



A JOINT LETTER FROM THE SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY, THE SUFFOLK POLICE FEDERATION AND THE SUFFOLK BRANCH OF UNISON

Airwave Health Monitoring Study

As you are aware the Suffolk Constabulary has been 'live' with Airwave – the National police Radio System, since the year 2001 and the system is now live in all other Forces.

At the beginning of Airwave there were some nagging doubts about the technology used, which focussed on concerns regarding possible effects on health. When Airwave was first introduced nationally, the Home Office gave assurances that there was no evidence from any credible source that that the technology being used posed any discernible health risk. Notwithstanding this the Constabulary has agreed to sign up to a long-term health monitoring study to allay any remaining fears of our staff. The Home Office has instigated a national scientific based study, which is being conducted by Imperial College, London.

The purpose of this letter is straightforward. It is to simply state that the Suffolk Constabulary, the Suffolk Police Federation and the Suffolk Branch of UNISON fully support this research. Indeed, **we actively encourage you to participate**. It is accepted that we are busy people who often have little spare time within the working day. However, sometimes some things are worth making time for and this is one such thing. Please participate in the research. It will only produce truly valid results if there is a very high participation and return rate.

This letter is to accompany correspondence from the Imperial College, London. Their research will help identify any impact on health in the medium to long term. To take part in this research you are asked to accurately complete the enclosed questionnaire, give your consent to Imperial College being provided with some personal data (this will be treated confidentially and the data concerned is detailed in their correspondence) and, should you so wish, take part in a free health screening session at a later date, the results of which are totally confidential. Under no circumstance will any health information from an individual record be made available to anyone outside the Imperial College research team.

Please take the time to read the enclosed correspondence carefully and we trust that we can count on your support and that you will participate fully in this very important area of research.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jacqueline Cheer".

Jacqueline Cheer
Assistant Chief Constable

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Megan Howes".

Megan Howes
UNISON Branch Secretary

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Keeble".

Jim Keeble
Chairman Suffolk
Police Federation