

SCOTTISH POLICE
AUTHORITY

Meeting	Public SPA Board Meeting
Date	20 June 2016
Location	Stirling Court Hotel, Stirling
Title of Paper	Chief Constable's Report
Item Number	5
Presented By	Chief Constable Philip Gormley
For Approval For Consultation	For Consultation
Appendix Attached:	No

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) with information on progress and significant events within Police Scotland since the last SPA Board meeting on 31 March 2016.

This report is submitted as a Standing Agenda Item.

1. BACKGROUND

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

2. FURTHER DETAIL ON REPORT TOPIC

2.1 EXTERNAL PUBLICATIONS

Police Investigations & Review Commissioner (PIRC)

During the reporting period 18 March – 31 May 2016 there have been twenty two referrals to PIRC.

There have been no publications within the current reporting period, however there were two publications made by PIRC prior to the last Board on 31 March 2016 but not reported, due to the paper being prepared and submitted in advance of that meeting.

On Wednesday 23 March 2016 a PIRC report was published regarding the serious injury of a male following police contact in Uddingston on Saturday 3 October 2015.

The circumstances were that a male alleged that after he had been chased by police officers his leg was injured when the police car ran over his leg.

After a full investigation, and in the absence of any additional independent evidence it appears on the balance of probabilities that the man was injured as result of falling against the police car.

On Wednesday 30 March 2015 a PIRC report was published regarding the unintentional discharge of a police firearm at Longannet Power Station on Monday 14 December 2015.

A G36C police issue carbine loaded with FX simunition paint rounds was unintentionally discharged by an officer during a training exercise located within Longannet Power Station, Alloa, Fife. A pin board attached to a wall was slightly damaged but nobody was injured as a result of the discharge.

After a full investigation PIRC concluded that:

- The discharge of the firearm was negligent and preventable;
- If accepted practice and procedures had been rigorously adhered to then this incident would not have occurred.

Police Scotland has taken action to ensure that procedures are rigidly adhered to. In light of the steps taken by Police Scotland, the PIRC has no further recommendations.

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary for Scotland (HMICS)

Inspections

On 17 May 2016 HMICS published its report on the state, effectiveness and efficiency of Local Policing in Dumfries and Galloway Division. The report contained four Recommendations and five Improvement Actions which are currently being considered for implementation and updates will be managed in line with current arrangements in regard to the tracker.

Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference have been received from HMICS for both the Crime Audit 2016 and the Inspection of Forensic Services. The Crime Audit follows on from similar audits in 2013 and 2014 and will examine the extent to which recording practice complies with the Scottish Crime Recording Standard and Counting Rules.

2.2 RECENT EVENTS OF NOTE

Fatal Road Traffic Collision

On Thursday 11 May 2016, a female pedestrian Jill Pirrie was fatally injured when she was struck by a car on Old Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh. At the time of the incident, the car was being followed by a marked police vehicle which had its blue lights and siren activated, having failed to stop for the police.

Following a police investigation, a male has appeared at court in connection with Ms Pirrie's death and the circumstances have been referred to COPFS (Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service) and PIRC (Police Investigations and Review Commissioner).

Our sincere condolences are with the family and friends of Ms Pirrie at this tragic time.

Scottish Cup Final Disorder

On Saturday 21 May 2016, the Scottish Cup Final took place at the National Football Stadium, Hampden, Glasgow between Hibernian and Rangers Football Clubs. During and immediately after the match, a pitch incursion occurred with violence and disorder ensuing.

Police Scotland responded in a proportionate and justified manner, deploying mounted, public order and conventional officers, separating opposing supporters and preventing a further escalation of violence.

In light of the Criminal Activity, a full and robust criminal investigation has commenced and, at time of writing, to date sixteen individuals have been arrested and reported for various offences relating to their conduct in this incident. A number of additional arrests are anticipated.

Police Scotland continues to work with partners, looking to identify lessons to prevent this being repeated in the future.

Liam Fee Murder

On Tuesday 31 May 2016 Nyomi and Rachel Fee were found guilty of his murder at their home in Donald Crescent, Thornton.

They were also convicted of a catalogue of abuse carried out against Liam and two other boys.

Police Scotland's Major Investigation Team (MIT) launched an immediate investigation following Liam's death.

Evidence of abuse and the circumstances, which led to Liam's murder emerged as a result of a series of joint interviews with the two other boys and from other forensic examinations.

This was a complex, challenging and sensitive investigation which involved interviewing two young children to establish the level of abuse and neglect both they and Liam Fee had been subjected to.

It was because of their courage that detectives were able to identify Rachel and Nyomi Fee as being responsible for a wide range of serious offences against three children.

Police Scotland places the highest priority on protecting the most vulnerable, most at risk people in our communities and in investigating criminality when it does take place.

We will work with our child protection partners to ensure that the Significant Case Review identifies any recommendations which can be taken forward to ensure communities have the utmost confidence in protective and welfare services.

Scottish School Bomb Threats

On Tuesday 24 May 2016, 13 schools throughout Scotland received hoax bomb threats. This type of incident has been repeated throughout the UK and Northern Ireland since January 2016.

There is currently no information to suggest that these threats were terrorist related and Police Scotland continues to work with other UK forces to investigate whether these incidents are linked.

Police Scotland take such hoaxes very seriously as they cause significant alarm amongst residents as well as diverting resources.

ACC Steve Johnson provided two statements throughout the day, sent out on social media reaching over 300,000 accounts, with over 10,000 shares and 400 retweets providing reassurance to the public.

A fifteen year old male has been arrested and reported to the Scottish Children's Reporter for 9 offences whilst a 16 year old male was arrested and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

The National Commemoration of the Centenary of the Battle of Jutland

On Tuesday 31 May 2016 Chief Constable Gormley attended the National Commemoration of the Centenary of the Battle of Jutland in Orkney

This event was attended by Prime Minister David Cameron, the German President Joachim Gauck, First Minister Nicola Sturgeon and Members of the Scottish Parliament, senior military personnel and descendants of those who took part in this naval battle.

The battle itself took place near the coast of Denmark, involving around 250 ships, when the Royal Navy's Grand Fleet clashed with the German High Seas Fleet in a 36-hour conflict, the largest of World War 1.

This event culminated in a service at St Magnus Cathedral where the 6,094 British and 2,551 German sailors who lost their lives were remembered.

Whilst in Orkney Mr Gormley took the opportunity to meet with Police Scotland's Local Command Team and elected members discussing national and more local matters relative to the island based communities, appreciating the differences in policing responses required in these areas.

2.3 OPERATIONS, INITIATIVES AND CAMPAIGNS

Road Policing Operation

Between Monday 11 April and 15 April 2016, Trunk Road Policing Officers, supported by the Divisional Road Policing Units and Safety Camera Units, across the country carried out coordinated patrols and road checks on the A90 between Fraserburgh in Aberdeenshire and Edinburgh last week.

Officers were deployed at key locations over the 176 mile stretch of the A90 and carried out dedicated patrols and roadside checks in marked and unmarked vehicles. Officers stopped a variety of vehicles and utilised Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology to target specific offenders.

Almost 600 vehicles were stopped during the five day operation, resulting in:

- 185 drivers were found to be exceeding the speed limit (with 5 being recorded at over 100 miles per hour)
- 98 vehicles were found to have defects (6 being immediately prohibited from use on public roads)
- 43 were found to have no tax or expired vehicle test certificates
- 31 drivers were dealt with in relation to careless or dangerous driving.
- 17 drivers were reported for using mobile phones while driving
- 11 vehicles were also seized after being used without insurance or by drivers who were either disqualified, had no licence or driving out with the conditions of their licence.
- One vehicle was recovered having been stolen a short time earlier.

This is the biggest operation of this type held to date, demonstrating the benefits and abilities of a single forces resources.

National Air Weapon Surrender Campaign - 23 May - 12 June 2016

On Monday 25 April 2016 Police Scotland provided further information to its officers and staff regarding the Air Weapon and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2015, which is scheduled to take effect on Saturday 31 December 2016.

To support this legislation going live and to engage with our communities Police Scotland ran a voluntary surrender campaign between Monday 23 May and Sunday 12 June 2016, allowing individuals and groups not wishing to retain air weapons without relevant authority and certification, the opportunity to hand-in and surrender their weapons in a safe, secure and efficient manner at designated police offices.

The overall safety of officers, staff and members of the public was of paramount importance throughout the campaign. Police Scotland staff and officers were briefed, ensuring they had a clear understanding of their role and responsibilities in supporting the safe and successful management of the air weapon surrender campaign prior to its commencement.

At the end of week one over 2,000 air weapons had been surrendered increasing to over 6,200 being surrendered at the end of week two, demonstrating that the message had been positively received and continued to be supported across our communities.

From Friday 1 July 2016 those wishing to legally possess an air weapon can apply for a licence with guidance provided via the Police Scotland web site.

101 and 999 Awareness Campaign

On 23 May 2016 a Police Scotland marketing campaign was launched across our social media sites and those of partners, aimed at promoting the appropriate use of the 999 and 101 services.

Our service Advisors provide 24 hour support and assistance to the public whenever they need us and are responsible for managing over 3.6 million emergency and non-emergency calls per year.

It is readily accepted that whilst the vast majority of the public do use the service appropriately, we need to avoid any instances where this is not the case.

The four-week campaign focused on educating the public on when they should call 999 and 101, with the aim of targeting misuse of the service provided by Police Scotland's Contact, Command and Control Division (C3).

The themes of the campaign included:

- Educating the public on the role of the Police Scotland Service Centres;
- Outlining the impact of nuisance calls on the service provided to the public;
- Signposting other agencies who can help if it is not a police matter;
- Raising awareness of the various methods available to contact the police;
- The campaign will also highlight the achievements of 101 since the single non-emergency number launched in 2013.

2.4 BUSINESS UPDATES

Annual Police Plan – National Priorities 2016 / 2017

The Annual Police Plan outlines our national policing priorities for the next 12 months and has been subjected to wider consultation than anything that has gone before.

Our approach is clearly based on prevention and collaboration to ensure the most efficient and effective service delivery.

Local Policing Plans contain the detail of the issues which our communities are concerned about and want us to address and these are supported by these national priorities that we will deliver to keep our communities safe.

In the past this has always been by hard copy consultation questionnaires which were distributed by police officers within the community they work.

This year Police Scotland's consultation process has widened and become more flexible. The consultation process has moved online to a digital format and consultation will be open all year, known as Your View Counts.

Our five National priorities for 2016 / 2017 are:

1. Road safety and road crime
2. Violence, disorder and antisocial behaviour
3. Counter Terrorism
4. Protecting people at risk of harm
5. Serious Organised Crime

Executive Team Appointments

On 5 May 2016 following the retirement announcements of DCC Designate Neil Richardson and ACC Val Thomson, a number of new appointments have been made within the Police Scotland Executive Team.

DCC Iain Livingstone has been appointed DCC Designate, having previously held the portfolio for DCC Crime and Operational Support.

ACC Ruaraidh Nicolson has been appointed Temporary DCC Crime and Operational Support, having previously held the portfolio for ACC Crime, Serious Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism.

Chief Superintendent Steve Johnston has been sworn in at Stirling Police Office and appointed ACC Serious Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism, having previously served in England with Cumbria Constabulary and West Midlands Police.

Mark Williams has been substantively promoted to ACC Local Policing West, having carried out the role in a temporary capacity.

Chief Superintendent John Hawkins has been promoted to ACC Contact, Command and Control, Custody and Criminal Justice, having previously been the Divisional Commander for Forth Valley Division.

Police Scotland College Tulliallan maintains SCQF Credit Rating Body Status

On Thursday 19 May 2016 it was announced that the Police Scotland College Tulliallan had received confirmation of further continued recognition as a Credit Rating Body (CRB) under the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF).

The SCQF is Scotland's lifelong learning framework and is the unified framework for all qualifications and learning programmes in Scotland. CRB status affords the Training, Leadership and Development (TLD) function the ability to apply formal SCQF credit and level of learning to

Police Scotland programmes which meet specific quality assurance criteria.

The Police Scotland College continues to be one of only a handful of organisations out with the SQA and further and higher education sectors to be afforded such status, which recognises the processes in place to ensure quality of programmes as well as maintenance of the integrity of the SCQF. This continues to be a significant asset to the service and demonstrates a focus on professional and external recognition of the achievement of officers and staff.

Home Affairs Select Committee

On Tuesday 24 May 2016, Chief Constable Gormley appeared before the Home Affairs Select Committee at Westminster, with respect to their inquiry into the College of Policing.

During the session, Mr Gormley was asked questions relating to Police Scotland training and providing training overseas, with particular inference that this is provided to countries with poor Human Rights Records. Mr Gormley explained Police Scotland and its legacy forces and constabularies have been involved in international programmes since 1993. In the first three years of Police Scotland the total amount of income received through these activities has been £1.8 Million.

Police Scotland's international work has been supported, facilitated and mostly paid for by successive United Kingdom and Scottish Governments, and others including United Nations registered charities.

This work is undertaken with the approval of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Scottish Government, as well as being recognised by the UK Department for International Development and UNICEF.

Mr Gormley was also questioned about diversity of staff within Police Scotland which he recognised as a concern and outlined the steps being taken, through recruitment and upcoming promotion processes, to alter the balance of the organisation.

The Chief Constable provided a written response to the Committee following his appearance with supplementary information and in response to a question posed regarding how much VAT Police Scotland is unable to reclaim, or has paid. The letter outlined that since April 2013 the organisation has paid £76.5M in VAT. Police Scotland remain the only police organisation in the United Kingdom to pay VAT.

Psychoactive Substances Act 2016

On 26 May 2016 new police powers came into place to tackle the production, supply and importation/exportation of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS).

This UK wide legislation aims to tackle the harm posed by NPS which are marketed inaccurately as 'legal highs' and have been linked to a number of deaths in the UK.

The Psychoactive Substances Act 2016 (PSA 16) does not replace the Misuse of Drugs Act (1971) but it will work alongside to complement it. The PSA 16 will:

- 1) Make it an offence to produce, supply, offer to supply, possess with intent to supply, import or export psychoactive substances; that is, any substance intended for human consumption that is capable of producing a psychoactive effect. The maximum sentence will be seven year's imprisonment.
- 2) Exclude legitimate substances, such as food, alcohol, tobacco, nicotine, caffeine and medical products, from the scope of the offence, as well as controlled drugs, which will continue to be regulated by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.
- 3) Exempt specific activities, such as healthcare professionals and those undertaking approved research, who may have a legitimate need to use psychoactive substances in their work.
- 4) Provide powers to stop and search persons, vehicles and vessels, enter and search premises in accordance with a warrant, and to seize and destroy psychoactive substances.

Senior Management Team Relocates to Tulliallan

On Tuesday 31 May 2016 the Chief Constable and his Deputy Chief Constables relocated to Tulliallan from Stirling.

Assistant Chief Constables and Directors will follow in due course, however this is not expected to be their permanent base as they will

often be working with colleagues around the country in their respective areas of business.

The facilities at Tulliallan already support the business needs of the Executive Team, through the provision of meeting rooms and amenities to support guests and the hosting of events.

The Chief Constable and his team recognise the pivotal role that Tulliallan has played in the history of the Scottish Police Service and want to retain this at the centre of the organisation.

Police officers and police staff maintain great respect for the forces they originally joined and the Scottish Police College is something that unites us all, including those who have only ever been part of Police Scotland.

At this time of budget constraints there will be minimal investment to support this move as the infrastructure was put in place during Police Reform.

Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015

On Tuesday 31 May 2016 sections 1 and 4 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015 was introduced.

This act was given Royal assent in November 2015. The act created new legislation to consolidate and clarify existing trafficking offences into one single offence, which empowers officers to perform their duties under specific simplified powers and allows investigations to be progressed practically and effectively.

The act contains two main changes and has been adapted to consolidate all human trafficking legislation under one offence. An aggravation for human trafficking has been created and the human trafficking offence itself has an aggravator if the victim is a child or is committed by a public official.

All operational activity must be victim focused and our priority is improving the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities affected or exploited by human trafficking. Police Scotland will robustly investigate those who abuse, exploit or coerce individuals and through proactive interventions, disrupt organised criminal activity associated with Human Trafficking.

Security and Safety of Communities Enhanced through Armed Response increase

On Thursday 16 June 2016 ACC Higgins, Operational Support announced to the media that Police Scotland would be increasing the number of officers within armed policing to help maintain the safety and security of our communities.

Chief Constable Gormley will provide the SPA and Members with a further verbal update at the Board Meeting on Monday 20 June 2016.

2.5 FUTURE EVENTS OF NOTE

T in the Park 2016

The T in the Park Music Festival will be held for the second year on the site at Strathallan near Auchterarder in Perthshire with the event running from Thursday 7 July until Monday 11 July 2016. This event attracts around 85,000 people, the majority of which are aged between 16 and 25 years. There will be a residential campsite next to the arena, with the capacity for approximately 70,000 campers during the event.

The event organisers are anticipating a capacity audience this year with a full policing plan in place.

The Open Golf Championship 2016

The 145th Open Championship will take place on Royal Troon Golf Club, Ayrshire between Sunday 10 July and Sunday 17 July 2016, with a contingency day scheduled for Monday 18 July should it be required. Practice days and other associated events will take place on the course from Sunday 10 July and Wednesday 13th July inclusive.

The Open is one of the world's largest annual sports events, and is televised globally. By way of illustration during 2015 The Open had a television broadcast reach of approximately 505 million households, with more than 5,400 hours of coverage screened by 45 broadcasters across 106 channels. Similar, if not higher, viewing figures are anticipated for 2016.

The event organisers are expecting in excess of 200,000 persons attending, with up to 40,000 expected on the course during each of the Championship days, with a full policing plan in place.

The Royal Highland Show 2016

The annual Royal Highland Show will take place at the Ingliston Showground, Edinburgh between Thursday 23 June and Sunday 26 June 2016 and is anticipated to attract over 200,000 visitors.

This event will have a significant impact on the local transport infrastructure and a full policing plan is in place.

The Royal Military Tattoo 2016

The annual Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo will take place between Monday 1 and Saturday 27 August 2016, which includes rehearsals, with this event being part of Edinburgh's International Festival.

This event will be held on the Esplanade of Edinburgh Castle and is anticipated to attract an audience in excess of 220,000 people as well as being recorded and later televised to a worldwide audience.

There will be seven performances per week, one on each weekday and two performances on a Saturday.

A full policing plan is in place with dedicated officers for the duration of this event.

2.6 INTERNET & SOCIAL MEDIA

Social Media Analysis

Evaluation of social media since last reported to the SPA Board, shows the total number of followers/likes across all accounts to be 1,105,452 up 88,924 on last period.

April 2016

Your View Counts

The public consultation survey launched in April with social media being used to drive traffic towards the webpage and encourage people to complete the survey. So far content on the corporate Facebook and Twitter has had a reach of 620,481 with 18,555 engagements.

A video of the Chief speaking from the launch and appealing to people to complete the survey has been viewed 8,304 times. These are all really strong figures considering that the campaign only launched on 7 April.

Paid-for boosted posts were also pushed out on all of our divisional Facebook pages. These boosts have generated a total of 211,294 views.

National Stalking Awareness Day

A high profile piece on social media with many police forces and other organisations tweeting about it using #StalkingCounts. We joined the conversation with a message of support for the day and information on what to do if you are being stalked. This had a strong reach on Facebook (53,836) and Twitter (40,856) & messages were really well engaged with (82 shares and 51 retweets).

Disclosure Scheme

Content around the disclosure scheme for domestic abuse was re-issued on our social media channels on the lead up to the Old Firm football

match on Sunday 17th April. One Facebook post was viewed 70,410 times & was shared 204 times. Over on Twitter, we used #RightToAsk & tweets made around 45,000 impressions.

May 2016

Running Man

After being nominated by NYPD to take on the Running Man challenge, a video of our officers quickly went viral on social media reaching over 7.1 million people in total. The video of officers at Edinburgh Castle was viewed over 2 million times with a strong engagement rate of 14%.

The Police Scotland College Tulliallan was then nominated, and a second video of the new recruits taking on the challenge was viewed over 2.3 million times generating a fantastic engagement rate of 29%.

Followers across our social media accounts increased during this period and it was a fantastic way to put Police Scotland in the spotlight for positive reasons - even being picked up by popular social media page Lad Bible and on TV show Have I Got News for You.

Local Policing

Our local policing campaign - Your View Counts - has continued to gain momentum throughout the month with our local and divisional social media accounts supporting it and putting their own local twist on the messaging. The #YourViewCounts hashtag has reached over 84k accounts and just under 115k impressions on Twitter.

Rural Crime

A video clip showing one of our rural crime officers talking about their role filmed at a farm in Galashiels performed really well on social media this month. In total the clip has been watched over 47,000 times and gained almost 400 likes on Facebook. It highlighted our key messages for the rural crime campaign and gave an insight into how we tackle rural crime.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report

4. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no personnel implications associated with this report other than those specified.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report

6. REPUTATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no reputational implications associated with this report.

7. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no social implications associated with this report

8. COMMUNITY IMPACT

8.1 There is no community impact as a consequence of this report.

9. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no equalities implications other than any highlighted in this report or the reports pertaining to the events detailed.

10. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no environmental implications as a consequence of this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are invited to note the content of this paper.