

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Authority Meeting</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>24 March 2021</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Video 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 Board members with an update on policing planning for COP26.

Members are invited to discuss the content of this paper.

**1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 In November 2021, the UK Government will host the United Nations 26th Conference of the Parties, otherwise known as COP26, at the Scottish Event Campus (SEC) in Glasgow. World leaders, climate experts, business leaders and citizens will come together to discuss and agree actions on how to tackle climate change on a global scale.
- 1.2 The significance and scale of this event should not be underestimated. The Conference will be held over two weeks (from 1 - 12 November 2021), although the build will start mid-October.
- 1.3 COP26 will be the biggest and most complex event ever staged in Scotland. This will necessitate the largest mass mobilisation of police officers that has taken place in the UK in many years.

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

- 2.1 On 08 February 2021, The UK National Threat level was lowered to Substantial: an attack is likely.
- 2.2 The planning team continue to engage with all key strategic partners including UK Government COP26 Unit, United Nations, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Glasgow City Council and Scottish Government. In addition there is regular dialogue with other blue light services and delivery partners such as coastguard and military to ensure shared situational awareness across event planning and preparation.
- 2.3 A broad timeline of testing, exercise and readiness activity has been prepared, allowing the opportunity to test the structures that will be in place for event time delivery. Following each event, a full exercise evaluation will take place to help inform police planning for the conference.
- 2.4 Key planning milestones and the associated communication and engagement activities are routinely updated and noted at the SPA COP26 Oversight Board.
- 2.5 Police Scotland continue to work closely with the UK Government, Glasgow City Council and Chamber of Commerce via the established Get Ready Glasgow (GRG) Communications Sub Group to deliver integrated communications and engagement activity. This will mirror the approach adopted for the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games and all other major events in Glasgow. The Get Ready

## **OFFICIAL**

Glasgow campaign is designed to keep the city open for business and ensuring essential service delivery is maintained. The campaign is supported by Glasgow City Council, Police Scotland and a number of other partners.

- 2.6 The COP Unit recently made contact with all businesses likely to be directly impacted by the Outer Security Perimeter (OSP) at the conference site, setting out their intentions for a programme of engagement work to deliver information on the potential impact and to help them prepare for the conference. The timing for further engagement with businesses and local residents will be considered as part of the wider GRG campaign.
- 2.7 The Metropolitan Police Service Assurance Review is nearing completion with the formal report expected by Easter.
- 2.8 The review being carried out by Her Majesties Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland is gathering pace with the initial document set request being collated and key personnel from Police Scotland being interviewed during March and April.
- 2.9 All external reviews are welcomed in terms of the assurance and confidence they will ultimately provide whilst highlighting the significant planning involved in this event.

### **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.
- 3.2 A review of the financial spend to date is underway and the Police Scotland Finance Officer continues to work closely with the Financial Director of the UK Government COP26 Unit to revise and agree terms in preparation for the budget allocation for the conference.
- 3.3 The economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is presently unknown as is any potential effect it may have on COP26. Delivery of the policing plan for COP26 is reliant on a wide variety of external factors and inter-dependencies amidst a changing landscape. Areas of concern focus on supply chain, business viability and resource availability, all of which will influence the overall cost to host the event.

#### **4. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 Regular dialogue continues between representatives of the Scottish Police Federation and the central planning team, together with their continued attendance at both Gold and Silver meetings that are chaired by ACC Bernard Higgins and Chief Superintendent Mark Hargreaves respectfully.
- 4.2 Furthermore, weekly meetings take place between Police Scotland and the National Police Coordination Centre relative to matters pertaining to mutual aid. In this regard, ACC Higgins has recently met with both the Police Federation and Association of Police Superintendents of England & Wales in addition to other regular meetings that take place with them relative to COP26. The introduction of a Local Negotiating & Consultative Committee (LNCC) bespoke to Operation Urram will complement the Joint Negotiation & Consultative Committee (JNCC) framework.
- 4.3 Given the identified interdependencies and common work streams, the COP26 Health and Safety Group and COP26 Wellbeing Group have recently merged. The Health, Safety and Wellbeing Strategy recognises that officer and staff health, safety and wellbeing is fundamental to the delivery of this event and supports Police Scotland's commitment as detailed in the Police Scotland Gold Strategy.
- 4.4 The Strategy and the associated Tactical Plan will ensure that health, safety and wellbeing considerations are embedded across all areas of event planning and delivery. In addition, they will ensure adherence to existing Police Scotland Wellbeing and Inclusion policies and practices and the relevant legal obligations of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. In particular, the strategy is aligned to Police Scotland's existing initiative 'Your Wellbeing Matters' which was introduced in 2017 to ensure that police personnel have support and assistance when they need it as well as 'Your Safety Matters', the Chief Constable's recognition that violence or abusive behaviour against police personnel is unacceptable.

#### **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 With regards to Mutual Aid Indemnity, discussions between Scottish and UK Governments are ongoing. Verbal assurance has been secured from the Scottish Government regarding their commitment to underwrite the costs of any 'post event' litigation resulting from the policing operation. This matter remains on the Corporate Management Board Risk Register pending written confirmation of this approach. The Authority will continue to be updated on the progress of this matter.

## **6. REPUTATIONAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 As with all major events, there are reputational implications should there be a perception that the delivery of a safe and secure event from a policing perspective has not been fully achieved. Such implications are routinely considered and reviewed through existing governance structures.

## **7. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 There are no social implications that have been identified within this paper, however, there will be social implications associated with this event. Police Scotland continue to liaise with key strategic partners to minimise such implications.

## **8. COMMUNITY IMPACT**

8.1 The creation of Community Impact Assessments (CIA) and Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessments (EqHRIA) are key elements of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy.

8.2 Due to the size and scale of the event, COP26 will impact communities across Scotland. Every opportunity will be taken to minimise this impact throughout the planning and delivery of this event.

## **9. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 The development of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy will ensure due consideration is taken of all diversity and inclusion matters in the planning and delivery of the police operation.

## **10. ENVIRONMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 The Environment and Sustainability approach to COP26 is specifically referenced within the Police Scotland Gold Strategy. In addition, UK Government have informed stakeholders of their plan to apply for ISO20121 Events Sustainability Management Systems accreditation and a desire to go beyond the requirements of this accreditation. ISO20121 accreditation was achieved by Paris COP21.
- 10.2 ARUP have been appointed as Consultants for the UK Government to ensure that stakeholders' delivery plans are in line with the ISO accreditation. ARUP have confirmed there are 7 Sustainability Governing Principles for Sustainability Development. These are:
1. Actively manage potential impacts on the environment and local community and identify opportunities to deliver environmental and social value
  2. Provide an accessible and inclusive setting for all
  3. Encourage healthy living
  4. Ensure a safe and secure atmosphere
  5. Encourage more sustainable behaviour
  6. Promote the use of responsible sources and responsible use of resources throughout the supply chain
  7. Leave a positive legacy
- 10.3 An Environment and Sustainability Strategy has been drafted which aligns to the COP26 Sustainability Development Policy briefing provided by the UK Government. Alongside this, a draft action plan has captured work that has been completed in line with the aforementioned governing principles. Examples include:
- The use of electric vehicles
  - Reduced transportation to meetings
  - Exploring opportunities for life water bottles for officers to reduce single use water bottles
  - Ensuring procurement principles meet sustainable requirements including electric transport and single use plastic reduction
  - Reviewing deployment plans for operational delivery, ensuring that police officers can report to their nearest Divisional Collection Point, reducing our carbon footprint.
  - A consideration for bicycles recovered as found property during COP26 to be returned to community organisations at the end of legislative time periods.
- 10.4 The legacy footprint resulting from the Operation Urram approach will be the subject of a full debrief report to capture and mainstream the environment and sustainability approach into the

organisation and to inform the planning and delivery of future events and operations.

**11. POLITICAL IMPACT**

11.1 COP26 will be subject to worldwide media coverage with a significant number of world leaders expected to attend. The political impact is assessed on an ongoing basis.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are invited to discuss the content of this report.