

SCOTTISH POLICE
AUTHORITY

Meeting	Public SPA Board Meeting
Date	Tuesday 19 December 2017
Location	Apex City Quay Hotel, Dundee
Title of Paper	Independent Assurance Report on the Use of Firearms Ranges and Armouries within Police Scotland
Item Number	6.2
Presented By	DCC Iain Livingstone
Recommendation to Members	For Noting
Appendix Attached	No

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide a brief outline of measures taken to assure board members of Armed Policing's access, use and oversight pertaining to all Firearms Ranges.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Police Scotland currently access nine firearms ranges located across Scotland including Aberdeen, Stirling, Glenrothes and East Kilbride, with the largest of those ranges based at East Kilbride.
- 1.2 On 04 December 2017, the Chair of the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) requested that Deputy Chief Constable (DCC) Iain Livingstone provide an assurance update to the SPA Board on this matter. DCC Livingstone commissioned an Assurance Inspection through the UK Lead for Armed Policing, DCC Simon Chesterman. This independent Assurance Inspection will be carried out by the College of Policing who advise the UK lead on all matters pertaining to the use of Firearms ranges.
- 1.3 In addition, a Health and Safety inspection was undertaken at the ranges on 19 October 2017.

2. FURTHER DETAIL ON THE REPORT TOPIC

- 2.1 The Health and Safety Inspection referred to above identified the need for some minor construction works, around for example the baton netting location, and amendments to the Standard Operating Procedures. Work is ongoing in this regard and will be completed as a priority.
- 2.2 Interim measures are in place to ensure that access to all Firearms ranges is restricted to Authorised Firearms Officers and officers participating in formal firearms training.
- 2.3 DCC Livingstone has requested that T/Assistant Chief Constable (T/ACC) Alan Speirs, Professionalism and Assurance oversees the Assurance Inspection for Police Scotland. This inspection will not review past usage of the ranges but will ensure any future use is in compliance with relevant legislation and principles adopted by the College of Policing.
- 2.4 The terms of reference set out for the Assurance Inspection include the following key elements:
 - Ascertain if all Health and Safety requirements in terms of the College of Policing licensing requirements are adhered to.

- Ascertain if the range management is conducted in accordance with Standard Operating Procedures.
- Make comment on the management of Police Scotland Ranges.
- Make recommendations on access to ranges for non AFO personnel.
- Comment on the suitability of Police Scotland Firearms Range, Standard Operating Procedures.

2.6 Police Scotland will cooperate fully with the College of Policing to ensure the Assurance Inspection is undertaken in an efficient and timeous manner. It is anticipated that work will conclude in the early part of the New Year and further updates will be provided to the Board thereafter.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no financial implications in this report.

4. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no personnel implications associated with this paper.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no further legal implications in this paper to those listed above.

6. REPUTATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no reputational implications associated with this paper.

7. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no social implications associated with this paper.

8. COMMUNITY IMPACT

8.1 There are no community implications associated with this paper.

9. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no equality implications associated with this paper.

10. ENVIRONMENT IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no equality implications associated with this paper.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are requested to: *Note the information contained within this report.*