

NARPO Annual Conference 2011 Summary

The NARPO Annual Conference 2011 was held in Southport, Merseyside on Friday 16th September. In attendance among 351 delegates, including the the National Executive Committee, were four Staffordshire representatives:

- Chairman Mr Gerry Robinson MBE,
- Vice Chairman Mr Mark Judson,
- Secretary Mr Des Lockwood, and
- Webmaster Mr Joe Molloy.

In addition to the traditional business of Conference, highlights were a speech by Mr Mike Duggan, General Secretary of the Civil Service Pensioners Alliance, which addressed the issue of "active membership" and spoke about the shared aims of his organisation with NARPO.

There followed a lively debate, opened by Mrs Sandie Wilde, MA, (NEC member) which was moderated by Mr John Stapleton - Journalist/TV Presenter.

Ian Rennie, General Secretary of the Police Federation of England and Wales spoke to Conference about "Policing after Hutton & Winsor". He focussed on the concerns of the Police Federation and its view that, whilst accepting severe cuts in public services were inevitable in the current economic climate, the proposed 20% cuts over four years were too much, as the reduction in staff numbers would seriously impede the ability of police to deliver the services expected by the public. He outlined the representations made in response to recommendations that would undermine the conditions of service and pension entitlements of serving officers.

Three motions were put before Conference.

First, a change to Rule 4 (i) (a) Full Membership, to enable former Police Officers who had taken posts in the Serious and Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) to be allowed full membership of NARPO (in preference of Associate membership). The motion was remitted to the NEC to clarify some wording.

Second, that the NEC explores the possibility of the National NARPO Website providing web space for all Branches. The motion was carried.

Third, that NEC Minutes be circulated to all Branches, in addition to the regional NEC representative briefings to Branch Secretaries. The motion failed.

A motion regarding Associate Membership rule changes was withdrawn.

The Annual Conference in 2012 will be held in Eastbourne on Friday 14 September.