

**Meeting 14 May 2021 13:00**

**Members attending:**

John Scott QC, Solicitor Advocate (Chair)

Bruce Adamson, Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland

Aamer Anwar, Solicitor

Ephraim Borowski, Chair of the National Independent Strategic Advisory Group

Maria Galli, Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland

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

Naomi McAuliffe, Programme Director Scotland, Amnesty International

Professor Susan McVie, University of Edinburgh

ACC Gary Ritchie, Police Scotland

Brian Scott, Glasgow Disability Alliance

**Apologies:**

Tressa Burke, CEO Glasgow Disability Alliance

Dr Elizabeth Kelly, Associate Carnegie UK Trust

Deputy Chief Constable Will Kerr, Police Scotland

John Logue, Deputy Crown Agent Operational Support, COPFS

Diego Quiroz, Scottish Human Rights Commission

Barry Sillers, Deputy Chief Executive, Strategy and Performance, SPA

**Secretariat:**

Jennifer Blackwood, SPA

Deborah Christie, SPA

Eleanor Gaw, SPA

## **OFFICIAL**

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

The Chair welcomed attendees. Apologies were noted as above.

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

The group noted the minute of the meeting held on the 07<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

### **3. Easing of restrictions - issues arising, including travel.**

John Scott provided a high level summary of the weekly data report from Police Scotland updating the group that interventions were down and indoor activity was up.

The group considered an update from IAG Member, Aamer Anwar on his experience of events during the previous day, in Kenmure Street, Pollokshields, in response to the detention of 2 individuals by UK Immigration Enforcement.

ACC Gary Ritchie provided an overview of the involvement of Police Scotland in these events. He thanked Aamer Anwar for his comments and recognised the role played by Mr Anwar in reaching a resolution on the day. ACC Ritchie confirmed that Chief Superintendent Mark Sutherland planned to attend the next meeting of the IAG and would be in a position to provide this group with a more detailed understanding of the strategic decisions taken and the considerations which led to the safe resolution of the incident.

In response to a question about whether the temporary Coronavirus police powers had been considered as part of the approach taken by commanding officers it was confirmed that the pandemic and associated temporary police powers would absolutely have been considered as part of the decision making process and this would be part of the update from CS Sutherland next week.

It was recognised that the Operation Urram Oversight Group may have an interest in considering any learning from events in Pollokshields.

ACC Ritchie updated the group that plans were in place for what was expected to be a very busy weekend for Police Scotland with football celebrations and protests anticipated. The group heard that across all Police Scotland decision making, the matter of public safety would be paramount.

ACC Ritchie further updated attendees that, as the restrictions ease further and more licenced premises opened, the demand was expected to return to nearer pre Covid levels. It was reported that local policing plans were in place and the 4 Es approach would remain in use, however it was recognised that challenges would soon arise as apparently different approaches start to be seen across the country, giving rise to questions about consistency. ACC Ritchie explained that it was important that local commanders were able to decide how best to police their regions.

Recognising that discussions were still underway with regards to the possibility of local lockdowns, the group was assured that Police Scotland were contributing to these discussions at an appropriate level.

## **OFFICIAL**

**4. Current issues and human rights concerns related to policing, children and young people - Maria Galli, CYPSC**

It was confirmed this report was in the final stages of drafting and would be shared with the group as soon as it was available. Attendees noted the report would be included in the June Board Report from the IAG.

**5. Report to the Scottish Police Authority – John Scott**

John Scott updated attendees that discussions with the Chair of the Authority, fellow IAG and OptICAL members had concluded that the next formal report from the IAG to the Authority would be presented at the June Board meeting. It was noted this would allow additional time to ensure all matters could be appropriately prepared for inclusion in the report, with additional work still required across a number of work streams.

**6. Data Update**

**OptICAL Update/Citizen Space**

The group considered an update from Susan McVie on a number of pieces of work that she was involved in and which would, in due course, be reported to the IAG.

It was confirmed that there had been no activity via the Citizen Space platform.

**5. AOCB**

There was not AOB.

**Date of next meeting**

Friday 21 May 2021 – 13:00 – 15:00