

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>SPA Board Meeting</b>
<b>Date and Time</b>	<b>2 October 2013</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Rutherglen Town Hall, Rutherglen</b>
<b>Title of Paper</b>	<b>Chief Constable's Report</b>
<b>Item Number</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Presented By</b>	<b>Chief Constable</b>
<b>For Approval / For Information – please annotate (IN RED BOLD)</b>	<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>
<b>Appendix Attached:</b>	

**PURPOSE**

To provide members of the Scottish Police Authority with information on progress and significant events within Police Scotland since the last Public Authority meeting on 21 August 2013.

**BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The purpose of Police Scotland is 'To improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland'. Our focus is 'Keeping People Safe'. This paper is intended to provide members with an update on key events and activity within Police Scotland, in support of Keeping People Safe.

**FURTHER DETAIL ON REPORT TOPIC**

**2.1 Operational Update**

**Keeping People Safe - On Scotland's Roads**

Police Scotland carried out a national Seatbelt Day of Action on 11 September 2013 in support of Keeping People Safe on Scotland's roads. During the 24 hour initiative, officers throughout Scotland focused on ensuring that vehicle occupants were wearing their seatbelt with 367 offences detected. This initiative is part of Police Scotland's commitment to reducing road casualties on Scotland's roads and is also part of a wider European initiative to highlight the absolute need to wear a seatbelt whilst traveling in a vehicle.

The Police Scotland "Get Ready for Winter Campaign" will be launched in the coming weeks, running from 21 October - 27 October 2013. The Campaign will focus on raising road users awareness of the potential dangers encountered when using the road network during the winter months. Officers will reinforce the casualty reduction benefits of wearing a seatbelt or using a suitable child restraint device and of driving at the appropriate speed for the conditions. There will also be a focus on raising awareness of preparing vehicles for winter driving.

## **Keeping People Safe – At Home**

### **Beat Bogus Callers Campaign**

In support of Keeping People Safe, Police Scotland launched a national 'Beat Bogus Callers Campaign' on 9 September 2013. The crimes associated with 'bogus callers' affects some of the most vulnerable people in our communities, with victims often targeted because of their perceived vulnerability. A victim's quality of life often deteriorates significantly afterwards, which can impact on subsequent investigations and the person's ability to access the criminal justice system with many becoming repeat victims. The campaign intends to tackle this type of crime by giving elderly and vulnerable people the confidence to keep their doors closed to uninvited callers. In many cases, this simple action can mean the difference between falling victim to 'bogus caller' type crime or not. The campaign uses nationwide radio advertising advising people not to open their doors to unexpected callers. This is backed up by days of action in key areas across each division, which will include officers taking the time to engage with people and advising them about the campaign. Community Officers will distribute posters in community areas around their council wards, detailing the main precautions to take.

### **Keeping People Safe Online**

Police Scotland has launched a public awareness campaign aimed at highlighting 'webcam extortion' and giving advice to potential victims, parents and carers on how to avoid this type of crime and what action to take if they suspect it. The Police Scotland campaign supports the national public awareness campaign led by Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) raising awareness of this issue. 'Webcam Extortion' is a term given to demands being made for monies or other favour, which involve the use of a chat application, the internet and a webcam. Person or persons involved in this type of crime convince victims to share sexual images or recordings of themselves via the internet and webcams. Threats are thereafter made that the images or recordings will be made public unless money is paid. Police Scotland is committed to safeguarding the public from such threats and fully supports the national CEOP campaign.

### **Campaign Against Violence**

Phase 2 of the Campaign Against Violence (CAV) is now well underway, with office based police officers across the country routinely deploying on key dates in support of local policing activity to tackle violence, disorder and anti-social behaviour. Phase 2 of the campaign concludes at the end of September 2013, so far 2116 officers have been deployed over 7 days throughout July and August 2013, delivering 16,928 additional patrol hours in support of Keeping People Safe. A further 2 days are planned at the end of September 2013 which will conclude Phase 2. Phase 3 of the campaign commences in October 2013 and lasts until the end of December 2013. Between the 1 April 2013 to 31 August 2013, 5714 officers have been deployed on CAV duties delivering 45,712 additional patrol hours.

## **2.2 Commonwealth Games**

The Commonwealth Games Safety and Security Programme was subject to a Gateway review during August 2013 and received positive gradings. The review team were complimentary about the timeliness of the planning and the strength and effectiveness of partnerships across the programme. The team programme also underwent a process of Peer Review where operational plans were subject to detailed scrutiny. This process identified areas where savings could be achieved through more effective deployment of resources. The key challenges being managed by the programme at present are the procurement of private contract security personnel, budget constraints and the developing plans around parallel events. The operational phase begins on 9 October 2013 when the Queen's Baton Relay is launched at Buckingham Palace before travelling to Glasgow the next day, from where it will begin its journey around the Commonwealth starting with the hosts of the last Games, India. Although security arrangements for the International Sector of the relay are through UK business as usual processes, the Commonwealth Games Intelligence cell will commence operations and work with partners to track progress around the world. The Domestic Sector (Scotland) route will be announced soon, which will enable detailed planning at Divisional/Local Authority level to commence.

## **2.3 Specialist Crime / Public Protection**

### **Rape**

The investigation of rape and other sexual offences is a key priority for Police Scotland and the establishment of a single service provides an opportunity to focus on improving our operational and strategic response to rape and other sexual offences across the country, thereby improving outcomes for victims.

In recent years there has been a steady increase in the number of reported rapes across Scotland, from 821 during 2008/2009 to 1372 in 2012/2013. The reasons for such an increase are complex and varied but notably the figures exist against a statistical backdrop of under reporting. That being the case, more needs to be done to encourage victims to engage in the criminal justice process.

The challenges associated with the investigation and prosecution of rape are well documented. The creation of Police Scotland has provided opportunities to develop a national strategy to improve the investigatory response, ensure high standards of service provision, enhance multi agency collaboration and encourage an increase in reporting. In support of these aims Police Scotland has developed a Strategic Action Plan in respect of rape and other sexual offences.

The establishment of the National Rape Task Force and the Divisional Rape Investigation Units ensures that specialist resources are utilised in the investigation and review of rape and other sexual offences enquiries. The two units work closely together to improve the standard of investigations, share learning and good practice and thus better serve victims.

In addition to this Police Scotland recognises the importance of prevention and a Prevention Strategy has therefore been developed with 4 key stands; Prevention Campaign, Education, Reducing Vulnerability and Perpetrator Focus.

## **National Counter Corruption Unit**

A new national Counter Corruption Unit has been created to target corruption in public sector organisations. The national Counter Corruption Unit seeks to strengthen and improve safeguards against the threat posed by individuals or groups intent on gaining illegal advantage by targeting organisations which are funded by public money.

The unit will have a dual remit; one team will focus internally within Police Scotland whilst a second team will be focused on the wider public sector arena. The unit will result in dedicated resources tackling corruption in the public sector, the first of its kind in UK policing and breaks new ground in seeking to work in partnership with all public sector bodies to prevent and strengthen organisational resilience to corruption. At the same time the new unit, will offer a specialist investigation capability which will enhance public confidence in the integrity of public services and servants, protect public finances and keep people safe.

## **2.4 Communications / Engagement**

Police Scotland's use of social media continues to attract additional followers, with 377,844 followers across all social media channels. The national Police Scotland Facebook account has 36,191 followers and Police Scotland Twitter feeds across the country now attract more than 151,000 followers. The Police Scotland national Twitter feed has 16,856 followers, a 7% increase since August 2013.

Police Scotland continues to use social media to reach all communities in support of Keeping People Safe. During the Edinburgh Festival Police Scotland reached 117,180 people through the Edinburgh Festival Facebook posts and Facebook images raising awareness of the Scotland v Belgium football policing operation were seen by 63,000 people and were passed on by more than 100 people including the Belgian Football Association, which has more than 30,000 followers.

As part of a social media review, a survey was published in order to obtain public feedback. Police Scotland's social media channels were used to publicise this survey and received more than 1700 replies in a week. The results of the survey are currently being analysed.

## **2.5 Scrutiny & Local Engagement**

### **Local Scrutiny Activity**

Local Authorities continue to evolve their arrangements for the scrutiny of policing as required under the Police & Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012. Local Police Commanders report that the level and nature of scrutiny varies across Scotland which supports the findings of SPA members and the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) Improvement Service National Advisors during their respective visits to Local Scrutiny forums. Police Scotland is maintaining an active role in supporting these scrutiny arrangements at both local and national levels, with Local Police Commanders actively engaging with elected members and officials within the 32 local authorities. Engagement also continues with the National Advisors and Scottish Government personnel to help shape the future development of the Collaborative Statement of Effective Scrutiny and associated training.

### **Public Consultation**

Police Scotland has commenced the significant community consultation exercise described to members in a previous report and discussed at the SPA's Community Accountability Working Group meeting on 22 August 2013. This involves seeking the opinion of circa 30,000 members of the public regarding local priorities for policing to inform the Local Multi Member Ward Plans for 2013-2014. This exercise is progressing and it is intended that an update will be presented to the next meeting of the Working Group in November 2013.

### **Multi Member Ward Plan Updates**

On 30 September 2013, the Multi Member Ward Plans that were compiled and published for each multi member ward area in Scotland will have been in place for six months. During October 2013, following the compilation of the half-year performance statistics, update reports detailing progress against the plans will be prepared and uploaded to the Police Scotland website.

### **Local Policing Plans 2014-16**

Members will be aware that the Police & Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012, sets out the requirement for the preparation of 3 year Local Policing Plans to be approved by the relevant Local Authority. To expedite the preparation of the first Local Policing Plans and ensure their readiness for Day 1 of Police Scotland it was agreed that the initial plans should be for a 12 month period and that the full 3 year plans should be compiled for 2014-16. A Working Group has been established to consider how best to support the preparation of the Local Policing Plans and ensure that they take proper cognisance of the relevant considerations.

### **Building Safer Communities Programme**

The Scottish Government has established a 'Building Safer Communities' programme which will focus on 5 key projects. Whilst community engagement will be a feature of each element of this programme, the National Community Support Framework in particular will look at how key partners, including Police Scotland, need to continue to engage and develop links with communities to evolve effective local services. This includes building links between the Building Safer Communities programme and other national policy priorities such as Early Years and other Justice Change Programmes. Insights and products from this programme are anticipated to prove useful in the development and application of engagement activity.

### **Government Legislation on Community Empowerment**

The Government has announced that its Bill programme for 2013-14 will include a Community Empowerment Renewal Bill. This is anticipated to include a range of directions for community planning partners to take to ensure that local communities have a say in the delivery of services. This will have implications for the manner and form of consultation processes that public services will have to adopt to ensure effective community engagement in future years. Opportunities will be sought through this legislation for Police Scotland to enhance the level of joint consultation undertaken with Community Planning Partners across the country.

## **2.6 Local Policing Division - Lanarkshire**

Lanarkshire Division is the second largest policing division in Scotland, behind Greater Glasgow, in terms of both population and police officer numbers. The division covers both North and South Lanarkshire Local Authority areas and the Local Policing Commander is Chief Superintendent Nelson Telfer who is supported by 3 Superintendents. The Division has 8 territorial command areas, each having a dedicated Area Commander (Chief Inspector) supported by Community Inspectors with responsibility for all day-to-day policing functions in their respective areas.

North Lanarkshire has a diverse and multicultural population and is the fourth largest council area in Scotland; extending southwards from the Kilsyth Hills to the River Clyde and covers 47,222 hectares. The division incorporates the main towns of Coatbridge, Airdrie, Cumbernauld, Kilsyth, Bellshill, Motherwell, Wishaw and Shotts. It is bounded by South Lanarkshire, Glasgow City, Falkirk, East Dunbartonshire, Stirling and West Lothian. The population for North Lanarkshire is 326,680.

South Lanarkshire was formed in 1996, from the areas of Clydesdale, Hamilton and East Kilbride districts, and some outer areas of Glasgow District. South Lanarkshire also takes in rural and upland areas, market towns such as Lanark, Strathaven and Carluke. South Lanarkshire shares borders with Dumfries and Galloway, East Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, City of Glasgow, North Lanarkshire, West Lothian and Scottish Borders. The population for South Lanarkshire is 312,660.

Since 1 April 2013, Lanarkshire Division has dealt with a number of significant events, including events at Hamilton Race Course, Strathclyde Country Park, football stadiums, as well as several parades, including the County Grand Orange Lodge of Central Scotland parade. To support these events the Division has received support from specialist resources, including the Operational Support Units, Dog Branch and the Mounted Branch. In addition, assistance has been provided by the Major Investigation Teams to assist in the investigation of four murders this year and the Gangs Task Force have also successfully assisted in supporting the Division to tackle gang related activity in the Rutherglen and Cambuslang areas. The Division also has significant resources focused on targeting the Serious Organised Crime Groups and ongoing covert support from the Specialist Crime Division and Operational Support Division Air Support has seen significant results in this area. The Division also contains the M74 which is the main arterial route to England and therefore receives daily assistance from the Road Policing Unit.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 There are no financial implications associated with this paper.

### **PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no personnel implications associated with this paper.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no legal implications associated with this paper.

**REPUTATIONAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are no reputational implications associated with this paper.

**SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 There are no social implications associated with this report.

**EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 There are no equality implications associated with this report.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are invited to note the contents of this paper.