

Meeting	Scottish Police Authority Board Meeting
Date and Time	30 August 2018
Location	Maryhill Burgh Hall, Glasgow
Title of Paper	Report by SPA Interim Chief Officer
Reference	B 07.2018/44
Presented By	Kenneth Hogg
Recommendation to Members	For Noting
Appendix Attached:	No

PURPOSE

To provide Authority Members with an update on progress since the SPA Board meeting on 28 June 2018 with key business and improvement activity.

1. BACKGROUND

This paper provides a summary of significant business and improvement activity carried out by SPA staff since the last SPA Board meeting held on 28 June 2018. The paper also contains update on the delivery of the SPA's statutory functions in Quarter 1 of 2018/19.

2. SPA IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2018/19: KEY UPDATES

2.1 GDPR – As reported previously to the Board, a very significant amount of work has been undertaken during 2018 to work towards the SPA's compliance with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). Throughout this period the GDPR Project Senior Responsible Owner reported progress to the Audit Committee. One key activity has been to ensure that Internal Audit recommendations published in December 2017 have been implemented. The SPA executive team provided evidence in July 2018 to our Internal Auditors of the work completed to achieve this, and Internal Auditors subsequently reported in July to the Audit Committee that in their view the recommendations had been discharged.

2.2 ICO Audit – A status update on implementation of recommendations from the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) Report published October 2017 was reported to SPA Audit Committee in July 2018. The Committee agreed that the newly established SPA Information Governance Forum should oversee the implementation of outstanding recommendations. Internal Audit are currently carrying out an assurance check on progress, and they will report their conclusions to the Audit Committee. A follow up audit by the ICO is scheduled for December 2018.

2.3 Complaints Audit – Intensive work has been carried out to ensure that recommendations from an audit of the SPA's complaints handling procedures published in December 2017 by the Police Investigations and Review Commissioner (PIRC) have been implemented. All actions have now been completed, and an update

on progress given to PIRC. A full update on progress will be provided to the Audit Committee on 11 September 2018.

2.4 SPA executive team capacity and capability – all SPA staff have been consulted on proposed changes to the SPA executive team's structure, and several very constructive suggestions have been received. Once the final structure has been agreed following consideration of those suggestions I will respond individually to all respondents and will provide a further update in early September to the Joint National Consultative Committee (JNCC). I would like to take this opportunity to thank SPA staff for engaging positively and enthusiastically in this process to strengthen our capacity and capability to carry out our core functions.

Recruitment of a new SPA Chief Executive has progressed on schedule, in order to enable them to take on the full range of responsibilities of that office, including as Accountable Officer, in early November at the conclusion of my 12 month secondment to the SPA as Interim Chief Officer.

I am delighted to report that following a competitive recruitment process Carron McDiarmid will join the SPA on 3 September 2018 on secondment from Highland Council as Interim Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Chief Executive. Carron's appointment will bring additional senior capacity focussed on improving the business and improvement processes within the SPA executive team.

Finally, I would like to thank Catherine Topley and Sam Skinner for their contribution to the SPA on secondment from the Scottish Prison Service between January and July 2018. Catherine and Sam worked closely with SPA colleagues to strengthen our core operating procedures in a number of areas and to lead our work to strengthen our capability.

3. SPA STATUTORY DELIVERY

3.1 Independent Custody Visiting Scheme (ICVS)

SPA has a statutory responsibility to maintain and manage the Independent Custody visiting Scheme (ICVS), whereby volunteer members of the community make unannounced visits to police stations to check the treatment of detainees, the conditions in which they are being held, and that their rights and entitlements are being observed.

During the last reporting period, an induction day was held in Edinburgh for new custody visitors, followed by a training day in August held at the Jackton Police College.

Kirsty Scott, National Manager and Lucy Farrell, ICVS Volunteer participated in a meeting in London on 26 June 2018 on the 'Role of Governance of lay visitors in monitoring places of detention in the UK'. The meeting was informative and generated suggestions for consideration in relation to the ICVS in Scotland.

As part of their inspection of custody centres throughout Scotland, HMICS Inspectors arranged focus Groups with ICVS visitors from various clusters in North, East and West, in order to obtain their views.

The SPA team also provided training input on ICVS to the new Criminal Justice Police Community Support Officers (CJ PCSO) and Team Leader roles as part of Police Scotland Criminal Justice Transformation Project – Custody Hubs.

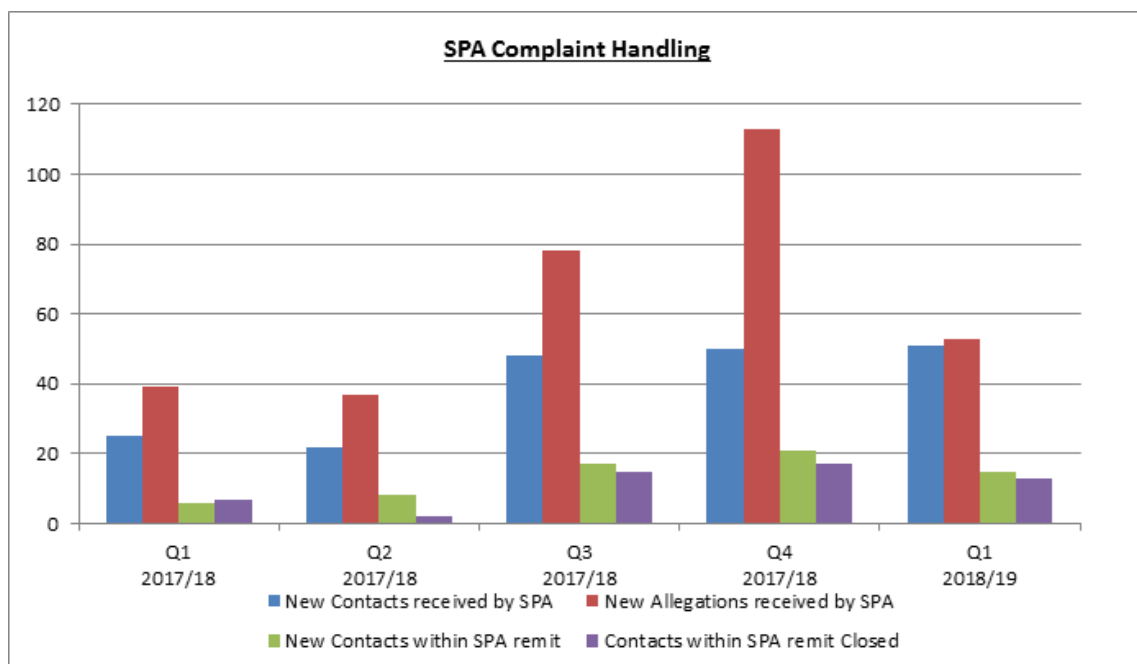
ICV Activity	East	North	West	Q1Total
Number of visits conducted	83	92	177	352
Number of detainees	430	249	807	1,486
Detainees offered a visit	232	160	392	784
Detainees observed by visitors	2	2	9	13
Detainees seen by visitors	161	125	287	573
Detainees not available at time of visit	51	35	80	166
ICVs refused access	17	7	40	64
Visits refused by detainees	71	35	105	211
Detainees not offered a visit	128	45	286	459

3.2 Complaints Handling

The SPA is responsible for handling complaints about senior police officers of Police Scotland of Assistant Chief Constable rank or above, staff members of the SPA and the SPA itself.

During this Quarter, 51 new contacts were received, 15 of which have been identified as within the SPA's remit for complaint handling. These contacts contained a total of 53 complaint allegations, indicating a return to previous levels following a spike in the number of allegations received in the previous two Quarters.

Complaint Handling Activity 2018-19	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
New Contacts received by SPA	51			
New Allegations received by SPA	53			
New Contacts out-with SPA remit	35			
New Contacts within SPA remit	15			
Contacts closed	13			



3.3 Freedom of Information

The number of FOI requests received by the SPA in Q1-2018 is set out in the table below. Over Q1 30 FOI requests were received, a slight increase from Q1 in 2017 where 26 requests were received. A backlog which developed in responding to requests on time due to resourcing pressures has been cleared, and improved processes for managing FOI requests have now been implemented to avoid future delays in responding to requests.

FOI Activity 2018-19	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
New FOIs Received	30			
Total FOIs Resolved within statutory period	7			
FOI responses exceeding 20 day statutory period	23			
New FOI referrals to OSIC*	4			
SIC Decisions Reached	1			

*Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are invited to note the content of this paper.