

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Authority Meeting</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>25 March 2020</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Tele-conference</b>
<b>Title of Paper</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP26)</b>
<b>Presented By</b>	<b>DCC Will Kerr, Local Policing</b>
<b>Recommendation to Members</b>	<b>For Discussion</b>
<b>Appendix Attached</b>	<b>No</b>

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this paper is to provide the Scottish Police Authority with a situational update in respect of COP26

Members are invited to discuss the content of this paper

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The UK Government will host the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) in November 2020. The conference takes place at the Scottish Event Campus (SEC), Glasgow from Monday 9th November to Friday 20th November 2020. It is expected that 30,000 accredited people will attend COP26 activity within the Blue Zone (this figure includes country delegations, 'observers' or NGO/IGOs, media and UN staff. It does NOT include HMG staff, volunteers or event staff). Based on the COP21 model, the maximum number of accredited delegates likely to attend on any one day is expected to be 14,000 people. Trends from previous events suggest that attendance peaks during the High-Level Segment. As yet, it is unknown how many people will be drawn to Glasgow and the wider region to participate in COP-related activities. The Safety and Security Risk assessment will provide information on this in due course.

United Nations has 193 member states, and all Heads of State will be invited. At this stage it is not known how many will attend, however it is expected that the number will be high.

## **2. FURTHER DETAIL ON THE REPORT TOPIC**

- 2.1 Police Scotland continue to work with partner agencies to develop and review the planning assumptions to inform the preparation and delivery of the policing operation. These take into account the use of the SEC as the main conference site however also recognise that a number of other venues will be utilised for conference related meetings and events. The conference site will be an island site however the precise extent of the site is yet to be finalised.
- 2.2 The planning assumptions reflect the likelihood that the conference will be subject to protest and, as such, will require a 24/7 conventional and specialist police response for the duration of the event.
- 2.3 Police Scotland Gold and Silver Commanders have been appointed and the wider Police Scotland Command Structure is being developed with a number of individuals already having taken up position to drive forward planning and delivery in respect of key business areas including Armed Policing, Public Order Policing, Road Policing, Intelligence and Logistics.

2.4 A Governance Framework has been developed at UK Government level within which Police Scotland have an appropriate level of representation:

- COP26 Operations Steering Board
- COP26 Policing and Security Assurance Group
- COP26 Operations Working Group (Transport, Security and Cross-Cutting Operational Issues)
- COP26 Venue Operations Working Group

In addition, Police Scotland are represented on the:

- Scottish Government COP26 Safety and Resilience Board
- SPA Oversight Board

2.5 A strategic intelligence assessment is being created to ensure all intelligence requirements are met throughout the operation. Numerous internal and external policing partners will be engaged in the creation of this assessment.

2.6 Police Scotland's plans for policing COP26 have been developing at pace since the decision was taken to host the event in Glasgow. In support of developing the progress of those plans, the UK and Scottish Governments provide clear and coordinated governance, support and oversight to ensure strategic (non-police) arrangements are delivered effectively in Scotland. Police Scotland acknowledges the role Scottish Government's COP26 Safety and Resilience Board will play facilitating broader discussion (beyond operational policing) to fully and properly inform police planning.

2.7 Following a full review of the police resourcing profile, and accompanying mutual aid requests for COP26, the intention is to have Police Scotland's plans independently reviewed to ensure they are operationally fit for purpose to deliver in accordance with the Gold Strategy. The Chief Constable is in the process of commissioning that Independent Review. The Terms of Reference for the Review are being developed and likely to focus on planning the police response; governance arrangements throughout the planning process; engagement with key stakeholders (including clarifying stakeholder responsibilities); and reviewing the use of Police Scotland's Intelligence Strategy in determining the intent of different protests and how that informs decision-making.

- 2.8 In addition HMICS are also giving consideration to their oversight function and where most value can be added through identifying good practice and strengthening public confidence.

### **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 Police Scotland maintain the position that there should be additional cost recovery for the policing of the event to ensure there is no detriment to the Scottish policing budget as a direct or indirect result of the conference and that the impact on day to day policing is minimised as far as possible. The Chief Financial Officer is working closely with the Financial Director of the UK Government COP26 Unit to revise and agree costings, and the Chief Constable wrote to the COP26 Chief Executive on the 16<sup>th</sup> March outlining the most recent cost projections.

### **4. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The Police Scotland Core Planning Team is now established to ensure delivery of the Gold Strategy. These officers are supporting functional areas across the Service and engaging with colleagues and multi-agency partners from across the UK to ensure best practice and organisational learning is adopted from previous major events.
- 4.2 The requirement for 24/7 conventional and specialist police resources to be deployed to locations across Scotland in support of the event alongside a requirement to maintain business as usual policing has necessitated a number of measures to maximise the availability of officers in Scotland. In addition, plans are underway with National Police Operations and Coordination Centre (NPOCC) to support the mutual aid deployment from Home Office police forces across the UK to safely deliver the policing operation.

### **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Any legal implications identified throughout the planning process will be escalated to Police Scotland Legal Services who are fully supporting the Core Planning Team.
- 5.2 Procurement Department are overseeing arrangements for the securing of accommodation, staging posts and transport to support the policing operation whilst ensuring compliance with procurement legislation.

## **6. REPUTATIONAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Any significant disruption to the running of the conference which inhibits delegate or Head of State attendance within the site will impact on the reputation of Police Scotland.
- 6.2 Any reputational implications identified throughout the planning process will be managed in line with existing practices. A draft Corporate Communications Strategy has been developed. A National Community Impact Assessment is being developed by Police Scotland Safer Communities Department who will also support Local Divisions with the development of Local Community Impact Assessments.

## **7. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 A National Community Impact Assessment is being developed to assess the impact of Operation Urram and to develop appropriate interventions to minimise the impact on communities.
- 7.2 The policing style and tone of this event will be planned and delivered in a manner that maintains the positive relationship between Police Scotland and the communities it serves.

## **8. COMMUNITY IMPACT**

- 8.1 While the main COP26 Conference Venue is in Glasgow, the impact of the event will be felt across Scotland e.g. potential travel disruption and protest activity. The Police Scotland Gold Strategy and planning process take cognisance of the wider community impact and detailed multi-agency plans will be developed, and tested, to manage these as effectively as possible.

## **9. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 Safer Communities Department will support Functional Area Leads with the creation of Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessments relative to their area of business and with the development of mitigation measures.

## **10. ENVIRONMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 This event will have environmental implications. This has been reflected in the Police Scotland Gold Strategy which includes a commitment to:  
*"Ensure Police Scotland embraces a sustainable approach to the planning and delivery of the event and is able to demonstrate best value in terms of financial management"*.  
There will be ongoing review to ensure compliance.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are invited to discuss the content of this paper.