
Report To:	Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Committee	Date:	26 March 2020
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	P&F/03/20/HS
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Subject:	Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Committee Update Report (March 2020)		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Committee on current and emerging issues relating to Police and Fire and Rescue Services.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The report provides an opportunity for the Committee to be made aware of national initiatives, reviews and consultations and, where appropriate, to inform Members' consideration of future agenda items relating to Police and Fire and Rescue matters.
- 2.2 This report is intended to draw these elements together with a view to informing and shaping future meeting agendas as appropriate and raising awareness of emerging issues.

This report provides updates for the following:

- The Scottish Police Authority and Scottish Police Authority Board;
- Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland;
- The Scottish Government; and
- Inverclyde Council Education and Communities Committee

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the Committee notes the current and emerging national issues relating to Police and Fire and Rescue matters.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

4.0 SCOTTISH POLICE AUTHORITY

- 4.1 **SPA Board Meeting:** The January meeting of the SPA Board was held on 17 January 2020 in Edinburgh. Agenda items included a presentation on the draft of the Strategic Police Plan 2020, Brexit Contingency Planning, a report on the Policing of the Conference of the Parties (COP26) and an update on Digital Triage Devices and lessons learned.

In respect of the Strategic Police Plan, this has been tabled as a separate agenda item for the Committee to consider a response to the accompanying engagement consultation.

Regarding the agenda item on [Update on Digital Triage Devices and Lessons Learned](#) this paper provided a status update in respect of the proposed roll-out for the deployment of Digital Triage Devices. A previous update in relation to this matter was discussed at a previous Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Committee.

The SPA also confirmed it is to establish a dedicated oversight group to work with Police Scotland and others on the policing of the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26). This agreement was made at the Board meeting following the agenda item in respect of [Policing of the Conference of the Parties \(COP26\)](#).

The agenda and associated papers for this meeting can be viewed using the following link: [17 January 2020](#).

- 4.2 **SPA Board Meeting:** The February meeting of the SPA Board was held on 20 February 2020 in Stirling. Agenda items included updates in respect of [Policing Brexit Update and Implications](#) as well as [Policing of the 26th Conference of the Parties \(COP26\)](#).

The SPA also approved three key documents to provide strengthened corporate oversight of change, system-wide assurance activity and management of risk. The three papers can be viewed as follows; [SPA Oversight of Change in Policing](#), [SPA Excellence Framework](#) and [SPA Risk Framework](#).

The agenda and associated papers for this meeting can be viewed using the following link: [19 February 2020](#).

- 4.3 **SPA Corporate Plan 2020-23:** The SPA has published a draft copy of the Corporate Plan 2020-23. This plan sets out the role and responsibilities of the SPA as the governance body for policing in Scotland, the outcomes it seeks to achieve and the high level activities designed to achieve them. It aligns to the Strategic Police Priorities which were published by the Scottish Government in December 2019 and the Draft Strategic Police Plan which is also being considered by this Committee. The plan will be finalised at the Authority's Board meeting on 25 March.

5.0 HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF CONSTABULARY IN SCOTLAND (HMICS)

- 5.1 **Thematic Inspection of Hate Crime-Terms of Reference-** HMICS has committed to a statutory inspection of the policing response to Hate Crime as part of its Scrutiny Plan for 2019-20. The aim of this inspection will be to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of Police Scotland's response to Hate Crime. The inspection will examine in detail the accessibility and ease with which communities can record crime and incidents where hatred and intolerance features. HMICS will also review call handling procedures in place to identify and prioritise this form of crime.

The report to the paper can be used using the following link: [Thematic Inspection of Hate Crime - Terms of Reference](#).

- 5.2 **Strategic review of Police Scotland's response to online child sexual abuse-** HMICS published a [Strategic Review](#) in relation to Police Scotland's response to online child sexual abuse. The aim of the inspection was to provide a strategic overview of Police Scotland's response to online child sexual abuse, which will raise public awareness of the issues and

enhance the understanding of policy makers and practitioners.

HMICS assessed the response from a strategic, tactical and operations perspective, both locally and nationally. To gain an overview of local service delivery, HMICS looked at three territorial policing divisions: Edinburgh, Tayside and Renfrewshire and Inverclyde.

The final report made 10 recommendations which are contained within the Strategic Review.

6.0 SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

- 6.1 An Official Statistics publication for Scotland [Domestic abuse recorded by the Police in Scotland, 2018-19](#) was published on 25 February 2020. This publication presents statistics on domestic abuse, based on details of incidents and recorded crime supplied by Police Scotland in 2018-19. Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police do not reveal all incidents of domestic abuse in Scotland as not all incidents are reported to the police.
- 6.2 The publication indicates that across Scotland, levels of domestic abuse recorded by the police in Scotland have remained relatively stable since 2011-12, with around 58,000 to 61,000 incidents a year. The police recorded 60,641 incidents of domestic abuse in 2018-19, an increase of 2% compared to the previous year. At a local authority level, in Inverclyde there were 874 incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the Police in 2018-19 a slight reduction from 2017-18. Incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police per 10,000 population, by local authority, 2018-19 shows that Inverclyde ranks the same as the Scottish average (112 incidents per 10,000).

7.0 INVERCLYDE COUNCIL EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

- 7.1 There was submitted a report to the Inverclyde Council Education and Communities Committee by the Corporate Director for Education and Communities (10 March 2020) in respect of the Inverclyde Antisocial Behaviour Strategy 2020-25. The publication of this Strategy is a legal requirement of the Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004 that Inverclyde Council and Police Scotland must jointly prepare an antisocial behaviour strategy for the authority area. The report to the Committee sought approval for the publication of the Strategy.

8.0 IMPLICATIONS

8.1 Finance

Financial Implications:

One off Costs

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

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

8.2 Legal

N/A.

8.3 Human Resources

N/A

8.4 Equalities

Equalities

(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES
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

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
X	NO

(c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
X	NO

8.5 Repopulation

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

9.0 CONSULTATIONS

9.1 N/A.

10.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Committee 18 April 2019.
Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Committee Update report (April 2019) (P&F/05/19/HS).