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ÙGH DARRAS POILIS NA H-ALBA

SPA Policing Performance Committee Rolling Action Log

Action No	Action	Action Owner	Status	Expected Date of Completion	Update/Comments
MEETING HELD 10 JUNE 2025					
PPC-20250610-001	Quarterly Policing Performance Report – Q4 2024/25: Police Scotland to articulate antisocial behaviour data in a disaggregated format in future quarterly reporting.	Patrick Brown, Acting Director of Strategy & Analysis	OPEN	16 Sept 2025	03/09/2025: Detail included in Q1 Report (Item 2.2). Propose to close
PPC-20250610-002	COSLA Update Report: Draft Hate Crime Toolkit to be shared with PPC Members.	Elisa Bevacqua, Policy Manager – Communities, COSLA	OPEN	16 Sept 2025	30/06/2025: Draft Hate Crime Toolkit shared with Members. Propose to close
PPC-20250610-003	Trauma Informed Practice: Information to be provided to PPC Members regarding how the impacts of the Your Care Card and Visual Recorded Interviews will be independently evaluated.	Catriona Paton, ACC Policing Together	OPEN	16 Sept 2025	03/09/2025: Briefing note appended to action log. Propose to close

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BRIEFING PAPER FOR INFORMATION OF SCOTTISH POLICE AUTHORITY

FOR INFORMATION	
For Publication	Yes
Date Created	20 August 2025
Author / Approved by	ACC Catriona Paton, Policing Together
Attachments: No	

YOUR CARE CARD AND VISUALLY RECORDED INTERVIEWS – UPDATE

PURPOSE

This briefing paper provides a response to the SPA Policing Performance Committee Action PPC-20250610-003.

UPDATE

The below update outlines how the impact of the Your Care Card (YCC) and Visually Recorded Interviews (VRI) will be independently evaluated as requested by the SPA Policing Performance Committee in June 2025.

Standards of service continue to be monitored through our User Experience Surveys. This includes new questions which will be added to our local policing user experience survey on our YCC. We will ask respondents if they received a YCC at the time of the incident and to what extent they agree or disagree that the card was helpful.

The Victims & Witnesses Team also monitor use of the YCC. Included below are the statistics from Q1 2025:

- Accepted – 19207
- Offered and Declined – 22628
- Not Suitable – 3684
- Unable to Issue – 2261
- YCC Accepted % - 41%

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With regards to Visually Recorded Interviews, Police Scotland is participating in a soon-to-begin academic research study involving VRI, as per below:

Title: [Trauma and Technology: Identifying Best Practice for Video-Recorded Interviews \(VRIs\) with Victims of Sexual Crimes](#), led by Dr Julie Gawrylowicz, Abertay University.

This will support the service in understanding the benefits and impact of VRI on victims of crime and our workforce. We also previously participated in the following studies:

- [Proof-of-concept study exploring the use of video remote interpreting \(VRI\) platforms to facilitate communication for deaf individuals using signed languages during their entry into Police Scotland's custody](#)
- [Using avatars in investigative interviews with children.](#)

The Sexual Offences Liaison Officer (SOLO) VRI pilot was instigated mainly due to the Vulnerable Witnesses (Criminal Evidence) Scotland Act 2019 (enacted 2020) which stated that there would be a presumption in favour of the pre-recording of evidence from child and adult vulnerable witnesses.

The Scottish Child Interview Model (SCIM) was implemented by Police Scotland to obtain evidence from child victims and witnesses of crime and is now fully adopted and used at Joint Interview suites when interviewing children. SCIM has been fully evaluated and published this year by CYCJ. This evaluation is available below:

[Scottish Child Interview Model for Joint Investigative Interviewing: an evaluation - Children and Young People's Centre for Justice](#)

SOLO VRI is used for the more vulnerable witnesses of Rape and Sexual Crime, and efforts continue to upskill and train every SOLO to increase the use and ensure video recorded interviews are the norm as opposed to the exception.

National Sexual Offences Policy team, based at Gartcosh, co-ordinate the national picture for these improvements and this training for Rape and Sexual Crime investigations. There is work ongoing with COPFS to have the "pilot" status removed from this project following evaluation.

Discussions are ongoing as to how/when the pilot/evaluation will be considered complete (likely to be when an identified number of interviews have been utilised in criminal proceedings). The progress is tracked under the multi-agency, Scottish Government chaired group, Pre Recorded Evidence Implementation Group, but as this is also recommended as part of the Lady Dorrian review, progress is regularly discussed at the Lady Dorrian Review Group also.

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