

Meeting	SPA Board Meeting
Date	24 September 2019
Location	Falkirk Town Hall Theatre, Falkirk
Title of Paper	Chief Constable's Report
Presented By	Chief Constable Iain Livingstone QPM
Recommendation to Members	For Discussion
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.

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. TACKLING THREAT AND RISK

SERIOUS VIOLENCE (INCLUDING HOMICIDE)

Our priorities cut across all aspects of criminality and policing and we will tackle the areas that pose greatest threat and risk.

Murders of Renee and Andrew MacRae – Highland and Islands Division

Renee MacRae and her three year old son Andrew were last seen in November 1976. Police Scotland began an extensive re-investigation into their deaths around 12 months ago, building on substantial work undertaken by police officers and staff from 1976 through to the present day. This included an unprecedented search of the Leanach Quarry, near Inverness. On Wednesday 11 September 2019, a 77 year old man appeared at Inverness Sheriff Court charged with murder and was granted bail.

The initial disappearance and deaths of Renee and Andrew MacRae has impacted on the lives of their family and friends over several decades, and has also been felt by the communities of Inverness and across Scotland. The search at Leanach Quarry continues and the investigation will not be complete until their remains are found.

SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME

Our priorities cut across all aspects of criminality and policing and we will tackle the areas that pose greatest threat and risk.

Operation DALCROSS

Between November 2018 and March 2019, an intelligence led operation targeted a Serious and Organised Crime Group intent on the large scale distribution of drugs between Glasgow and Inverness. During the course of the operation, drugs including cocaine, heroin and etizolam, with an estimated street value in excess of £600,000, were recovered. At the conclusion of the investigation, on Tuesday 26 August, five males and two females were convicted at the High Court in Glasgow of crimes relating to the supply of controlled drugs, as well as directing organised crime. They

were remanded in custody, with sentence deferred until Tuesday 1 October.

DRUGS

Our priorities cut across all aspects of criminality and policing and we will tackle the areas that pose greatest threat and risk.

Drugs Conviction – Greater Glasgow Division

On Friday 13 September, a 42 year old man was imprisoned for five and a half years at the High Court in Glasgow, having been convicted of being concerned in the supply of controlled drugs. In April 2019, the male had been arrested on a European Arrest Warrant in the Netherlands. This was the fourth conviction following a 2016 seizure in Glasgow of nine kilogrammes of cocaine, with an estimated street value in excess of £1,000,000.

3. DELIVERING ON OUR PRIORITIES

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE

Supporting people considered vulnerable and working with partners to reduce harm.

Police Scotland ‘Get Consent’ Campaign

On Friday 30 August, Assistant Chief Constable Gillian MacDonald launched Police Scotland’s ‘Get Consent’ Campaign, which runs from Monday 2 September for a period of six weeks. The campaign targets perpetrators of rape which occur on first or second meetings outwith a relationship, and is supported by research provided from Recorded Crime in Scotland, Scottish Crime and Justice Survey, Rape Crisis Scotland and ASSIST. The campaign utilises the hashtag #GetConsent and emphasises that whatever the circumstances, sex without consent is rape.

SUPPORT FOR OPERATIONAL POLICING

Delivering change that enables our people to deliver an effective and sustainable service.

Mobile Working

The roll out of mobile working for officers continues. Highland and Islands Division received devices on Monday 26 August, following successful implementation in Tayside and North East Divisions.

Feedback from officers remains positive and as of Tuesday 17 September,

over 1,200 officers have been trained and issued with mobile devices in the three divisions.

ADEL Project

As previously reported to Members, the ADEL Project forms part of our Digital Data and ICT Strategy. It enables officers and staff throughout Police Scotland to log on to systems from anywhere in Scotland, freeing them up from the restricted access of legacy areas and allowing them to work more effectively. ADEL is now in the final stages of delivery with over 23,000 users (97%) migrated to Police Scotland's new ICT environment. 100% completion is anticipated by the end of September.

The ADEL Project provides the foundation for the implementation of modern technical solutions, including mobile working, and is a critical enabler to ensure there is a fit for purpose ICT environment across the Service.

National Network (Nat Net) Project

The Nat Net Project, which will deliver increased performance, stability and security across the Police Scotland ICT network, continues to roll out throughout the country. Nat Net connectivity has been installed in 87 sites, and a detailed plan has been developed which aims to conclude migration to all sites by 31 March 2020.

Delivering new network services for Police Scotland will positively impact the working lives of officers and staff, and provide the standard national platform to effectively underpin our programme of technology enabled transformation. Officers and staff in rural areas are among the first to benefit, with greater bandwidth making the applications and files they use on a day to day basis faster to access.

Contact Assessment Model (CAM)

The CAM Phase One 'Proof of Concept' in Lanarkshire and Dumfries and Galloway Divisions has continued successfully. The assessment of threat, harm, risk, investigation, vulnerability and engagement (THRIVE) has allowed our staff to identify and respond to callers in greatest need and actively manage demand.

CAM will be discussed as an agenda item at the Board meeting.

4. STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT MINISTERIAL MEETING

On Tuesday 10 September, I attended a Scottish Government ministerial meeting at Bute House, Edinburgh, accompanied by Assistant Chief Constable Mark Williams. The meeting provided an opportunity to brief the First Minister and other Cabinet Ministers on some of the potential policing implications associated with Brexit, as well as other policing matters.

JUSTICE SUB-COMMITTEE ON POLICING

On Thursday 12 September, Police Scotland's Deputy Chief Officer David Page and Chief Financial Officer James Gray gave evidence to the Scottish Parliament's Justice Sub-Committee on Policing. The evidence session was also attended by Scottish Police Authority Board Member Elaine Wilkinson and related to the capital budget allocation for policing. It provided an opportunity to reiterate the capital requirements and challenging financial position which was outlined to Members in August.

Significant investment is required to address a historic under-investment in policing's asset base and build a sustainable service. The evidence session was a welcome opportunity to articulate that position to Sub-Committee members.

GIVE A DAY TO POLICING

This summer, Police Scotland supported the National Police Chiefs' Council 'Give a Day to Policing' scheme, which provides Members of Parliament with the opportunity to spend time with policing teams across the country. Recognising the devolved nature of policing in Scotland, we extended the invitation to Members of the Scottish Parliament.

The scheme enabled elected members to see first-hand the hard work and commitment officers and staff display on a daily basis, supporting communities across Scotland. It also demonstrated how policing and public expectation have evolved, responding to the changing nature and complexity of crime and the increasing demands in respect of vulnerability.

A number of MSPs and MPs expressed an interest, which resulted in 40 confirmed dates for participation during parliamentary recess and beyond, with positive feedback received. As well as patrolling with divisional

response officers, many participants took the opportunity to engage with officers and staff from a variety of roles and functions, and Local Area Commanders, to gain a broader understanding of the operational challenges and opportunities facing modern policing.

INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF FOOTBALL POLICING IN SCOTLAND

Members will be aware from previous reports that on Wednesday 6 March 2019, the Independent Review of Football Policing in Scotland was published by Deputy Chief Constable Mark Roberts, the National Police Chief's Council lead for football policing. Since March, Police Scotland's Football Review Implementation Group, under the strategic direction of Assistant Chief Constable Bernard Higgins, has been progressing improvement changes to address the review recommendations.

On Tuesday 20 August, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) published their Assurance Review of Progress in respect of the recommendations, concluding that 12 had been fully discharged, with the remaining six partially met. Four of those partially met apply to Police Scotland and an update on further progress will be provided to HMICS in the coming months.

Work is being led by Scottish Government in respect of the remaining recommendations, which relate to stadium safety and Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders.

5. SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONAL EVENTS

EU EXIT PLANNING

Police Scotland continues to work with partners in preparation for all eventualities as a result of the agreement to extend Article 50 until 31 October 2019.

As previously reported to Members, the Force Reserve provides Police Scotland with significant operational flexibility that has enabled us to respond quickly and effectively to policing needs and demands across the whole of Scotland. The Reserve has delivered policing support to a number of high profile events, demonstrations and protests, as well as providing assistance in a range of policing issues and incidents in local communities.

Brexit contingency planning will be discussed as an agenda item at the

Board meeting.

WOODMILL HIGH SCHOOL FIRE – FIFE DIVISION

On Sunday 25 August, a large scale fire occurred at Woodmill High School, Dunfermline, resulting in extensive structural damage. Local officers and specialist resources from Police Scotland were deployed to the incident, supporting the significant and complex operation undertaken by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. Investigations established that the fire had been started intentionally. A 14 year old male was arrested and appeared at Dunfermline Sheriff Court, charged with wilful fire-raising.

PUBLIC PROCESSIONS - GREATER GLASGOW DIVISION

On Friday 30 August, a Republican public procession took place in Govan, Glasgow, which attracted significant counter protest and led to large scale sectarian disorder. The incident, which was operationally challenging and resource intensive, was managed professionally by local policing officers supported by specialist public order resources. Two males, aged 38 and 21, were arrested and charged with disorder offences. After the incident had concluded, a large police presence remained in the area to provide community reassurance. A police officer was injured when she was struck by a missile during the disorder.

Further public processions involving Cairde Na Heireann & Friends of Irish Republican Prisoners Welfare Association were scheduled to take place on Saturday 7 September in Glasgow City Centre. Based on intelligence which indicated a likelihood of serious disorder and violence, an extensive policing operation was planned and implemented. This involved significant conventional and specialist resources being deployed to what was another operationally challenging incident, where processions again resulted in significant counter protest.

There were ten arrests relating to public order offences, carrying offensive weapons and sectarian behaviour. A police officer sustained injuries after being struck by a pyrotechnic during the incident. This led to the arrest of a 32 year old male who appeared at Glasgow Sheriff Court on Monday 16 September, charged with Culpable and Reckless Conduct. Detective officers from Greater Glasgow Division are carrying out a post-incident investigation into other potential criminality.

Following the decision by Glasgow City Council's Processions Committee to prohibit public processions scheduled for Saturday 14 and Sunday 15

September, a further policing operation was planned and implemented. Around 1,500 people took part in a demonstration in George Square, Glasgow, which passed peacefully and without disorder.

I wish to place on record my thanks to the people of Glasgow for their continued support to Police Scotland during this time. I would also like to formally thank all officers and staff involved in delivering an effective and professional policing response during these challenging incidents. In particular, I wish the injured officers a speedy and full recovery.

RANGERS v CELTIC FOOTBALL FIXTURE

On Sunday 1 September, a Scottish Premier Football League fixture took place between Rangers FC and Celtic FC at Ibrox Stadium, Govan, attended by over 49,000 spectators. Working in partnership with both clubs, an extensive policing operation involving the deployment of hundreds of officers was implemented. Five males were arrested for acting in a threatening and abusive manner, three of which were aggravated by a sectarian element. There were no significant incidents of disorder reported in Glasgow City Centre after the match.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS – NORTH EAST DIVISION

From Tuesday 3 to Friday 6 September, Offshore Europe 2019 was hosted at the new Event Complex, Aberdeen, which resulted in demonstrations from the Extinction Rebellion protest group. Simultaneously, that week Aberdeen also hosted the World Energy Cities Partnership.

Between Thursday 5 and Saturday 7 September, the Prime Minister visited Scotland, conducting a number of visits in Aberdeenshire.

As is normal, members of the Royal Family were in residence, which included attendance by Her Majesty the Queen and others at the Braemar Gathering on Saturday 7 September.

This was a period of additional demand for North East Division concentrated over a five day period, combined with the core requirement for the delivery of day to day policing services. I commend the hard work, commitment and professionalism of all officers and staff working in the communities of the North East of Scotland during this time.

SOLHEIM CUP GOLF EVENT

The 2019 Solheim Cup took place at Gleneagles between Monday 9 and Sunday 15 September. The event was the single biggest sporting event held in Scotland this year, drawing over 90,000 spectators from across the world. The successful policing operation was testament to the dedicated planning work carried out in advance, and the work of those at the event including the command team, officers from local policing, roads policing, other specialist resources and key partners.

CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE 2020

On Tuesday 10 September, it was confirmed that the United Kingdom had won the bid to host the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP26) which will take place in Glasgow in November 2020.

COP26 will be one of the largest events ever hosted in the UK and will pose significant challenges for policing. Police Scotland will now start the detailed process of planning, with partners, for what will be a complex and resource intensive policing operation to support COP26, and to ensure a safe and secure event.

6. OUR PEOPLE

YOUR SAFETY MATTERS

As was reported to Members in August, assaults on police officers are above the five year mean for the second consecutive year. No police officer or member of staff should expect to be assaulted or abused in the course of their work, and Deputy Chief Constable Fiona Taylor has been asked to co-ordinate work on behalf of the Service to consider the support available to officers and staff, identify best practice from other jurisdictions and sectors, and engage with the wider justice system to ensure that they continue to support officers and staff in the discharge of their duty.

To progress this work, Deputy Chief Constable Taylor has established a 'Your Safety Matters' Strategy Group which has met twice and consists of representatives from Police Scotland business areas, staff associations and trades unions. There is also consultation with Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service.

This forms part of a broader end-to-end Diamond Group strategic review

of all safety matters that impact on police officers and staff. Deputy Chief Constable Taylor is also engaging with the National Police Chiefs' Council, following their announcement on Monday 2 September that it had commissioned an urgent review of officer safety.

SCOTTISH POLICE MEMORIAL TRUST - MEMORIAL SERVICE

On Wednesday 4 September, I had the privilege of hosting the Scottish Police Memorial Trust's Annual Memorial Service at Police Scotland's Headquarters, Tulliallan. The service was attended by families and friends of officers who died on duty in Scotland, police officers, members of staff, and other distinguished guests including the Lord Lieutenant of Fife, the Cabinet Secretary for Justice, the Chair of the Scottish Police Authority and Christine Fulton from the Memorial Trust. We were also joined by representatives from staff associations and other police and government agencies from Scotland and elsewhere in the world.

Now in its 15th year, the memorial service provides a dedicated commemoration of the lives and service of every Scottish police officer who has died on duty since 1812. From this year, the memorial also bears the names of law enforcement officers who died serving with a policing agency while on duty in Scotland. The service was an opportunity to come together to remember and honour those who are no longer with us.

NATIONAL POLICE MEMORIAL DAY

The National Police Memorial Day Remembrance Service for police officers who have been killed or died on duty is due to take place on Sunday 29 September in Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. The annual remembrance service will bring together police forces, colleagues, friends and relatives from across the United Kingdom to honour the courage and ultimate sacrifice of police officers. The service was last hosted by Police Scotland in 2015 at the International Conference Centre, Edinburgh.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications associated with this report however, any financial implications which may occur throughout the delivery of policing operations have been considered by specific business areas.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct personnel implications associated with this report however, any specific personnel implications which may occur throughout the delivery of policing operations have been considered by specific business areas.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct legal implications associated with this report however, any specific legal implications which may occur throughout the delivery of policing operations have been considered by specific business areas.

10. REPUTATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct reputational implications associated with this report however, any specific reputational implications which may occur throughout the delivery of policing operations have been considered by specific business areas.

11. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct social implications associated with this report however, any specific social implications which may occur throughout the delivery of policing operations have been considered by specific business areas.

12. COMMUNITY IMPACT

There is no direct community impact associated with this report however, examples of recent police investigations referenced within this report will undoubtedly have impacted on local communities. Local community impact assessments will have been carried out where appropriate.

13. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct equalities implications associated with this report however, any specific equalities implications which may occur throughout the delivery of policing operations have been considered by specific business areas.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct environmental implications associated with this report however, any environmental implications which may occur throughout the delivery of policing operations have been considered by specific business areas.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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