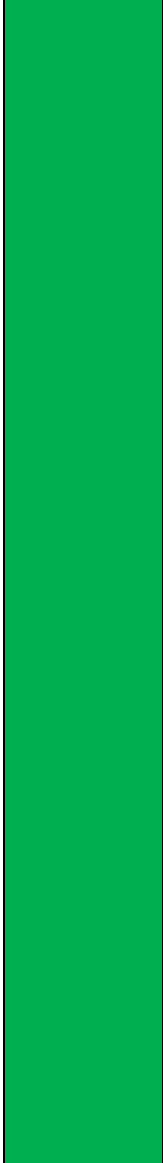




SPA Policing Performance Committee  
Rolling Action Log

Action No	Action	Action Owner	Status	Expected Date of Completion	Update/Comments
MEETING HELD 16 SEPTEMBER 2025					
PPC-20250916-001	<p><b>Live Facial Recognition (LFR):</b> Update to be provided which gives this committee oversight of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the timeline for work in respect of Police Scotland's preparation for potential future use of LFR.</li> <li>- clarity on budget consideration &amp; planning for this work.</li> </ul>	ACC Stuart Houston, Organised Crime, Counter Terrorism and Intelligence	OPEN	9 December 2025	<p><b>27/11/2025:</b> Briefing paper appended to the action log.</p> <p><b>Propose to close</b></p>
PPC-20250916-002	<p><b>Stop &amp; Search:</b> Future reporting to this committee to include data which provides assurance on the proportionality of Stop &amp; Search. This assurance should include data on protected characteristics and consent.</p>	ACC Mark Sutherland, Criminal Justice Services and Contact, Command and Control	OPEN	9 December 2025	<p><b>17/11/2025:</b> The Stop and Search SPA Performance Committee report has been added as a standing agenda item to the Stop and Search Mainstreaming Assurance Group to ensure that the data is checked and fulfils the SPA requirements. The report will then be fed into the SPA Policing Performance Committee accordingly.</p> <p><b>Propose to close</b></p>

<p>PPC-20250916-003</p>	<p><b>Stop &amp; Search:</b> Briefing note or update to be shared with Members which details when dashboard data will be available detailing instances of the interim guidance being utilised around the specific sex of a person and the sex of the officer or staff member conducting the search.</p>	<p>ACC Mark Sutherland, Criminal Justice Services and Contact, Command and Control</p>		<p>9 December 2025</p>	<p><b>17/11/2025:</b> The S&amp;S Database does not, currently, accurately record whether a person is transgender. This is acknowledged as an area that requires improvement and is a critical part of the wider sex and gender review that has a strand dedicated to data recording. The outcome of that review, the introduction of the new S&amp;S Code of Practice as well as any additional guidance that may come from EHRC will be critical to understanding how we ask about and subsequently record sex and gender on police systems. Updating the database is currently being overseen by the Search Short Life Working Group (SLWG) and Sex and Gender Strategic Oversight Board (SOB). At this time there is no definitive timescale as to when the S&amp;S database will be updated. There are many updates needed to the database and ideally should not be implemented until the revised Scottish Government Code of Practise is issued in March 2026 to understand the full scope of the changes that will be required re sex and gender. A briefing note will be completed and submitted in 2026.</p> <p><b>Propose ongoing</b></p>
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PPC-20250916-004	<b>Road Policing:</b> Timescale to be provided for implementation of the new model for Road Policing.	Chief Superintendent Scott McCarren	OPEN	9 December 2025	<p><b>20/11/2025:</b> Road Policing Division have established a working group that will be responsible for the review of Road Policing to deliver year 3 milestone 1.41. Work has already been completed following the HMICS Thematic Inspection into Road Policing – Nov 2024. An improvement plan was developed in response to the recommendations made and will drive the shaping of a sustainable model which will be presented to the Committee in line with the time frame of the three-year plan.</p> <p><b>Propose to close</b></p>
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<p>PPC-20250916-005</p>	<p><b>HMICS Recommendations:</b> Due to the partnership asks across key areas, work to be undertaken on mapping the governance routes and identifying gaps for delivery of key recommendations, including existing partnership forums.</p>	<p>Tom McMahon, Director of Strategy &amp; Analysis</p>	<p>OPEN</p>	<p>9 December 2025</p>	<p><b>19/11/2025:</b> Police Scotland have effective escalation routes in place through the command structure which are enacted should any of the recommendations experience difficulties with partnership delivery. The Audit Manager conducted a review: this affects approximately 15 recommendations from HMICS – 8 require Scottish Government, 1 COPFS, 1 SPA Forensics, 1 National Policing Care Network (NHS), 1 NHS Lanarkshire, 3 NCP and Facilities Management. Due to the additional bureaucracy this would create, they are not formally mapped as each partnership forum is distinct however the Audit team do highlight when there’s a partnership element during Action planning and recommendation management.</p> <p><b>Propose to close</b></p>
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**BRIEFING PAPER FOR INFORMATION OF SCOTTISH POLICE AUTHORITY**

<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>	
For Publication	Yes
Date Created	11/11/2025
Author / Approved by	ACC Stuart Houston, OCCTI
<b>Attachments:</b> N/A	

**BRIEFING PAPER**

**Police Scotland Live Facial Recognition (LFR) Update to SPA Policing Performance Committee**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this paper is to provide a response to action PPC 20250916-001 raised by the SPA Policing Performance Committee on 16 September 2025.

The action sought an update on the timeline for work in respect of Police Scotland's preparation for potential future use of LFR and clarity on budget consideration and planning for this work.

**UPDATE**

Since the last Policing Performance Committee on 16 September 2025, ACC Stuart Houston has been appointed as Strategic Lead for LFR technology policy development.

A Working Group made up of representatives from Police Scotland's Specialist Crime Division, Chief Data Office, Digital Division, Policing Together, Engagement, Corporate Communications, and Scottish Police Authority, has been established to consider engagement, consultation, the legal, financial, operational and governance

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implications around the possible adoption of Live Facial Recognition Technology. At this stage it is still the position that there are a number of steps before any decision regarding the use of the technology can be taken.

From the initial working group meeting it is clear that the questions raised in the national conversation and subsequent letters received by Police Scotland require further review and analysis. It is recognised that prior to any further consultation the questions raised need to be appropriately addressed and will shape any future public and stakeholder consultation.

An internal workshop session is being planned for January 2026 by the working group to consider all points raised and themes of concerns. This approach will ensure that all activity relating to the development of LFR technology is lawful, ethical and transparent with clear lines of accountability and oversight.

Following this Police Scotland will continue to consult with key stakeholders, while considering policy, governance and principles for use. This will be conducted with a transparent but robust governance, audit, and reporting mechanisms through the use of the Rights Based Pathway.

Although it is recognised at this stage internal work is required, there is a requirement to ensure that the group seek the appropriate external advice from regulators or oversight bodies who will be able to assist in the interpretation of any distinct legal frameworks that relate to LFR, this includes ongoing legal cases, the UK data protection law, ICO and the primary legal framework under the Scottish Biometrics Commissioner Act 2020 with the associated codes of practice.

The strategic lead, ACC Stuart Houston has committed to regular engagement with the Scottish Biometrics Commissioner on the work of the group and seek engagement prior to any future consultation.

LFR has not been allocated any specific funding in the provisional 2026/27 budget.

It is proposed that a further update on the progress and timeline is provided to the Policing Performance Committee in early 2026.

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