

CIVIL NUCLEAR POLICE FEDERATION



Established by act of Parliament

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Circular -10 /11

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Colleagues,

Please be advised that discussions are actively taking place between the CNPF and CNC ACPO in relation to “random” alcohol testing with calibrated equipment operated by nominated supervisory ranks, for Police Officers undertaking Authorised Firearms duties (safety critical roles), at firearms training facilities, armouries, and any other location where CNC officers are to be deployed with firearms. Members, are strongly advised that they must take personal responsibility at all times for ensuring they are fit for work when required and are not affected by alcohol.

Police regulations state that an officer in a “Safety critical role (AFO) is unfit to carry out that role if they have more than 13 microgrammes of alcohol in their expired breath (equivalent to 29mg per 100ml blood). It is worth noting here that the legal limit for driving a motor vehicle is 35 microgrammes.

It is understood that a reading of 13 microgrammes, whilst this could impair an officer’s judgement or ability to carry out certain tasks is a relatively low level of intoxication and it may be that an officer is unaware of the impairment or the effects of this level of alcohol in the blood stream.

The most common scenario would be the after effects of consuming alcohol the night before which may linger in the blood for longer than expected or have a greater affect than expected the following day after a period of rest.

Self Declaration

It should always be open to an officer to declare that they suspect they might have inadvertently exceeded the limit. Any such declaration should be made before the officer is notified of any requirement to take a test. We have an expectation that such declarations should not result in the officer being penalised.

Nigel Dennis – General Secretary
Civil Nuclear Police Federation

[All correspondence to General Secretary](#)