

Meeting Monday 20 April 2020

Members attending:

John Scott QC Solicitor Advocate (Chair)
Aamer Anwar, Solicitor and Human Rights campaigner
Bruce Adamson, Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland
Ephraim Borowski, Chair of the National Independent Strategic Advisory Group
Martyn Evans, Scottish Police Authority
Gill Imery, HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS)
Susan Kemp, Scottish Human Rights Commission
DCC Will Kerr, Police Scotland
John Logue, Deputy Crown Agent Operational Support, COPFS
Naomi McAuliffe, Programme Director Scotland, Amnesty International
Professor Susan McVie, University of Edinburgh
Alastair Pringle, Executive Director, Equality and Human Rights Commission
Dr Catriona Stewart, Scottish Women's Autism Network

1. Group Membership:

New members of the group Dr Catriona Stewart, Aamer Anwar and Susan Kemp were welcomed to the IAG.

The Chair indicated that we are awaiting confirmation of additional representative from Glasgow Disability Alliance.

Health Input to the group - Professor Carol Tannahill Director of the Glasgow Centre for Population and Health (presently seconded to Scottish Government) to be approached.

Action - Chair to discuss with Professor Tannahill (with an introduction to be provided by Martyn Evans)

2. Sharing Information

Police Scotland and SPA to jointly discuss protocol for information sharing this week, to offer guidance to group members on what can be shared more widely with representatives of member organisations.

OFFICIAL

Action - SPA and Police Scotland

3. Terms of Reference

General responses from members has been positive, and some additional suggestions have been received for inclusion. ToR will be finalised at next meeting on Friday 24 April to allow new members time to consider and offer feedback.

Action - Agenda item Friday 24 April

4. Communications

There was a wide ranging discussion on scope for improving clarity in communications, the role of the group in supporting clarity of understanding and identifying any issues or obstacles for groups and individuals re related guidance.

The group considered a regular information bulletin/briefing paper, with a final report focusing on overview and lessons learned. A priority for any early bulletin could be to support clarity on the distinction between what is government and health guidance, and what is in the law and policing's role.

Reports from the group to the SPA would allow the Authority to advocate with Government on improving clarity of communication, and supporting any emerging future challenges when lockdown situation is gradually easing.

Timescales for reporting were discussed, including aligning the group's reporting into the SPA, and with the release of other information such as the fortnightly report from SPA/ Police Scotland on Operation Talla.

Action - reporting cycles and priority communications to be discussed further

Action - College of Policing Guidance to be circulated (S. McVie to share)

5. Stakeholder Engagement

Members suggested development of a list of key local stakeholders or networks, to assist in dissemination of information and outputs from the group; and which may offer scope to for wider informal reference group.

Action - It was agreed that group members could share relevant contacts to develop a stakeholder list (*to note: GDPR to be taken account of*)

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Catriona Stewart highlighted responses she had received detailing some individual views and perspectives shared with Swan Scotland.

Action - Catriona Stewart to share relevant information with the Chair, cc Eleanor Gaw, to inform work of the group.

6. Training / development

Catriona Stewart offered to provide a one page briefing note for Police Scotland on engaging with individuals with autism during this period.

Action - Catriona Stewart

Tressa Burke from Glasgow Disability Alliance to be contacted regarding a similar briefing note for individuals with hidden disabilities

Action - Chair/ Eleanor Gaw to progress

7. Papers from Professor Susan McVie and discussion on data and evidence

A paper on understanding Operation Talla data from Prof McVie was discussed and welcomed by group members. It was noted that although helpful at this early stage in the process it was important not to make assumptions too quickly and that differing pictures emerging across the country was not unusual for policing. Further discussion on this is to be led by Professor McVie at the group's meeting Friday 24th April.

The paper circulated by from Professor McVie on Research Requirements will be discussed at the meeting on Friday 24 April

Action - Agenda Friday 24 April

8. Police Scotland convening Short Life Working Group on Operation Talla, including focus on evidence and supporting assurance.

This group will be meeting (Tuesday 21 April). The Chair will be dialling in, as will Professor Susan McVie and Martyn Evans.

Action - Feedback from the Police Scotland group to be an agenda item for IAG meeting on Friday 24 April

9. Developing IAG List of Priority Actions - this agenda item will be carried forward to meeting on Friday 24 April

10. Temporary Powers and Children's Rights

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Action: Bruce Adamson will forward related information to Eleanor Gaw for circulation

11. Date and time of future meetings

Next meeting 2.30 pm- Friday 24 April. Members will be canvassed for preferences for future meeting times, with regular Monday and Friday slots to be set up. **Action:** Eleanor / all members to respond.

OFFICIAL