
Report To:	Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Committee	Date:	27 September 2018
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	P&F/03/18/GM
Contact Officer:	Hugh Scott	Contact No:	01475 715459
Subject:	Scottish Police Authority Annual Review of Policing 2017-18 (Consultation Response)		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the approval of the consultation response to the Scottish Police Authority in respect of the Annual Review of Policing 2017-18.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Council, in its capacity as a scrutiny board, was invited by the Scottish Police Authority to respond to the annual review of Policing for the period 2017-18, attached as appendix 1. Unfortunately the consultation period did not allow for consideration of the response at Committee. A copy of the response is attached for Members' approval.
- 2.2 The Scottish Police Authority must prepare an annual review of policing, to be laid before the Scottish Parliament in Autumn 2018. This must include an assessment of Police Scotland's and Scottish Police Authority's performance during the year.
- 2.3 A brief set of questions was attached to assist the Scottish Police Authority to gather the views of local scrutiny boards across Scotland.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the Committee retrospectively approves the response to the consultation.

Grant McGovern
Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Communities

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Scottish Police Authority (SPA) was established under the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 to maintain policing, promote policing principles and continuous improvement of policing, and to hold the Chief Constable to account. It holds both the Chief Constable to account for the policing of Scotland, and the Chief Officer of the SPA to account for its role as employer of staff and the delivery of services to the board and policing
- 4.2 The Council, in its capacity as a scrutiny board, was invited by the Scottish Police Authority to respond to the annual review of Policing for the period 2017-18, attached as appendix 1. Unfortunately the consultation period did not allow for consideration of the response at Committee. A copy of the response is attached for Members' approval.

5.0 THE CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The consultation seeks the views of Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Committee around a number of issues ranging from local scrutiny arrangements to local police plans. The responses to questions have been taken from the Council committee cycle 2017/18.
- 5.2 The response to the consultation is attached as appendix 1.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Finance

There are no financial implications.

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/(savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With effect from	Annual net impact £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

6.2 Legal

There are no legal implications.

6.3 Human Resources

This report does not impact on Human Resources.

6.4 Equalities

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES (see attached appendix)
X	NO - This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

6.5 Repopulation

This structure is intended to protect and assist the local communities.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 This is a response to a consultation

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 There are no background papers.

Annual Review of Policing 2017/18 - local authority views

Name of Local Scrutiny Committee: **Inverclyde Council**

1. 2017/18, how effective has Police Scotland's support for local scrutiny and engagement with your scrutiny committee been?

The Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Sub Committee are satisfied with the engagement of Police Scotland at the Scrutiny meetings. The committee acknowledge that the appropriate level of representation has been present at each meeting. In addition to this there is regular dialogue between Police Scotland and Inverclyde Council staff members on a number of operational issues.

2. How well do you think your local police plan reflects community priorities?

At the meeting of the Inverclyde Council Education and Communities Committee on the 31st October 2017 the Council formally responded to the consultation of the draft local policing plan for 2017/18. The following points were noted in respect of the local police plan reflecting community priorities:

- The number of disorder incidents stands out compared to other demands. The disorder amounts to almost 24 incidents per day on average. It is understood this category covers a large range of incident types including disorder, noise, vandalism, drinking in public and youth disorder. The increased frequency of a large informal gathering of youths does place an increasing burden on the Council and Police resources in Inverclyde by protecting the youths and preventing antisocial behaviour. The Council would welcome an action in the Plan recognising this as an issue for Inverclyde
 - Serious and Organised Crime concerns are noted about the supply and availability of firearms in Inverclyde. The Council would not consider this a particular issue in Inverclyde given the data available to us.
 - The Council continues to welcome the fall in violent crime in Inverclyde but is concerned that nearly half of assaults involve alcohol. The Council will continue to support the Police and Community to tackle the issue of alcohol abuse.
3. How effective do you think Police Scotland's reporting against local priorities been, in supporting your scrutiny?

Elected members have noted at the two most recent Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Sub Committee that information provided in the plan updates around the reporting of recorded incidents, crime and detections and the use of percentages can somewhat be confusing to members. There is a request from the Scrutiny Committee that this matter is further discussed with Police Scotland.

4. What are the top three things about policing in your area, which you think are working really well?

As this paper has not been presented to the local Police and Fire Scrutiny Sub-Committee for comment we are not in a position to comment.

5. What are your top three priorities for improvement?

Concern has been noted by the Committee about the frequent change of Area Commander within the Inverclyde KC Sub Division. Whilst senior officers from Police Scotland have explained a number of reasons especially around the national nature of the Police, there is concern that there does not appear to be a permanent presence within Inverclyde. For example, the 2018/19 committee cycle saw three officers represented as Area Commander for KC Sub Division.

6. Are there any examples of good practice in your local area you want to highlight? Please provide details below.

At the Scrutiny meeting of the 22nd February 2018 an invitation from the Divisional Commander for elected members to attend a daily tasking and coordinating meeting was greatly received by the Convenor. A number of elected members subsequently attended and all agreed that it enhanced their understanding of the deployment of police resources across the Sub-Division and Division. It is anticipated that with a new Scrutiny Committee membership this will be offered again and potentially a visit to a C3 Division.

7. What would you like to see the SPA to do more of, to help you in your role and to support better local outcomes?

With a new Scrutiny Convenor elected for the 18/19 committee cycle, it may be advantageous for the opportunity to meet with the convenor for him to better understand the role of the SPA and its relationship in supporting better local outcomes.

About your local scrutiny arrangements

8. How would you describe your local scrutiny arrangements for policing?

Dedicated Policing or Police & Fire Scrutiny Sub Committee (see point 10 for additional information)

9. How many elected members are regularly involved in your local scrutiny process?

11 members

10. Is there any additional information or feedback you would like to share?

Due to the time frame in which to respond to this consultation the above comments have been taken from the discussion and minutes from the committee cycle in 2017/18 and have not been presented to the Committee for full approval. In some instances a full response has not been able to be given.

Following a meeting of the Inverclyde Council in June 2018 changes were approved in respect of administrative arrangements: committee remits and delegations. This change has resulted in the following changes for the for the 2018/19 committee cycle, that the

committee be known as Inverclyde Council Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Committee [and] with power designated to the committee as follows:

(a) To consider and recommend improvements in local Police and Fire and Rescue services; (b) To recommend priorities and objectives for the policing of the local area; (c) To recommend priorities and objectives for Fire and Rescue services in the local area; (d) To agree the Police and Fire and Rescue local plans; (e) To scrutinise and review the outcomes, priorities and objectives set out in the Police and Fire and Rescue local plans; (f) To provide comments in response to consultations on Police and Fire and Rescue services; (g) To promote engagement with all interested parties including community planning partners and neighbourhood partnerships; (h) To make representations to the national authorities, as required, in relation to wider scrutiny issues and concerns; (i) To consider Council reports on matters which affect local Police and Fire and Rescue Services in Inverclyde providing that, where necessary, these will be remitted to the appropriate Service Committee for decision.

Point (i) is a substantive addition to the committee.

This response -

This response will inform the Annual Review of Policing, and local examples and comments will be included within the Review document.

Yes

Thank you for taking the time to provide feedback and information. Responses should be sent to - SPACommunityAccountability@spa.pnn.police.uk by Friday 29th June 2018.

[If you have any queries or comments about the process, please contact Eleanor Gaw, SPA Community Accountability, eleanor.gaw@spa.pnn.police.uk Tel 01786 896886.](mailto:SPACommunityAccountability@spa.pnn.police.uk)