

COP26
policing the protests
- Welcome Pack

Live Roundtable
- Hosted by the
Scottish Police
Authority and
Police Scotland



Thursday 9
September 2021
2pm until 4pm



#COP26 #policingtheprotests

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Welcome from our hosts join the discussion have your say

We, as sponsors of this event, invite you to join in a discussion and debate and add to the engagement by Police Scotland around the policing of COP26. We are especially keen to hear about experiences and perspectives from beyond policing and have dedicated key speaker input across three sessions.

The event aims to demonstrate Police Scotland's commitment to protecting people's right to protest or counter-protest, balanced against the rights of the wider community. The event will showcase this commitment and the practical ways in which Police Scotland will protect those rights, alongside ensuring individual and community safety and wellbeing.

The roundtable will also provide a forum for academic discussion around crowd psychology, and collective protest, in order to set out the context in which activism at COP26 will take place.

You can [watch the event live](#), submit questions during the event using #PolicingTheProtests or on the livestream chat for consideration by our panels, and [submit questions in advance using our Citizen Space portal](#).

For further information, please visit our [dedicated webpage](#).

We very much look forward to you joining the event. Stay well and stay safe!



Martyn
Evans, Chair
of the SPA



Tom Halpin,
Chair of the
COP26
Oversight
Group



Event
Moderator –
Kezia
Dugdale,
Director of
the John
Smith Centre
for Public
Service



Deputy Chief
Constable,
Will Kerr

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The Programme join the discussion have your say

- 2pm** Welcome and Introduction
Tom Halpin, Chair of the SPA, COP26 Oversight Group
- 2.05pm** Panel Member Introductions
Event Moderator, Kezia Dugdale
- 2.15pm** Session 1 – Crowd psychology, collective protest and crowd-police interactions
Professor Steve Reicher and Gill Imery, HMICS
- 2.35pm** Session 2 – Human Rights and the sound of democracy
John Scott QC and Bruce Adamson, Children and Young People’s Commissioner
- 2.55pm** Session 3 – Policing Glasgow for all citizens over COP26
ACC Bernard Higgins, Gold Commander for COP26 and Denise Hamilton, Glasgow City Council
- 3.15pm** General Discussion, with Questions and Answers
Event Moderator, Kezia Dugdale will put questions to all panellists
- 3.40pm** Roundup and Reflections
Tom Halpin, Chair of the SPA COP26 Oversight Group
- 3.45pm** Closing Remarks
Martyn Evans, Chair of the SPA
Chief Constable, Iain Livingstone
- 4pm** Event Closes

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Get Involved join the discussion have your say

How to find out more and take part in the event:

1. Visit [Police Scotland](#) and the [SPA's](#) dedicated web pages to find out more.
2. [Submit a question](#) for the panel in advance.
3. [Watch the session live](#) and join the chat.
4. Join the discussion and ask your question on social media using [#PolicingTheProtests](#) AND [#COP26](#).

SCOTTISH POLICE
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COP26

policing the protests

2pm – 4pm

#COP26 #policingtheprotests



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Your Speakers and Panel Members



Bruce Adamson is the Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland responsible for promoting and safeguarding the rights of children and young people across Scotland. Working closely with children and young people, Commissioner Adamson has helped secure legislative change in relation to the age of criminal responsibility, comprehensive protection for children from physical punishment, and the incorporation of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child into Scots law.



Kezia Dugdale is the Director of the John Smith Centre, which exists to make the positive case for politics and public service. Before that, she was a Member of the Scottish Parliament for eight years, leading her party for two years through four national elections and the EU referendum. Kezia currently serves on the boards of Sistema Scotland, Shelter UK and the oversight board of the Promise in her spare time.



Martyn Evans is Chair of the Authority. He joined as a board member in June 2018 before being appointed Chair in January 2021. He has wide-ranging executive and non-executive experience in the voluntary and public sectors. Martyn Evans BA (hons) MA (econ) FRSA was the first Chair and Independent Trustee of the Alex Ferry Foundation, a new grant making philanthropic charity which aims to improve the lives of people who work or have worked in the UK shipbuilding, engineering and related manufacturing industries, as well as their families and dependents.



Tom Halpin is the Chair of the SPA Oversight Group on COP26, and is a former Deputy Chief Constable of the legacy Lothian and Borders Police. He joined the Authority in March 2018 and was awarded the Queen's Police Medal in 2008. Between 2009 and 2020, Tom was Chief Executive of SACRO, a leading community justice organisation which works to create safer and more cohesive communities across Scotland. A Chartered Director and Fellow of the Institute of Directors, Tom previously Chaired the Criminal Justice Voluntary Sector Forum and is a Council Member of the Scottish Association for Studying Offending, both influential 'think-tanks' on such matters.

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Your Speakers and Panel Members



Denise Hamilton works for Glasgow City Council and has done for many years. Her remit includes the management of GCC land and open spaces for events and activities, and this links in to the use of these spaces for protests. Denise is currently leading the GCC planning team for COP26 with a particular focus on the operational response.



Assistant Chief Constable Bernard Higgins has over 32 years policing service and has been a Chief Officer since 2012. He is vastly experienced in delivering high profile and high risk events, including a key role in Glasgow Commonwealth Games in 2014 and as Gold Commander for the Scottish Independence Referendum. In November 2019 he was appointed as Gold Commander for the policing operation supporting the delivery of the United Nations 26th Conference of the Parties – COP26.



Gill Imery is Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary in Scotland, which is an independent role under Royal Warrant. She is also Scotland's senior advisor on policing. Prior to this, she had a police career spanning over 30 years. She served in a wide range of uniform and detective posts, notably as the commander of the city of Edinburgh division, and the head of CID for Lothian and Borders Police.



Will Kerr joined Police Scotland in September 2018 following which he was appointed as Deputy Chief Constable for Local Policing. Will had over 27 years policing service in Northern Ireland before moving to a Director's role in the NCA in January 2017. In the PSNI, he held a number of key Command-level posts including, as ACC Belfast, where he was the Gold Commander for all of the key events and parades in the City over a three year period, and was the PSNI's lead Gold Commander for the overall parading season from 2012 to 2014). Will's last role in the PSNI was as ACC Crime Operations, where he was in charge of all serious crime and counter-terrorism specialist functions. Will was awarded the OBE, for services to policing and the community, in the 2015 Queen's Birthday Honours list.

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Your Speakers and Panel Members



Chief Constable Livingstone has overall command of the Police Service of Scotland, which is responsible for all policing and security across Scotland, from the Shetland Isles to the Scottish Borders, over one third of the United Kingdom landmass. Police Scotland has over 23,000 officers and staff and Mr Livingstone has been Chief Constable since 2018. Before joining the police, Mr Livingstone graduated in Law from the Universities of Aberdeen and Strathclyde and worked as a solicitor in Glasgow and London. He also worked and studied in New York City as a Fulbright Scholar where he gained a Masters degree in Criminal Justice.



Stephen Reicher is Wardlaw Professor of Psychology at the University of St. Andrews. He is Vice-President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, a Fellow of the British Academy and a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences. He has been studying crowd behaviour, collective protest and crowd-police interactions for over 40 years.



A court lawyer for over 30 years, John Scott has been a QC since 2011.

John chaired the Scottish Human Rights Centre from 1997 to 2005. In 2014, he chaired human rights organisation Justice Scotland for a year. He was Convenor of the Howard League for Penal Reform in Scotland from 2006 until 2018. In 2016, he was elected President of the Society of Solicitor Advocates, having been the Vice- President (Crime) since 2008. John has completed work in chairing three independent reviews for the Scottish Government – on stop and search, biometrics in policing and the policing of the miners' strike 1984/85.

