

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Authority Meeting</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>23 June 2022</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Video Conference</b>
<b>Title of Paper</b>	<b>SPA Chief Executive's Report</b>
<b>Presented By</b>	<b>Lynn Brown, Chief Executive</b>
<b>Recommendation to Members</b>	<b>For Discussion</b>
<b>Appendix Attached:</b>	<b>Yes – Summary Report from Scottish Railway Policing Committee held on 18 May 2022.</b>

**PURPOSE**

To update Authority Members on activities carried out by the Chief Executive's since the previous Authority Meeting.

Members are recommended to consider this report and to raise any matters for clarification or further detail with the Chief Executive.

## 1. Background

- 1.1 This report provides Members with an update on key SPA activity not already covered elsewhere on the agenda.

## 2. Resource Spending Review

- 2.1 On 31 May 2022 the Scottish Government published the results of their [Resource Spending Review](#).
- 2.2 The Resource Spending Review sets out the high-level parameters for resource spend within future Scottish Budgets up to 2026-27. This is not a confirmed budget allocation for future years. It offers the Authority a framework to plan for the future.
- 2.3 As Accountable Officer, it is incumbent for me to highlight that any flat cash budget settlement for policing will have significant implications for policing in the years ahead. Members will note that all financial planning for the years ahead have been developed based on real terms revenue protection committed for the lifetime of the current Parliament.
- 2.4 I will continue to work closely with the finance team to ensure that the implications are accurately captured and Scottish Government are fully apprised of the priorities in advance of any budget settlements.

## 3. Review of Strategic Police Plan

- 3.1 The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 requires the Authority to set, review and refresh (if required) the Strategic Police Plan every 3 years. In line with this requirement, at the end of 2021, the Authority and Police Scotland initiated a collaborative review process to consider the outcomes contained in the current 2020-2023 [Joint Strategy for Policing](#).
- 3.2 The review process has considered policing's progress against each of the five strategic outcomes to date, emerging issues from the national strategic assessment, horizon scanning and also alignment to the current strategic landscape to ensure important emerging and developing areas of policy, strategy and legislation are considered. Progress to date confirms that the outcomes remain

relevant in the strategic context, with evidence of good progress over the last two years. The next steps will see the Authority and Police Scotland engage with local authorities, COSLA, HMICS, Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government to gather their views.

- 3.3 Following this engagement, a draft of the Joint Strategy for Policing 2023-26 is scheduled to be considered by the Authority in September. Subject to members' endorsement, the draft will then be subject to wider public and community engagement. The Authority also anticipates the Scottish Government consulting in the coming months on the current [Strategic Police Priorities](#). Any changes to this will inform our own review which we will bring back to the Authority for approval following engagement later this the year.

#### **4 Scottish Railways Policing Committee**

- 4.2 A meeting of the Scottish Railways Policing Committee (SRPC) took place on Tuesday 18 May 2022 and was hosted at Pacific Quay. The SPA was represented by Authority Members Tom Halpin and Mary Pitcaithly.
- 4.3 A full report from the May 2022 meeting is included at Appendix A. The next meeting is due to take place on Friday 2 September 2022.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are invited to discuss the contents of this report.

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## Summary report from the Scottish Railway Policing Committee

**18 May 2022**

**SPA Members – Tom Halpin and Mary Pitcaithly**

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### Risk Profile

Discussion focused on staff retention and risks to the Force from external workforce trends; including increased resignation and upward pressure on salaries, which will impact on the ability to attract and retain candidates. BTP noted that they are liaising with the Police Scotland recruitment team to improve the effectiveness of recruitment and retention of policing candidates.

### Policing Plan Performance Q4 21/22

Members were provided with an update on the performance of BTP's Scotland operations for the January – March 2022 period. ASB incidents made up 23% of total calls for service in Scotland (D Division) during 2021-22 and were 53% higher (+1,261) than pre-COVID levels. An increase in public order crime was seen namely through heightened levels of Threatening and Abusive conduct, which experienced a 30% increase this year. It was noted that violent crime made up 11% (146) of all youth offending. This represents 29% of all violence recorded D Division in 2021-22 (509).

Sexual offences have increased by 38% compared to pre-covid levels. BTP noted that an increase in patrols has taken place division-wide in line with the force initiative to increase education, awareness and encourage reporting. A positive result of the campaign promoting reporting has been seen, with calls for service up by 36% and crime reports up by 31% - including accounts of behaviours not previously reported. There has been an 8% rise in reports via text message.

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Division D has seen a 48% reduction in football related crime compared to pre-COVID levels. This downward trend has not been experienced in other UK divisions.

### Joint working Police Scotland / BTP

In this standing update attention was drawn to the recently established 'Safer Transport Strategic Group' chaired by the BTP Division D Commander and attended by Police Scotland, Scottish Government and the rail industry. Work is ongoing to engage collaboratively to tackle crime and promote safety across the rail network.

BTP and Police Scotland continue to sit together on the bi-monthly Multiagency Tasking and Delivery Board (MATDB) in a bid to tackle serious and organised crime and other priorities. BTP are also present at the Police Scotland Bimonthly County Lines meeting. BTP are soon to send a Sergeant to be embedded within the Police Scotland Crime Campus as part of the County Lines task force. The positive outcome which resulted from five BTP officers assisting in the prevention of a large-scale disorder at Giffnock in March 2022 was also noted.

### Draft Strategic Plan 22/25 and Policing Plan 2022/23

Members were presented with the D Division Policing Plan 2022/25 and provided with an update on the development of the Strategic Plan. SPA Members noted their appreciation for the level of consultation, engagement and feedback that had been afforded to the SPA in both the Strategic Plan and Policing Plan and noted the fact that SPA feedback had been visibly incorporated into the final Plan.

### BTP/A Perspectives on the Dame Elish Angiolini review

BTP and BTPA presented detail on their organisational position against recommendation areas from the Dame Angiolini Review. However it should be noted that while BTP officers in Scotland work to Scottish law and are governed by PIRC rather than the IOPC, all changes made in response to the recommendations have been implemented across all of BTP.

Notable improvements include the establishment of a Central Complaints Resolution Team; reducing straightforward complaint responses from an

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average of 61 days down to 11 days. BTP have also adopted a victim charter in light of the increased emphasis on violence against women and girls; this included conscious decision to refer to victims rather than witnesses as described by regulations.

SPA Members welcomed efforts made by the Force/Executive on pertinent recommendations from the Angiolini review into complaint handling, noting that the Force and Executive should not lose sight of the importance of ensuring there was demonstrable organizational cultural change.

### Thematic: Sustainability / BTP Net Zero

SRPC Members welcomed sight of the Force's Net Carbon Zero report in light of the Scottish Best Value theme on sustainability. It was noted that the majority of measures will apply force wide, but that the target for Net Zero in Scotland is 2045, rather than 2050 for the UK. With regard to Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure, engagement is underway with Police Scotland to explore the potential for shared access.

### Audit and Inspection Update

BTP is currently tracking 72 open recommendations from force-wide audits and HMICFRS inspections. Although there are no recommendations that are specific to BTP's activity in Scotland, many of them relate to force-wide systems and processes and are therefore relevant to staff and officers who work in Scotland.

The Audit Plan for 2022/23 will commence with audits on Organisational Learning from Manchester Arena and Physical Security. Specific findings that relate to Scotland, across all Audit activity, will be brought to this committee for additional oversight.

### SPA/BTPA SRPC Memorandum of Understanding

SRPC Members welcomed the annual exercise to review the memorandum of understanding document which underpins the committee, and associated terms of reference; it was confirmed they remained fit for purpose.

### Draft workplan

Members considered the draft workplan for the remainder of 2022/23 and noted that a further update on the Independent Review of Complaints Handling, Investigations and Misconduct Issues in Relation to Policing – Final Report (November 2020) should be added to the workplan. SPA Members requested that officers from BTPA and SPA consider how best to include the voice of industry on the Committee. Members also agreed that it would be appropriate for Custody to feature on the workplan.

### Evaluation Framework

SRPC Members noted that the framework measures were largely green which was felt to be an accurate reflection of how the SPRC was performing at present. SRPC Members nevertheless welcomed the fact the framework would be refreshed for the September 2022 in alignment with the new Strategic Plan 22/27.