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Meeting 22 January 2021 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

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

Dr Elizabeth Kelly, Associate Carnegie UK Trust

Susan Kemp, Scottish Human Rights Commission

John Logue, Deputy Crown Agent Operational Support, COPFS

Naomi McAuliffe, Programme Director Scotland, Amnesty International

ACC Gary Ritchie, Police Scotland

Dr Catriona Stewart, SWAN Scotland

Apologies:

Aamer Anwar, Solicitor and Human Rights campaigner

Tressa Burke, CEO Glasgow Disability Alliance

Martyn Evans, SPA Board Member

Maria Galli, CYPCS

DCC Will Kerr

Professor Susan McVie, University of Edinburgh

Diego Quiroz, Scottish Human Rights Commission

Brian Scott, Glasgow Disability Alliance

Secretariat:

Fiona Miller, SPA

1. Welcome and introductions

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Note of the previous meeting and matters arising.

All matters arising will be covered in the agenda of today's meeting.

Members noted that a revised note for the IAG meeting of 8 January 2021 had been circulated with the proposed amendment to the wording of item 4.

3. Feedback from the SPA Board

The Chair firstly thanked members for their feedback on the draft report that had been circulated earlier in the week. The Chair had attended the Authority meeting earlier this morning and presented the revised report. Overall it had been very well received and had generated many questions/queries including:

- Legislation, which in all four UK nations, has been referred to as "Abracadabra" law making. In relation to enforcement and communications in Scotland the approach has been more consistent.
- How data supports the Police Scotland human rights approach, the low use of enforcement, public surveys and public confidence being maintained and observation of media channels.
- Demonstrating how existing relationships and interagency working have been enhanced.

Members agreed that undoubtedly the government has been required to introduce legislation at speed, however the need for consultation and the process to be scrutinised, even if it is after it is introduced, is extremely important. Whilst this may be taking place in various arenas, there is a need for it to be more visible.

Similarly, whilst at the moment restrictions to reduce the spread of the virus and the vaccination programme are at the forefront, at a future point the legislation will require to be changed and it may be appropriate to discuss how this can be achieved in an open and transparent manner.

Members discussed the value of an accessible consolidated version of the temporary legislation for both the public and the media. The Chair highlighted the work of Adam Wagner, a London based human rights lawyer who was providing accessible information on English legislation. Depending on the IAG meeting schedule, it may be that he could be considered as a contributor at a future meeting.

4. Data Update

OpTICAL

A data paper by Professor McVie will likely be available for next week's meeting.

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The Chair advised that he and ACC Ritchie both attended the most recent meeting.

The following papers had been uploaded to egress for members to access.

- Weekly report 21 01 2021
- Guidance Op Talla
- SLB Public Confidence paper

Members discussed the weekly report data including information on enforcement of travel restrictions, house gatherings and PHS quarantine referrals. The Police Scotland online reporting facility is now demonstrating more consistent use and it was proposed that Chief Superintendent Roddy Newbigging from Contact, Command and Control (C3) attend a future meeting to discuss what if any data could be used by the IAG.

ACC Ritchie advised that in Scotland only 16 FPN's had been issued for breach of quarantine regulations from over 3,000 referrals. The support available to individuals who were required to self-isolate was considered. Members queried what form the support took - emotional, financial or practical help with assistance, shopping, prescriptions etc.

Citizen Space

No further entries

Revised letters promoting the portal will be forwarded to members next week. Jennifer is progressing the data sharing agreement and analysis of data with Professor McVie.

Action

Secretariat/Police Scotland - Invite to Chief Superintendent Newbigging to a future meeting to discuss online reporting.

5. Future meeting schedule

Unfortunately Chief Superintendent Wylie is no longer available to attend on 5 February, a rescheduled date will be arranged.

It was suggested John Wadham and Adam Wagner be considered as contributors at a future meeting. (Chair to action)

6. AOB

No matters considered

7. Date of next meeting

Friday 29 January 2021 – 13:00 – 15:00