



### **3.0 THE SCOTTISH POLICE AUTHORITY BOARD**

3.1 The meeting of SPA Board was held on the 29 Sep 2022 <https://www.spa.police.uk/meetings/authority-meetings/29-september-2022/> and considered several updates, including: -

- Violence Against Women and Girls Seminar
- Update on Forensic Services Toxicology
- Naloxone – National Roll Out
- Contact Assessment Model
- Confidence and Deprivation project update

#### **3.2 Violence Against Women and Girls Seminar**

Police Scotland reported to the Authority at the start of this year the intention to develop a Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) strategy setting out how it will contribute to tackling this crime in all its forms. To inform the strategy, the Authority and COSLA co-hosted a seminar with key stakeholders in Edinburgh on 30 August 2022. The seminar heard from organisations working at a national, community and local level to improve outcomes for women, girls, and children. Further detail on the learning from the seminar will be shared over the coming weeks, and will be reflected in the Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy which will be reported later this year

#### **3.3 Update on Forensic Services Toxicology**

Assurance was provided around the improving performance of this function, with a reducing average caseload age by month along with a reducing backlog. It was confirmed that the focus remains on reducing the time for analysis of drug driving cases to around 3 months, with an aim to achieve this by the end of 2022.

#### **3.4 Naloxone – National Roll Out**

On Wednesday 31 August, the national roll out of Naloxone commenced, with around 150 officers in Paisley, Greenock and Shetland receiving their Naloxone kits. Coinciding with International Overdose Awareness Day, this was the first step to expand the availability of Naloxone within Police Scotland beyond the initial Test of Change areas. Around 1,000 officers are now trained and have access to Naloxone, and the roll out will continue in the forthcoming months.

#### **3.5 Contact Assessment Model**

Police Scotland introduced the Contact Assessment Model (CAM) to improve the way they triage and respond to contact from the public. CAM uses an enhanced assessment and decision-making model, based on threat, harm and risk. It is designed to support the most vulnerable and ensure that every individual gets the appropriate help when they need it.

On Wednesday 31 August, HM Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) published their Assurance Review of CAM, focusing on its operational impact. The review underlines the significant progress made in how Police Scotland respond to calls from the public and partners, moving from a model based on policy driven responses, to an individual assessment of threat, harm, risk, investigation, vulnerability, and engagement for each caller. The recommendations from the HMICS review will assist in driving further improvements in this vital area of policing.

### 3.6 Confidence and Deprivation Project Update

The Authority continues to make progress on its long-term confidence and deprivation project, working with Police Scotland, the Poverty Alliance and a range of key stakeholders. Work has started in the first project area of Letham, in Perth, with community meetings taking place with support from the local policing team and Local Authority colleagues. This work will inform a community profile for discussion, and lead to the creation of a local community level practitioner group to support delivery of the project in the area.

As has previously been reported, the project will work in a number of small communities to understand, and where possible, take actions to overcome barriers to participation and involvement which may improve local experience and perception of, and confidence in, policing.

## 4.0 POLICE COMPLAINTS AND MISCONDUCT HANDLING BILL

The Programme for Government, published in September, proposes a bill to improve transparency and further strengthen public confidence in policing. The Bill will align with the recommendations made by Dame Elish Angiolini in her Independent Review of Complaints Handling, Investigations and Misconduct Issues in Relation to Policing. The recommendations seek to improve the policing systems and structures which underpin the way in which complaints about the police are received, managed, and investigated.

## 5.0 REVIEW OF THE JOINT STRATEGIC POLICE PLAN 2020/23

5.1 Inverclyde Council responded to the request for views and observations on the initial review of the strategic police plan. It was agreed that cyber-crime, hate crime and violence against women and girls were key national issues, while mentioning that crimes of non-sexual violence and possession of weapons also remain a local issue.

It was felt that overall, there was an alignment in key consideration issues such as:

- emerging issues of digital/online safety and sexual crimes (against children and women)
- importance of person-centred, early intervention and trauma informed approaches
- community engagement with our seldom heard communities to ensure they have a voice
- Strong alignment in strategy with the Justice Vision for Scotland 2022
- technology is vital for ensuring we have an adequately equipped modern police force to deal with crime
- concern around a potential increase in crime associated with the rises in the cost of living.

## 6.0 THE SCOTTISH FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE BOARD

6.1 The SFRS held a board meeting on the 23 Aug 2022 <https://www.firescotland.gov.uk/about-us/sfrs-board/board-meetings>, which considered general business matters, including:

- Action and decision logs
- Chair's and Chief Officer's report
- Committee reports
- Budget reports
- Youth Volunteer Scheme Evaluation Report
- Strategic Plan 2022-25 (private)

The minutes from this meeting were not yet published at the time of this report.

6.2 The evaluation report on the youth volunteer scheme ‘tells the story’ of young people engaged across 10 initial units in Scotland. The evaluation also sought feedback from a number of VYIs, Local Scheme Coordinators (LSCs) and Depute Co-ordinators (DCs) who manage YVS groups locally. By using mixed methodologies of evaluation, the report contains valuable evidence from the young people and SFRS personnel involved in the scheme.

The report highlights how the scheme was able to meet and evidence a number of projected short-term outcomes and overcome the significant challenges caused by the impact of Covid-19 on the ability to roll-out and deliver the YVS after its launch.

Subsequently, the first-year evaluation report provides not only evidence of the challenges that the YVS faced in its first year, and the negative impact that Covid-19 had on the ability to deliver as planned, but how, SFRS as a service, was able to adapt its delivery and approach and the positive outcomes and key successes that were achieved despite those barriers.

The Service has now authorised the recommencement of CSE activities from SFRS premises (Nov 2021) which will support local Units to start face-to-face engagement. The national CSE team are supporting scheme 1-10 re-establish and engage young people, whilst recruiting and training Volunteer Youth Instructors for schemes 11-15. Once all 15 schemes are fully embedded, the YVS board will progress with schemes 16-20.

## **7.0 STAY FIRE SAFE CAMPAIGN**

7.1 The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) is urging people to stay fire safe as the weather turns colder and households look to keep warm and cut energy bills. Due to a rise in the cost of living, it is anticipated that people may look at alternative ways of heating and lighting their homes. Scotland’s fire and rescue service is warning that changing behaviours could put households at risk of accidental fires and carbon monoxide poisoning.

To raise awareness to help to keep people safe, SFRS and other fire and rescue services across the UK are backing the National Fire Chiefs Council’s Stay Fire Safe campaign. This aims to provide advice regarding the hazards associated with, and guidance for the safe use of portable heaters, electric blankets, wood burning stoves and candles, as well as highlighting chimney safety – a potential fire risk if they have not been cleaned or properly maintained.

## **8.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY & RESILIENCE UPDATE**

8.1 At its meeting on 21 Sep 2022 the Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel requested that Council Officers consider the impacts of a proposal to potentially reduce a build-up of combustible materials by removing the charge for bulk uplift service in Inverclyde as a means of encouraging increased use of the service.

8.2 After the request Council officers met to discuss the possible implications of removing this charge. It was considered that removal of the charge could lead to:

- financial implications for the Council associated with the loss of income from the bulk uplift service
- resource implications for the Council associated with an increase in service demand
- an increase in the volume of fly-tipping around and within properties as there would be an assumption that the Council would uplift the materials, this could have the unintended consequence of increasing fire risk within properties where it occurred.

## 9.0 IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO	N/A
Financial		X	
Legal/Risk		X	
Human Resources		X	
Strategic (LOIP/Corporate Plan)		X	
Equalities & Fairer Scotland Duty			X
Children & Young People's Rights & Wellbeing			X
Environmental & Sustainability			X
Data Protection			X

## 9.2 Finance

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					

## 9.3 Legal/Risk

There are no legal/risk implications contained within this report.

## 9.4 Human Resources

There are no human resource implications contained within this report.

## 9.5 Strategic

There are no strategic implications contained within this report.

## 10.0 CONSULTATION

10.1 There were no consultations required outside those noted in the report.

## 11.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 There are no background papers associated with this report.