

**Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> June 2020 12:00 – 14:00**

**Members attending:**

John Scott QC, Solicitor Advocate (Chair)

Bruce Adamson, CYPSC

Ephraim Borowski, Chair of the National Independent Strategic Advisory Group

Martyn Evans, Scottish Police Authority

Maria Galli, CYPSC

Martin Hayward, Equality and Human Rights Commission

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

Susan Kemp, Scottish Human Rights Commission

John Logue, Deputy Crown Agent Operational Support, COPFS

Naomi McAuliffe, Programme Director Scotland, Amnesty International

Professor Susan McVie, University of Edinburgh

Brian Scott, Glasgow Disability Alliance

Dr Catriona Stewart, Scottish Women's Autism Network

**Apologies:**

Aamer Anwar, Solicitor and Human Rights campaigner

Tressa Burke, CEO Glasgow Disability Alliance

Dr Elizabeth Kelly, NHS Scotland and Associate Carnegie UK Trust

ACC Gary Ritchie, Police Scotland

DCC Will Kerr, Police Scotland

**Secretariat support:**

Jennifer Blackwood, SPA Communications

Eleanor Gaw, SPA Community Accountability

Fiona Miller, SPA Community Accountability

John McCroskie, SPA Director of Communications and Relationships

## **OFFICIAL**

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

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and outlined the agenda for today. The main item for discussion was the paper, Human Rights Implications for Children and Young People being presented by Maria Galli CYPCS. The Chair proposed that she and Bruce Adamson lead the discussion, highlighting any themes or specific areas prior to members having the opportunity to discuss. It was agreed that this would be an initial discussion with additional time allocated at the IAG meeting next Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> June.

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

- 1) Follow up discussions on data sharing with Professor Halliday

Professor McVie advised that there had been discussion around policing priorities for day to day sharing with the group and that dialogue is ongoing. She will advise when this can be brought back to the IAG.

- 2) Professor McVie provided an update on the proposal to invite Paul Quinton from the College of Policing to attend a future meeting. She advised that she had been in touch and he had confirmed that an independent group led by the Bishop of Manchester was being established to review policing in England and Wales during the pandemic. Although this group will have a different focus to that of the IAG in Scotland, it was agreed that they should be approached to feed into the group at a future meeting. A meeting between Susan and Police Scotland had been set up for Tuesday 9 June to agree a way forward.

- 3) Easing Lockdown Restrictions  
Members will have the opportunity to continue this discussion, particularly in relation to travel restrictions and quarantine issues, when DCC Kerr and Divisional Commanders join the group's meeting on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June.

- 4) Justice Sub-Committee on Policing  
The Chair advised members that he will be giving evidence at the above sub-committee this Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June.

- 5) Citizen Space & Public Feedback  
Jennifer Blackwood gave a comprehensive summary detailing that to date;

- 22 people had recorded their views on the portal which was launched at the beginning of the week
- 23.53% had police contact
- 58.82% said their opinion of the police was unchanged
- 29.41% said their opinion was worse

**OFFICIAL**

## OFFICIAL

- 11.76% said their opinion had got better
- Largest age group to respond is 35-44
- Male/Female split is pretty even at the moment with 47% female/41% male
- Only one respondent so far identified themselves as from an ethnic minority
- 35.29% said they would be happy to be contacted
- 82.35% happy for their response to be made public

The group discussed the frequency for sharing information and considered that it was likely there would be spikes of volume depending on activity to raise awareness of the portal or changes in guidance. Members agreed that receiving a weekly summary would be useful, with anything urgent or requiring early action being brought to the group's attention out with this timescale. The Chair noted that, at this stage, responses, including either positive or negative comments, were fairly evenly balanced.

Members were asked to continue promoting the portal through their own networks.

**Action: IAG Members**

Members discussed the visibility of the portal on the SPA website and requested the link be made more prominent.

**Action: Jennifer Blackwood SPA**

- 6) Follow up discussions on data and evidence and feedback from The OpTICAL Group

The Chair invited Gill Imery HMICS and Professor McVie to update members on the work of the group in relation to Police Scotland Officer and Staff interviews.

Gill provided an overview of the findings to date. By the end of today, a total of sixty interviews will have been completed. This comprises twelve from the pilot and a further forty eight involving Police Officers and staff from a range of grades.

The research has been focussed on four themes

Training and Support

Generally positive comments from individuals, accepting that things have been happening very quickly and officers and staff, particularly those on the front line, have had to adapt to the regulations and guidance which themselves have created a level of confusion.

OFFICIAL

## OFFICIAL

### Public Compliance

Overall it was felt that the public were willing to comply and the 4E's messaging had been positive, however, there were concerns that this may become more difficult as the lockdown eases.

### Using the Powers

The emphasis had been on resolution with the roll out of CAM (Contact Assessment Model) accelerated which had been welcomed, particularly in the north. Officers felt that this was a good way to work; early intervention was allowing more efficient deployment of resources.

### Future Lessons

Officers felt that they were better resourced as officers with back office functions returning to operational duties, however, the long term impact of this will require consideration.

As some areas of the country had been impacted by COVID19 more than others, officers experience could be shared with those in areas less affected who may find their focus changing as more people begin travelling out with their local area as the easing of the lockdown progresses.

The Chair thanked HMICS, in particular Gill Imery and Brian McNulty for their support in undertaking this work at short notice and within a tight timescale. Professor McVie also asked that thanks be recoded to Superintendent Alison Kennedy and Inspector John McSorland from Police Scotland for their invaluable support with the organisation of the interviews.

Members asked a number of questions including had PPE been raised in passing as an issue and were further interviews in differing areas planned?

In relation to PPE, although out, with the groups remit Gill was unaware of this being a significant concern.

At this stage, interviews had covered three diverse divisions, Greater Glasgow, Forth Valley and Highlands and Islands, however, the IAG may wish to consider asking HMICS to carry out a similar exercise in different areas as the easing of lockdown continues.

Professor McVie informed members that the interviews were not set up as a survey with the intention of being comparable to any other data.

**Action: A summary report will be issued to the IAG next week.**

**Action: SPA Secretariat will forward thanks to Police Scotland regarding support provided by Superintendent Kennedy and Inspector McSorland.**

OFFICIAL

### **3) Human Rights Implications for Children and Young People Maria Galli, CYPSC**

Maria Galli, CYPSC, presented a comprehensive overview of the paper to IAG members, which was then discussed. Originally it had been thought that this and the paper presented last week, Human Rights Guide to Examining the New Police Powers presented by Diego Quiroz of the Scottish Human Rights Commission, could be considered together, however, on reflection, the papers required to be separate to consider the specific issues facing young people.

While children are less directly impacted by COVID19, they were likely to be proportionately disaffected by other factors, such as poverty, during lockdown. There are challenges about how to get their views, supported by the Portal's initial input which showed, to date, comments received are largely from those aged 35 to 44. The Chair asked that the CYPSC assist in raising awareness of the portal amongst young people. This will be done, including by use of the new resource commissioned by CYPSC, the Observatory of Children's Human Rights Scotland.

Claire Lightowler, director at the Centre for Youth & Criminal Justice (CYCJ) has been working as expert lead in the Observatory project, her team has gathered views and experiences of young people re criminal justice during Covid19. The report will be available to be shared with IAG members next Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June.

The Chair raised the issue of Children's Rights Impact Assessments and Maria advised that work is ongoing with Police Scotland. Professor McVie highlighted that data is being compiled at a UK level: she will arrange a discussion on the issue of data sharing with Maria.

Members were asked to consider the paper (Word format) and make any track changes before returning to Maria by the end of next week.

Martyn Evans asked if CYPSC had provided input to the Young People's Guidance which Police Scotland issued on 26 May. Maria confirmed that engagement with Police Scotland was ongoing.

Glasgow Disability Alliance welcomed the observation that poverty was being particularly impacted by the pandemic.

Bruce Adamson detailed the challenges to understand the lived experiences of children and young people and how it was crucial that they were involved, in more than just a consultative role.

## **OFFICIAL**

The Chair and members welcomed the CYPCS input to today's meeting and acknowledged the importance of the paper as a framework document.

**Action: Professor McVie to arrange a conversation with Maria Galli re data sharing.**

**Action: IAG members to review the paper and track any changes before returning to Maria by the end of w/c 8 June.**

**Action: M Galli to share a link with the IAG when the CYCJ report is published on the CYCJ website.**

### **4) Forward Planning and future agenda priorities**

DCC Kerr and two Division Commanders will be attending this Monday's IAG meeting to give an insight into the impact of the easing of the lock down restrictions.

Next Friday's meeting has no substantive agenda item however members will have an opportunity for follow up discussion on the CYPCS report.

Challenges relating to enforcement of the proposed quarantine and travel regulations for Scotland are not yet available to the IAG. It was acknowledged that the Scottish Government's approach to the pandemic was not within the IAG review. Likewise, Professor McVie raised the issue of Scot Rail highlighting concerns on social media about the large numbers of groups travelling to coastal resorts which they could do little about. The question of whether Police Scotland or BTP was responsible for taking action was unclear at this stage.

### **5) AOCB**

#### **Opportunity to Comment by Telephone**

Jennifer Blackwood advised that a phone number was now available for anyone who was not digitally enabled. This number would be circulated to the IAG along with a revised standard letter which group members could use to highlight through their networks. Following an IAG specific welcome message, callers can leave a message lasting five minutes detailing their comments on Police Scotland's use of the emergency powers.

Martin Hayward asked when the fixed penalty data would be available, Professor McVie advised that it was a standing item at the OpTICAL group and she was expecting an update this Tuesday.

**OFFICIAL**

**OFFICIAL**

Martin Hayward highlighted the Equality Human Rights Commission Inquiry into Covid 19 impact on ethnic minority groups in England, Wales and Scotland

**Date of Next Meeting:**

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June **14:00 – 16:00**

**OFFICIAL**