

**Meeting 13 November 2020 13:00 – 15:00**

**Members attending:**

John Scott QC, Solicitor Advocate (Chair)

Bruce Adamson, CYPCS

Ephraim Borowski, Chair of the National Independent Strategic Advisory Group

Martyn Evans, SPA Board Member

Gill Imery, HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS)

Dr Elizabeth Kelly, Associate Carnegie UK Trust

Naomi McAuliffe, Programme Director Scotland, Amnesty International

Professor Susan McVie, University of Edinburgh

Diego Quiroz, Scottish Human Rights Commission

ACC Gary Ritchie, Police Scotland

**Apologies:**

Aamer Anwar, Solicitor and Human Rights campaigner

Tressa Burke, CEO Glasgow Disability Alliance

Maria Galli, CYPCS

Susan Kemp, Scottish Human Rights Commission

John Logue, Deputy Crown Agent Operational Support, COPFS

DCC Will Kerr, Police Scotland

Brian Scott, Glasgow Disability Alliance

Dr Catriona Stewart, SWAN Scotland

**Secretariat:**

Eleanor Gaw, SPA

Fiona Miller,

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### **1. Welcome and introductions**

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

### **2. Note of the previous meeting and matters arising**

Following on from discussions with COSLA, the Chair noted that although outwith the IAG terms of reference, he was interested to learn about local authority officers having power of entry under the new regulations. ACC Ritchie indicated that although this had not yet been discussed nationally with COSLA, Divisional Commanders are likely to be in discussion with individual local authorities on the matter.

All other matters will be covered in the agenda.

### **3. Data update**

#### **OpTICAL**

ACC Ritchie briefed members that the 4E's approach taken by Police Scotland is unchanged. It may be, however, that more flagrant breaches and disregard of the legislation have resulted in quicker escalation through the 4Es, as the most recent weekend saw the highest numbers of FPNs issued over a weekend period since the legislation was introduced. This is being monitored closely. Challenges remain for Police Scotland around enforceable travel regulations.

Professor McVie reported that the analysis of the FPN data relating to the first stage of the pandemic had been completed. A draft report on the additional analysis of FPN data sets is complete and Susan has asked Scottish Government analytical colleagues to undertake a peer review. This report may be ready for circulation to members next week. Once this is complete, Professor McVie will resume work on SCTS data sets, and has offered to undertake further analysis of new CVI data if that is required.

Members acknowledged that the data for the second and subsequent pandemic phases are likely to look very different from the first period, with different levels of regulation and enforcement and a lull in activity over the summer period.

OpTICAL members had also discussed the composition and value of the IAG, with a suggestion from Dr Aston (SIPR) that the group may wish to consider why members consider the group works well, its value, and its contribution to understanding the patterns of behaviour across the country.

#### **Contextual information in reporting**

It was emphasised that setting out context when publishing the data will be crucial in assisting understanding of compliance patterns across local communities, particularly as the number of FPNs issued overall is low.

The report for the January SPA board meeting should include a balance of statistical information alongside evidence of lived experience. Suggested additional contacts to help gather this evidence include the Poverty Alliance,

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Action for Scotland, the work of the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research on the impact of the pandemic on particular groups, and Police Scotland networks within the Eastern European community.

### **Interviews with Police Officers and Staff**

Members agreed that a follow up round of police officer and staff interviews early in the New Year would be a useful source of additional evidence, and HMICS indicated that the Inspectorate would be happy to undertake this work.

**Action: HMICS/ OpTICAL to consider further**

### **Citizen Space**

No additional entries had been received this week.

The secretariat will discuss with SPA colleagues whether any changes are required to support extended access to the IAG portal, as the work of the group continues.

Martyn Evans reported that the 3<sup>rd</sup> wave of the SPA Public Survey will be discussed at the November board meeting. SPA officers will be invited to present to the IAG on the findings of this wave of the survey.

### **Action**

SPA Secretariat to liaise with colleagues regarding a presentation on the 3<sup>rd</sup> wave of the SPA Public Survey to IAG members, and continued access to the IAG portal.

### **4. SPA Board Meeting 25 November**

A letter from the Chair and an updated group work plan will be submitted to the Board for the November meeting, following circulation to IAG members for feedback. A more substantive report will be presented at the board meeting in January 2021.

### **5. AOCB**

The Chair and Professor McVie will be appearing at the Justice Sub Committee on Policing on Monday 23 November 2020.

**Date of next meeting Friday 27 November 2020, 13:00 – 15:00.**

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