

File note from SPA Policing Performance Committee Update Meeting –21 April 2020, 12.30 (teleconference)

Participants:

Martyn Evans, Michelle Miller, Bob Hayes, Barry Sillers, Jackie McKelvie, Eleanor Gaw, Martin Smith, Deborah Christie

Introduction and Update

Martyn Evans' opening remarks confirmed the intended approach of the Policing Performance Committee would be to meet weekly with the purpose of using the discussions to ensure proportionate focus in the short and medium term on key public interest issues within its remit during COVID19. Martyn Evans stated that the approach would seek to place no unnecessary demands on Police Scotland or SPA staff which may detract from their focus on this crisis. A brief report detailing the full approach of the Policing Performance Committee will be reported to The Authority at its COVID19 briefing meeting on Thursday 23rd April.

Development of Performance Framework in 2020-2021 – Martyn Evans updated the group that he had taken part in a meeting that had been arranged by Police Scotland to discuss the work to be undertaken by a Short Life Working Group (SLWG) which sought to oversee the data and information provided to the SPA commissioned Independent Advisory Group on COVID-19 and the PS response under Operation Talla. This group would also explore any issues surrounding data collection and reporting. Noting that there had been no SPA officer attendance at the meeting, the group agreed that the SPA should be represented at future meetings of the group and Martyn Evans agreed to speak to Tom McMahon to ensure the invite was extended.

Public Confidence in Policing: Review of various sources

The group was updated on the work to identify a suitable external supplier to carry out a survey which would provide evidence of public confidence in and public opinion on the Police Scotland response to COVID19. Members discussed the scope and purpose of the survey and guided that priority should be given to commissioning a survey that could be rolled out in the next two weeks. The group agreed that the survey should be carried out as swiftly as possible and that the methodology should seek to include both urban and remote and rural areas.

Independent Advisory Group on use of temporary powers by Police Scotland

The group heard that the IAG has now met twice and it was expected the Terms of Reference will be agreed soon.

Policing Performance Committee during COVID19 and Agenda

The group discussed ways in which the newly established regular COVID19 update meetings of the Policing Performance Committee could be reported in the public domain and it was agreed that a weekly summary would be published on the SPA website.

The group discussed if there was a requirement for the Committee to convene formally any sooner than the scheduled date on the 28th May and it was agreed that this was not currently necessary however this would be kept under review.

The group discussed options for appropriate attendees from Police Scotland at future weekly meetings and it was agreed a suitable PS representative would be invited to attend future meetings.

It was also agreed that COSLA representatives would be sighted on the proposed approach of the Policing Performance Committee during COVID19 and that, where possible, it was hoped that COSLA was represented at future meetings.

NOTE: Update will be reflected in the papers to the next public session of the Scottish Police Authority