

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Meeting | SPA Authority Meeting |
| Date | 30 June 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 1 - 12 November 2021), although the build will start in early September.
- 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 A communications release explaining the impact of the conference on Glasgow's road network around the main venue, the SEC, and river restrictions was issued at the end of May 2021, the precise nature of which will be widely communicated when exact details confirmed.
- 2.2 As part of the Get Ready Glasgow campaign, a COP26 digital business engagement event was held in early June 2021 providing businesses the opportunity to hear from event organisers and delivery partners about the city's preparations for COP26. The wider campaign is also being used to prepare the city to welcome visitors and aid citizens to feel confident and reassured about Glasgow hosting a Covid-safe event.
- 2.3 Since the last Board, Police Scotland have been represented at two COP26 Unit Delivery Boards, COP26 Risk Tolerance and Security Planning meeting, COP26 SPA Oversight Group meeting, COP26 Strategic Oversight Board, COP26 Security and Readiness Steering Group, Get Ready Glasgow meeting and COSLA/SOLACE COP26 engagement sessions. Police Scotland were represented at a UN engagement session in London on 04 June.
- 2.4 Following visits by Health and Safety, ICT and Wellbeing Officers, Health and Safety Risk Assessments are being drafted and tailored to each individual Staging Post. Staging post plans are also being refined following the visits.

- 2.5 The Scottish Police Federation, Police Federation of England and Wales and the Police Federation for Northern Ireland visited Scotland at the end of May 2021. They met with key individuals involved in Operation Urram including, the Gold and Silver Commanders and Lead Planner where they were provided with key inputs relating to the conference.
- 2.6 HMICS published their Assurance Review of the Policing of the Conference of the Parties (COP26). Contained within, was one recommendation, 6 areas of noted good practice and 31 areas for development, all of which will be progressed prior to the Conference.
- 2.7 Following the G7 conference in Devon and Cornwall (a mass mobilisation, mutual aid policing event), members of the Police Scotland planning team have secured agreement to be involved in the event debrief in order to ensure learning can be incorporated into the plans for COP26.

3. ENVIRONMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Feedback received from Arup (the project management team who have been drafted in by the UK Government as environmental consultants for COP 26) regarding the Operation Urram Environmental Strategy and Action Plan is currently being considered prior to a final version being presented to the Gold Commander for approval.

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.
- 4.2 Police Scotland continues to work closely with the UK Government COP26 Unit to confirm funding requirements for policing the conference.

5. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Workforce Agreements for both Federated Ranks and Superintending Ranks have been ratified and endorsed by the Chief Constable and the Scottish Police Federation / Association of Scottish Police Superintendents respectively. The Workforce Agreement for Police Staff has been presented to the Trade Unions at JNCC for consultation after amendments were made to the first draft.

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 report.