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SCOTTISH POLICE
AUTHORITY

Meeting	Scottish Police Authority (SPA) Board
Date	29 March 2018
Location	John McIntyre Conference Centre, Pollock Halls, Edinburgh
Title of Paper	Interim Chief Constable's Report
Item Number	5
Reference Number	REP-B.01.20180329
Presented By	Deputy Chief Constable (Designate) Iain Livingstone
Recommendation to Members	For Noting
Appendix Attached:	No

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide the Authority with information relating to the Police Service, policing and the state of crime.

This report is submitted as a Standing Agenda Item.

SPA Board Meeting
Interim Chief Constable's Report
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1. BACKGROUND

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 activity and events within Police Scotland.

2. DELIVERING ON OUR PRIORITIES

VIOLENCE, DISORDER AND ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Police Scotland will work in partnership to reduce harm caused by public & private space Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour, Domestic Abuse and Hate Crime.

Over the weekend commencing 2 March 2018, Police Scotland responded to one suspicious death and four unconnected homicides across the country - in Paisley, Alloa, Alyth, Dalkeith and Moffat. Major Investigations were launched on each occasion, led by trained Senior Investigating Officers and staffed by detectives from both the Specialist Crime Division, Major Investigation Teams (MITs) and Local Policing Divisions.

The persons responsible have been arrested in relation to four of the cases and there are positive lines of enquiry regarding the suspicious death should it become a homicide. Community Impact is continually being assessed, with reassurance plans in place at each area.

SERIOUS ORGANISED CRIME

Police Scotland will work in partnership to prevent harm caused to individuals, communities and businesses by Serious Organised Crime (SOC) and enhance our understanding and response to cyber threats and internet enabled crime.

McPhee Trial

In June 2015, the McPhee Serious and Organised Crime Group (SOCG) were implicated in subjecting workers under their employment to crimes of violence, servitude and assault. An investigation was launched, led by the local policing team in Lanarkshire Division and supported by officers

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from Specialist Crime Division, including the Scottish Protected Persons Unit & National Human Trafficking Unit.

Intelligence was received and shared with other UK Police Forces and partner agencies. During the course of the investigation it became apparent that over a number of years the McPhees had preyed on vulnerable homeless people and foreign nationals.

On Wednesday 14 February 2018, Robert McPhee, James McPhee and John Miller were found guilty at the High Court in Glasgow of a number of offences including servitude, abduction and serious assaults. Another male, Steven McPhee had previously pled guilty to a number of assaults. All four males were sentenced on Thursday 15 March to more than 29 years in prison.

Martin Watt Trial

On Thursday 18 May 2017, a firearms warrant was executed at an address occupied by Martin Watt, a former Consultant with NHS Lanarkshire. During the course of this search a large amount of firearms and ammunition, including three fully automatic sub-machine guns, two hand guns and a home-made Taser were recovered.

Mr Watt had been the subject of disciplinary proceedings prior to his dismissal from NHS Lanarkshire; items recovered included an envelope containing the names and addresses of those involved in his hearing and dismissal.

On Friday 9 March 2018, at the High Court in Glasgow, Mr Watt was found guilty of charges, including possessing firearms with intent to endanger life, and he will be sentenced next month.

COUNTER TERRORISM AND DOMESTIC EXTREMISM

Police Scotland will work in partnership to protect our communities by reducing and mitigating the risk and impact of Terrorism and Domestic Extremism.

Exercise BORDER REIVER – Debrief Report

Between 3 and 5 October 2017, Police Scotland hosted a 'Tier 1' UK

National CT exercise – EX BORDER REIVER. The aim of the exercise was to test the UK national response to a major terrorist incident. The exercise was delivered as a joint project involving the Home Office National CT Exercise Team, the Scottish Multi-Agency Resilience Training & Exercise Unit (SMARTEU) and Northumbria Police.

Through a variety of exercises the programme provided assurance that our system-wide capabilities, deployed to respond to a terrorist incident, are effective in responding to the terrorist threat. It identified key areas of learning, improvement and good practice, from initial response through to consequence management.

The exercise debrief report has now been made available, with recommendations and learning being progressed by Assistant Chief Constable (ACC) Johnson. A report will be provided to Policing Committee members summarising the findings of the debrief report.

Connor Ward Trial

On Wednesday 14 March 2018, Connor Ward from Banff was convicted at the High Court in Edinburgh in connection with two charges of breaching the Terrorism Act 2000 and the Terrorism Act 2006.

Following Ward's arrest a vast amount of material was seized by officers who invested a significant amount of time quantifying the scale of Ward's interest in terrorism. Although he operated alone, the weapons, manuals and downloads he possessed had the potential to cause serious harm. The forensic review of media equipment identified a total of 131 documents relating to the manufacture of explosive devices, as well as terrorist activity and Nazi organisations. Ward will be sentenced in April 2018.

Action Counters Terrorism (ACT) Campaign

A new 4-week ACT campaign was launched nationally on Tuesday 20 March 2018. The focus of this campaign is to raise awareness and ask the public to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity. The campaign's objectives are:

- Encourage the public to report suspicious activity or behaviour and increase intelligence from communities.
- Increase public understanding of what activity or behaviour to look

out for by highlighting examples of terrorist attack planning methods.

- Increase awareness of key reporting channels like gov.uk/ACT.
- Reinforce the message that communities defeat terrorism. The key role the public have to play in helping tackle the terrorist threat.

Police Scotland has provided messaging on the Intranet and Internet, and will link in with partners at the Scottish Business Resilience Centre (SBRC), which currently has access to over 130,000 small to medium size enterprises in Scotland.

Local Divisions are engaged and will be provided with the social media material which is being managed through the Contest Delivery Managers, in liaison with Corporate Communications.

PROTECTING PEOPLE AT RISK OF HARM

Police Scotland will work in partnership to protect those at risk of harm and reduce the impact of all forms of neglect, abuse and sexual crime.

Police Scotland Rape Campaign

Police Scotland's overarching 'We Can Stop It' Rape Awareness campaign launched its 2018 multi-channel messages in February, the overall aim of the 4-week campaign was to proactively target perpetrators with messages to discourage offending and to educate potential offenders on what constitutes consent. The messaging was aimed at persons aged between 18-35 years of age, and this phase of the campaign involved social media messaging using the hashtag #GetConsent on Twitter, advertising on broadcast media and in washrooms within clubs, bars and pubs, and was supported by a range of partner organisations.

Assessment of the campaign is ongoing however to date there have been over 114,000 engagements on Social Media, which equates to a 15% engagement rate.

Hate Crime Campaign

On Friday 16 March 2018, Police Scotland launched its latest hate crime campaign focusing on the use of social media and working with schools to engage with young people. The campaign, which features the slogan "be greater than a hater", will run from 16-30 March 2018, and focuses on perpetrators between the ages of 11-15 years old. Analysis has identified

that within this age group peer to peer offending is the most prevalent, with young people in education featuring prominently as both victims and offenders. Education has therefore formed the basis of the campaign, with student participation being encouraged through involvement of School link/Campus officers, who are delivering hate crime awareness presentations. Students will also develop their own peer group messages which will complement the overall campaign.

3. SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONAL EVENTS

WEATHER – RED WEATHER WARNING

Severe Weather Response

Since the New Year, the Met Office has issued various severe weather warnings; the first following heavy snowfall in the West on 16 – 18 January when motorists were stranded overnight on the M74 and A75; and again on 28 February – 2 March for most of mainland Scotland following heavy snowstorms when motorists were stranded overnight on the M80 and M876, and communities in Easter Ross became isolated.

Over the two day period Wednesday 28 February - Thursday 1 March the Police Scotland Service Centre received over 11,100 calls via 101 (non-emergency) and over 3,100 calls via 999 (emergency). Throughout the weather related events, the Road Policing response was co-ordinated through the Multi-Agency Response Team at Traffic Scotland's Resilience Room, South Queensferry, working with the operating companies. Additionally, Multi-Agency Co-ordination Centres (MACCs) were established and commanded by Police Scotland at the Area Control Rooms in Govan (January event) and Bilston (February/March event) to consider wider care and welfare issues as part of the overall response to weather-related incidents occurring elsewhere than the roads.

The weather presented significant challenges for Police Scotland, with many staff making exceptional journeys to attend work. The tenacity and drive of staff throughout this period was unprecedented and I would take this opportunity to recognise formally their professionalism and commitment.

4. STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT

FIREARMS LICENSING – HMICS REVIEW

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) published its Local Policing Inspection Programme of firearms licensing report on Tuesday 6 March 2018.

The report highlights 24 recommendations for improvement of which 23 are for Police Scotland and one is for the Authority. Police Scotland will formulate an action plan to progress the recommendations and submit that plan to HMICS within three months of the publication date. Police Scotland will thereafter report quarterly on the progress of the recommendations.

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC RESTRICTION ORDERS (TTROs)

A short-life working group was chaired on 8 March 2018 which included all partner agencies from across Scotland. Police Scotland continue to fully support all relevant stakeholders wherever possible, to realise a consistent process that will enable the continued safe delivery of pre-planned events across Scotland.

Police Scotland will provide ongoing updates on this subject to SPA Members in advance of the SPA Policing Committee scheduled for April 2018.

VISITS TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES

We remain focused on policing by consent, continuing to build upon the trust and confidence the people of Scotland have in their police service. Our long-term strategy centres on a recognition that our communities have different needs and a 'one size fits all' approach will not deliver success. Our Local Approaches to Policing programme is designed to shape our policing services and operational response, to reflect the true

needs and requirements of our communities. As key partners, Local Authorities are central to this approach and I have instigated a rolling programme of visits to facilitate one-to-one engagement with Local Authority Chief Executives.

5. OUR PEOPLE

C3 DIVISION – ACHIEVEMENT OF CCA GLOBAL STANDARDS ACCREDITATION

During January 2018, C3 Divisional Police Scotland Service Centres, commenced an assessment under the Customer Contact Association (CCA) Global Standards for consideration of award of Version 6 Global Standards achievement. Following the assessment and subsequent staff surveys, confirmation was received from the CCA Standards Board that accreditation had successfully been achieved.

The assessment highlighted a number of key strengths including, particularly high staff feedback, high levels of staff engagement, robust processes and focus on customer service. The CCA Board review further commented that all Police Scotland Service Centres were well-managed. Ongoing development under CCA Global Standards continues to remain part of the future focus for the service centre management teams and the C3 Divisional Management Team.

C3 DIVISION – APD CONTROL ROOM AWARDS 2018

The APD Control Rooms Awards are a nationally recognised awards process highlighting the invaluable work that control room staff across all the emergency services undertake on a daily basis.

I was extremely pleased to learn that one of our C3 members of staff, Leanne Ross, was shortlisted for the “Call Taker of the Year” award. At the awards ceremony held on Thursday 8 March 2018 in Nottingham, Leanne received the award for “Call Taker of the Year”. Within this category Leanne was nominated along with call takers from both Greater Manchester Police and the Metropolitan Police Service who received the initial calls during the Manchester and London terror attacks.

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In announcing the award, the judging panel commented "Leanne showed exemplary call-handling skills in dealing calmly and effectively with an extremely distressing and harrowing incident in which critical injuries had been inflicted by a suspect armed with a chainsaw. She was able to calm the caller down, direct her actions and extract from her the vital information needed to inform a rapid firearms response."

POLICE SCOTLAND EXECUTIVE

On Monday 19 March, I implemented changes to the portfolios within the Executive team.

ACC Bernard Higgins has responsibility for Local Policing West, while ACC Mark Williams now has responsibility for Road Policing, and Emergency, Events and Resilience Planning. ACC Williams has also taken on responsibility for the operational elements of the British Transport Police integration programme.

ACC Nelson Telfer has retained responsibility for Contact, Command and Control (C3), and for Specialist Services, which includes units such as Operational Support, Armed Policing and Air Support. ACC Malcolm Graham has responsibility for the new portfolio of Strategy and Innovation which focuses on areas such as partnerships and collaboration, and productivity and performance, as Police Scotland continues its work to modernise the service.

Temporary ACCs Alan Speirs (Professionalism and Assurance) and Gillian MacDonald (Crime and Protection) retain their current positions for the time being. The refresh of portfolios represents an opportunity for some fresh approaches in dealing with the challenges when keeping Scotland safe and further support the resilience of the Force Executive.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

There are no personnel implications associated with this report.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications associated with this report.

9. REPUTATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no reputational implications associated with this report.

10. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no social implications associated with this report.

11. COMMUNITY IMPACT

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

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

There are no equalities implications as a consequence of this report.

13. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

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

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are invited to note the information contained in this report.