

Meeting	SPA Authority Meeting
Date	25 August 2021
Location	Video Conference
Title of Paper	26th Conference of the Parties (COP26)
Presented By	Will Kerr, DCC Local Policing
Recommendation to Members	For Discussion
Appendix Attached	No

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 31st October and 12 November 2021), although the build will start in mid-August.
- 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 Phase 2 of the security minded communications has commenced which includes messaging on security culture, capability and collaboration, thereby creating a sense amongst hostile parties that Police Scotland is preparing and getting ready for the conference. Initial content includes focussing on the planning team and looking at how Police Scotland prepare for large events. This messaging is also focussing on specialist resources such as the marine and dive unit and the firearms unit. A video has been produced calling for protestors and other groups planning demonstrations to contact Police Scotland's liaison coordinators, which was published on the Police Scotland social media channels and website and shared with partners.
- 2.2 In July 2021, partner agencies attended the first COP26 SCAN (See, Check and Notify). This training session for communication departments, delivered by the National Project Servator team, aimed to help businesses and organisations maximise safety and security through their communications and help ensure individuals or groups seeking to cause organisations harm are unable to get the information they need to plan their actions.
- 2.3 A business engagement event is being considered as part of the Get Ready Glasgow campaign. Further sessions targeting elected members to help them understand the role of public order and protest management are being arranged for delivery during August.

- 2.4 The third issue of the Operation Urram newsletter, which is circulated to England and Wales Federations and NPoCC, was issued at the end of July with a focus on mutual aid as well as information on the launch of the briefing package for officers, scope notifications and wellbeing. Work is almost complete on the Knowledge Hub for mutual aid officers, the content of which will be the same as the Police Scotland intranet with some additional information specifically for mutual aid officers.
- 2.5 A strategy for responding to any COVID outbreak amongst any of the officers and staff deployed to the event is currently being drafted.
- 2.6 Glasgow City Council has received official notification from the organiser for the main parade on Saturday 6 November 2021 and the initial multi-agency planning meeting has taken place with further meetings scheduled.

3. ENVIRONMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 In line with the Gold Strategy of embracing a sustainable approach to the planning and delivery of the event, work is progressing with catering providers to help minimise the volume of food waste within hotels and staging posts and also with the Strategy and Innovation Department into the development of a mobile based 'APP' to support officers in easily locating water taps across Glasgow.
- 3.2 A force wide newsletter relating to the conference has dedicated areas for staff education with regards to their own personal carbon footprint via the WWF carbon footprint calculator. The carbon footprint message is also reinforced with the use of COP26 energy saver 'screensaver' on all desktops used by Police Scotland. A bespoke educational slide regarding sustainable approaches will be provided in the briefing packs for mutual aid officers.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 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.

5. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The previously signed off Federated Ranks Work Force Agreement (WFA) for the COP26 policing operation has been shared with the Police Federation of England and Wales. It is anticipated this WFA will be accepted in principle by all mutual aid Forces with the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) having agreed and adopted the agreement. The Association of Scottish Police Superintendents (ASPS) have agreed the Superintending Ranks WFA which has been co-signed by the Chief Constable. The Police Staff WFA has been agreed and is currently being signed off Union representatives on behalf of the staff workforce.
- 5.2 The Section 98 (Police Act 1996) agreement (relative to the provision of mutual aid resources) has been agreed by all Forces and has been signed by the Chief Constable.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Written confirmation from Scottish Government regarding their position on underwriting the costs of any 'post event' litigation resulting from the policing operation is still awaited. This matter remains on the Corporate Management Board Risk Register pending such confirmation.

7. REPUTATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 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.

8. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 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.

9. COMMUNITY IMPACT

- 9.1 A National Operation Urram Community Impact Assessment (CIA) has been created and is subject to weekly review taking account of intelligence reports and stakeholder engagement. This assessment will become more detailed as the date of the conference approaches. Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessments

(EqHRIA) are key elements of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy and indeed all tactical plans are subject to this process.

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

10. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy has been published and takes consideration of all diversity and inclusion matters in the planning and delivery of the police operation.

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 paper.