

Meeting	Authority Meeting
Date	26 May 2021
Location	Video-conference
Title of Paper	SPA Chair's Report
Presented By	Martyn Evans
Recommendation to Members	For Approval
Appendix Attached:	Yes Appendix A - Committee and Group Membership

Purpose

To update Authority Members on activities carried out by the Chair since the March Authority meeting.

To seek APPROVAL for the nomination of Jane Ryder as Vice Chair of the Authority.

Member and Committee Appointments

I was delighted to welcome our six new Authority members who took up their posts on 1 April 2021 - Robert Black, Paul Edie, Alasdair Hay, Katharina Kaspar, Fiona McQueen and Catriona Stewart. Members have had a particularly busy period with a series of induction and development sessions and introductory meetings. This will be their first Authority meeting.

I outlined in my Chair's report to the March meeting that I intended to engage directly with all members to seek their advice and guidance with a view to appointing to committees and agreeing Chair's for vacant posts.

I am pleased to confirm that this was concluded in early April and a decision taken by correspondence to endorse appointments. I have included the outcome of those discussions and approval granted on 9 April 2021 at Appendix A. With thanks to members for their input and agreement.

Ongoing engagement

In addition to my regular engagement with HMICS, since the last Authority meeting, I have met with:

- Our auditor Gillian Woolman, and separately the Chief Constable and I met with Auditor General, Stephen Boyle.
- Scottish Government officials and Police Scotland for a wide-ranging discussion on policing in the future.
- The Chair and Chief Executive of the Northern Ireland Policing Board.

I have also attended;

- The Scottish Police Federation (SPF) annual conference which was held virtually this year and to which both the Chief Constable and I contributed.
- A meeting of Police Scotland's National Independent Strategic Advisory Group (NISAG) in April. I took the opportunity to speak about three issues. The strategic role and challenge of the Authority. The meaning and scope of governance in policing and the planned step change in stakeholder engagement. I have committed to meeting them annually at least.

Review of Local Police Plans

Members will be aware that the Authority has initiated a tripartite review of Local Police Plans with Police Scotland and COSLA. I will Chair our first formal meeting in July and I have met with DCC Kerr and officials to agree the draft Terms of Reference, review process and timetable. I hope we can report to the Board before the end of this year.

Joint commission (SPA/PS) review of IAG

The Authority and Police Scotland have commissioned an independent review of the work of Independent Advisory Group Chaired by John Scott QC looking at Police Scotland's use of new police powers to tackle coronavirus. Both the Authority and Police Scotland are keen to learn as much as possible about the oversight of policing during the pandemic to ensure any learning influences potentially similar or exceptional situations in the future. We expect the report to be available in time for the Authority's June meeting.

Vice Chair

As part of my engagement with members I have indicated and recommend to members that we fill the vacant position of Vice Chair. I would like to recommend Jane Ryder for that post and would invite members to agree that appointment at our meeting on 26 May 2021.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are invited to:

1. APPROVE the recommendation to appoint Jane Ryder as the Authority's Vice Chair.
2. Discuss and note the content of this report.

APPENDIX A - Approved Membership to Committee and Groups

<p>Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee</p> <p>Jane Ryder - Chair Katharina Kasper Grant MacRae Catriona Stewart</p>	<p>Complaints and Conduct Committee</p> <p>Alasdair Hay – Chair Grant MacRae Fiona McQueen Paul Edie</p>
<p>Exceptional Circumstances Committee</p> <p>Martyn Evans – Chair Jane Ryder Tom Halpin Mary Pitcaithly</p>	<p>Forensic Services Committee</p> <p>Tom Halpin – Chair Jane Ryder Caroline Stuart Paul Edie</p>
<p>Legal Committee</p> <p>Paul Edie – Chair Caroline Stuart Michelle Miller Katharina Kasper</p>	<p>People Committee</p> <p>Mary Pitcaithly – Chair Fiona McQueen Alasdair Hay Catriona Stewart</p>
<p>Policing Performance Committee</p> <p>Michelle Miller – Chair Robert Black Alasdair Hay Catriona Stewart</p>	<p>Resources Committee</p> <p>Robert Black – Chair Grant MacRae Caroline Stuart Katharina Kasper</p>
<p>Police Negotiating Board</p> <p>Mary Pitcaithly – Chair Robert Black Fiona McQueen</p>	<p>COP26 Oversight Group</p> <p>Tom Halpin – Chair Jane Ryder Michelle Miller</p>
<p>Scottish Railways Policing Committee</p> <p>Tom Halpin Mary Pitcaithly</p>	

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