate and inform our community while taking into account their feedback.

We continue to have a sound partnership with UOIT/Durham College. We have identified a liaison officer working from the CRU unit that works closely with the educational facility as well as with Oshawa Council, Bylaw and Oshawa Fire Department. For example, a thorough project plan was created and implemented named **PROJECT REPEAT**. **(R)** Review of past projects, operational plans and crime analysis reports **(E)** educating the community and police service, **(P)** patrolling identified areas in uniform capacity, **(E)** enforcing municipal, provincial and criminal statutes, **(A)** analyzing the success of the project, **(T)** translating lessons learned through this project into future proposals.

The following are some of the other programs Central West Division also participates in:

The West Lynn After School Program, partnering with the Town of Whitby, Durham School Board, Durham Boys and Girls Club and members of the White Oaks community continues to provide support and education for at risk youth.

Monthly meetings are held with Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences, providing education and information sharing. Detective McFarlane is the designated divisional Liaison officer

Partner in Whitby 'ROADWATCH' program. We attend monthly meetings and have a designated officer liaising with the town and the many volunteers running this community initiative.

We have maintained and developed contacts in the North Oshawa Mary and Nonquon community, in particular with some of the property owners/agents. Just completed PROJECT NONQUON with focused on drug activity in this area.

Coordinated with Eleanor MacDonald, Program Manager Housing Services for the Region, a community information sharing session with number property managers.

Participate in the following community events yearly: Meals on Wheels, Tim Horton's send a Kid to Camp Day, Cops and Kids Fishing Derby at Heber Down Conservation.

WEST DIVISION

In March and June of this year, meetings were held with leaders and members of Devi Mandir. In addition meetings were held with Ajax Council regarding the West Division Community Plan and Mayor David Ryan.

In April and June meetings were held with local church leaders in Ajax and on June 19th the Ajax Community Day was held which provided education to the community on safety issues.

On June 30th, I attended the open house hosted by Ajax councilor Sean Collier and in August members attended the Indian Independence Day celebration.

The Divisional leadership also met with members of the Afghan community in August and on September 27th, met with local councilors and the public at a Pickering park opening.

In addition, leadership has attended numerous council functions this year for both Ajax and Pickering representing the DRPS which included City of Pickering Civic Award Ceremony, Student Recognition Night, and Ajax Home Week Recognition. On a weekly basis, S/Sgt. Dean Bertrim is in contact with members of Ajax and Pickering customer care personnel, who have forwarded community complaints, require assistance with information, police response or follow up. We are quick to respond and provide quality service in partnership with our Town/City employees to our council members.

The West Divison CRU, led by Sergeant Soffie, have attended community meetings hosted by Ajax or Pickering representatives involving concerns regarding traffic (speeding, congestions, school areas, stop signs) and other common themes around schools.

Accompanied by D/Sgt. Jeff Friend, I attended a community meeting hosted by MPP Joe Dickson at the Ajax Town Hall. Members of the public were in attendance and police participated in a question and answer period addressing community concerns. (eg: youth and police relations, replica firearms, park disturbances).

Members of the Property Crimes Unit have attended Neighborhood Watch Meetings to act as a resource for community concerns, as well as educate residents on protecting property in reaction to current trends. D/Constable Dorego and Detective Price have also reacted to growing concern in the East Asian community regarding break and enters. They met with community leaders and presented information and crime prevention tips to congregations and leadership groups.

A recent and ongoing street level robbery initiative has incorporated a survey to be distributed amongst students at local high schools to gauge fear of crime. This initiative is ongoing slated for completion at the end of November.

Therefore, I report compliance with this provision.

Policy Provision # 5

5. *“Fail to provide for the effective handling of calls for service by residents and visitors to Durham Region.”*

Interpretation of the Chief of Police:

It is my reasonable interpretation of this policy that it requires us to maintain a system of call taking, dispatching, responding, investigating and reporting of calls for service that reasonably and efficiently balances the needs of individuals and the community as a whole and the resources available for this function. Information on this policy provision is also captured under the Emergency Response Boards Ends Policy.

By virtue of the operation of our Communications / 9-1-1 Centre, our Divisional Police Offices and other resources, we have in place a prioritized call system. Directives and Community Patrol Plans govern these systems. The Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system has been replaced and is now providing management data that is currently being utilized for items like workload balancing, response times and call analysis.

Data Support:

Year to Date to September 30th 2011 we have had 83,325 citizen generated calls for Service. By way of comparison for the same time period in 2010 we had 85,767 citizen generated calls for Service. This is comprised of 3774 Priority Calls, 21,277 Urgent Calls and 58,274 Routine calls.

Previous calls for service information and response time data was provided in the May Board Monitoring Report. Additional response time data will be reported on at the end of the year in order to give an accurate picture of yearly totals.

Therefore, I report compliance with this provision.

Policy Provision # 6

6. *“Fail to provide for the effective handling of complaints from residents and visitors to Durham Region”*

Interpretation of the Chief of Police:

It is my reasonable interpretation of this policy that it requires us to process complaints in accordance with Part V of the Police Services Act and to do so in a timely manner.

Data Support:

Public Complaints

The number of Public Complaints received as of September 30, 2011 was 93, 4 more than the 2010 complaints which totaled 89 for the same period.

The Office of the Independent Police Review Director (OIPRD) opened October 19, 2009. Any Public Complaints concerning events that happened after October 19, 2009 are now directed to the OIPRD. As of September 30, 2011, of the 93 Public Complaints made about the conduct, services or policies of the DRPS, 41 were dealt with by the OIPRD; 5 were retained by the OIPRD for investigation. 1 was withdrawn, 1 was unsubstantiated and the other 3 are still in the investigative process. The other 52 complaints were investigated by the Professional Standards Unit.

As of September 30, 2011, the Durham Regional Police investigated 21 Internal Complaints which is relatively constant to the 23 Internal Complaints for September 30, 2010. The number of complaints that rose to the level of a Chief's Complaint are down to 20, compared to 24 for September 30, 2010.

So far in 2011, there are 5 officers subject to criminal prosecution relating to on duty or off duty conduct. Also, there are 8 members suspended from duty. 4 of the 8 suspensions occurred in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Breakdown of 2011 Complaints

As of September 30, 2011 the Professional Standards Unit had received 93 Public Complaints. Of the 52 complaints investigation by the Professional Standards unit there were 29 resolutions, leaving 23 complaints under investigation as of September 30, 2011. In relation to calls, this relates to 1 complaint for every 895 calls.

Complaint Classifications:

Discreditable Conduct	36
Neglect of Duty	7
Unlawful or Unnecessary Exercise of Authority	7
Corrupt Practice	0
Policy/Service	3

***Note:** Complaints dealt with by the OIPRD were not classified.
 More than one allegation may be associated with one public complaint.

Complaint Resolutions:

Unsubstantiated	13
Withdrawn	15
Informal Resolution	1
Disposition w/o Hearing	0
Policy/Directive Review	0
Hearing	0

Of the 29 resolutions reached, there is currently one (1) outstanding OIPRD review of decisions reached thus far in 2011. There are three (3) outstanding OIPRD reviews for decision reached in 2010.

Special Investigations Unit (SIU) Section 11

As per the Police Services Act, Ontario Regulation 283/11, the Chief of Police shall cause an investigation to be conducted into any incident to review policies of or services provided and the conduct of the officers, under Section 11.

As of September 30, 2011 there have been 4 incidents where SIU invoked their mandate. As a result of one of the SIU investigations, a criminal charge of Dangerous Operation Cause Bodily Harm as been laid by SIU. The case is still before the courts.

The SIU invoked their mandate on 8 occasions in 2010, compared to 15 occasions in 2009, and 12 in 2008.

Section 11 Reports have been completed for all SIU Investigations, as required by legislation.

Therefore, I report compliance with this provision.

Policy Provision # 7

7. "Fail to service Criminal Information Requests in accordance with police-sector best practices, in a timely manner."

Interpretation of the Chief of Police:

It is my interpretation of this policy that we will keep abreast of and implement police-sector best practices in the methods we use to provide Criminal Information Requests and that we will also organize our service resources in such a way as to provide a timely response to those requests.

Data Support:

In April of 2011 the Information Release Unit began forwarding fingerprints electronically to the RCMP. This has had a positive impact on the response times from the RCMP confirming individuals Criminal Record or eliminating them as being a pardoned sex offender. After contending with a few RCMP training issues, most responses are now received within minutes as opposed to waiting months. From April 4th to August 31st, 2011 the Information Release Unit fingerprinted 1,431 individuals for this purpose. The addition of fingerprinting duties to the Information Release area (20 min/fingerprint), has required a supplement of part time staff. This coupled with the extension of hours open to the public continues to provide a challenge in maintaining a 'timely manner' response time.

For the first six months of 2010, CIR's were consistently responded to within a two week period. In July, however, due to changes in RCMP fingerprint requirement for individuals working within the vulnerable sector, there was a dramatic drop in CIR response times. By the end of the year the public was waiting up to 6 weeks for their CIR, and even longer if fingerprints were required.

Adapting to the new RCMP requirement, and dealing with a sudden surge of individuals needing civil fingerprints became a challenge for Services across Canada, including our comparators. We continue to assess, on an ongoing basis our best practices and explore ways of improving our service.

Therefore, I report compliance with this provision.

Policy Provision # 8

8. “Fail to ensure that citizen volunteers involved in approved police service activities are appropriately selected, trained, equipped, supervised and indemnified.”

Interpretation of the Chief of Police:

It is my interpretation of this policy that we will leverage our existing member resources by encouraging interested and responsible members of our community to help us achieve our service’s goals in a structured and properly supervised fashion.

Data Support:

Auxiliary:

The DRP Auxiliary Unit is authorized under the **Police Services Act**. The authorized strength of the Unit is seventy (70). We recently trained 22 new members which brings our strength to near authorized.

The Auxiliary Unit participates in over 160 events throughout the year and spent approx. 10,000 hours in service to the community and the DRP.

Victim Services

We continue our strong relationship with Victim Services of Durham Region and on October 5th, an open house was held at Regional Headquarters to promote the image of the unit and invite interested people to join. Information provided included:

- Victim Services Programs and Services
- Volunteer Roles and Responsibilities
- Application and Screening Process
- Volunteer Crisis Responder Training
- Benefits of Volunteering your time with victims.

The office is hosted in our Whitby division.

Ride-Along Program

Participation in our Ride-Along program is governed by our internal directive (AO-20-001). This directive has been developed to ensure that all requests for involvement in the Durham Regional Police Service (DRPS) Ride-Along Program are processed and administered in a consistent manner. The provisions of this directive are intended to protect the rights and interests of both the Service and any person taking part in the Ride-Along Program.

The program is available to persons 18 years and over unless both the participant and participant's parent or guardian sign the necessary DRP Release Form. The following persons are eligible for the program:

1. Visiting police officers from other policing jurisdictions.
2. Police Service Board members.
3. Regional and municipal council members.
4. Civilian members, as part of a training / orientation program.
5. Volunteer members, as part of an incentive / reward program.

Any other person(s) authorized by the leader of the division, branch or unit conducting the Ride-Along Program.

Community Services

To date the Police Volunteer Unit operating under the umbrella of the Community Service/Crime Prevention Unit currently has 53 volunteers. The selection process to become a Volunteer consists of an application process, interviews, resume and reference/background checks as well as a successful Criminal Information Request and Drivers License Abstract. Successful Candidates are fingerprinted and photographed as well as DRPS Oath of Secrecy and DRPS Volunteer Agreement forms are filled out and signed. Volunteers are given a DRPS shirt to wear at all events as well as a Volunteer ID tag containing photo as well as expiry date. Each volunteer is given a copy of the Volunteer Directive as well. The Directive covers the complete process of being a Volunteer with rules and regulations they must follow. It also covers the process the DRPS Member(s) seeking their assistance must follow.

Our Police Volunteers are utilized throughout the Community only for Department functions/events and with our direct partnerships we have throughout the Region. Examples of events are Police Week, Crime Prevention Week, Community Days, Durham Regional Police Food and Toy Drive, Law Enforcement Torch Run and Racing Against Drugs Programs. Volunteers are given training as need be for a variety of events. They have direct contact with a member from our Service for all events and are mentored through the Community Service/Crime Prevention Unit. The number of Police Volunteers is carefully monitored to provide a consistent Volunteer/Event ratio. This ensures that the Volunteers are given the opportunity to remain active throughout the year.

Therefore, I report compliance with this provision.

Based on the above proof provided, I report overall compliance with the policy.