

Meeting	SPA Board Meeting Public Session
Date	Tuesday 28th November 2017
Location	Stirling Court Hotel, University of Stirling FK9 4AE
Title of Paper	Forensic Service Committee Chair Report
Item Number	14.3
Presented By	Iain Whyte
Recommendation to Members	For Noting
Appendix Attached:	NO

PURPOSE

To provide the Board with an update on business progressed through the Forensic Services Committee on the 7th November 2017.

1. Forensic Services Performance Report (Ongoing)

1.1 To discuss and address issues around demand and reduce backlogs in Forensic Services, a Demand Management Review Meeting has been scheduled for the 4th December, with Police Scotland, the Crown Office, Forensic Services and SPA Members, led by Committee Member Robert Hayes.

2. HMICS Update Report (ongoing)

2.1 An update was provided on the HMICS Thematic Inspection. It was confirmed that a section would be written into the Governance Manual to provide clarity on the process for submission of evidence and agreement on the closure of actions with HMICS. A further update will be provided at the next Forensic Services Committee Meeting on the 15th February 2017.

3. Forensic Services Draft Strategy (ongoing)

3.1 The Draft Strategy was discussed and the Committee agree to endorse it for Stakeholder consultation. It was confirmed that Board Members would be approached as Stakeholders for feedback before January. The formal Strategy will be submitted for approval, post consultation, to the February SPA Board Meeting.

4. Corporate Services Review (ongoing)

Item taken in Private in accordance with SPA Governance Framework, Section 27(e)

4.1 A paper on Corporate Services support outlined areas where Forensic Services required additional support and where no formal service level had been agreed with Police Scotland. Issues have been noted with ICT and HR and especially Procurement. The Committee requested that Forensic Services management quantify immediate and longer term support requirements so that this could be discussed in meetings that are already arranged with Police Scotland.

5. Business Cases (ongoing)

Item taken in Private in accordance with SPA Governance Framework, Section 27(e)

5.1 A number of business cases were submitted making bids for resource, some for this financial year using Reform funding. Most were approved with some amendments. This included a case to resolve capacity issues in the Biology Service and improve staff wellbeing. This business case is to be progressed to the Board for approval.

6. Date of Next Meeting

6.1 The next Forensic Services Committee Meeting will take place on 15th February 2017.