

**NORTHERN JOINT POLICE BOARD**

**23 APRIL 2008**

Agenda Item	
Report No	

**INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITING SCHEME  
VOLUNTEER TRAVEL EXPENSES**

**Report by the Assistant Clerk**

**Summary**

This Report invites the Board to approve an increase in the mileage rate payable to volunteer Independent Custody Visitors.

**Background**

1. The establishment of the Board's Independent Custody Visiting Scheme was approved in 2000, the first to be approved in Scotland. At that time the "going rate" for travel expenses for volunteer Independent Custody Visitors in Schemes established in England was understood to be around 35p per mile. Accordingly, the Scottish local authority essential users' rate of 35.1p per mile was adopted for the Board's Scheme: This rate has not risen in the intervening period, although clearly fuel prices and other travel costs have risen significantly.

**Review**

2. A recent survey by the Independent Custody Visiting Association has revealed that, as other Scottish Schemes have come on-stream, the majority have adopted the local authority casual users' rate. Accordingly, the Board is asked to agree that, in line with the majority of other Scottish Police Authorities/Joint Boards, the mileage rate for ICV volunteers be increased to 49p per mile with effect from 1 April 2008.

**Resource Implications**

4. It is estimated that the overall annual increase in cost should be less than £400. This sum can be met within current budgets.

**Recommendation**

The Board is asked to agree that the mileage rate for Independent Custody Visiting volunteers be increased to 49p per mile with effect from 1 April 2008.

Signature

Designation Assistant Clerk

Date 14 April 2008

Author

Mrs R Moir