



Agenda Item 3

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| <b>Meeting</b>                   | <b>Authority Meeting</b>           |
| <b>Date</b>                      | <b>21 June 2023</b>                |
| <b>Location</b>                  | <b>Apex Grassmarket, Edinburgh</b> |
| <b>Title of Paper</b>            | <b>SPA Chair's Report</b>          |
| <b>Presented By</b>              | <b>Martyn Evans</b>                |
| <b>Recommendation to Members</b> | <b>For Discussion</b>              |
| <b>Appendix Attached</b>         | <b>No</b>                          |

**PURPOSE**

To update Authority Members on activities carried out by the Chair since the May 2023 Authority meeting.

## **1 Recruitment of Chief Constable**

- 1.1 On Wednesday 14 June, I announced the appointment of Jo Farrell as the next Chief Constable of Police Scotland following Sir Iain Livingstone's retirement in August. We will confirm when Jo Farrell will take up post as soon as possible.
- 1.2 I want to put on record my thanks to those who applied for the role – I was delighted to have had such an excellent calibre of applicants for such an important position. This was an extensive and rigorous recruitment process and I am grateful to those who put themselves forward.
- 1.3 I also want to thank the selection panel and all those stakeholders involved in the recruitment process for giving their time to support the selection of the next Chief Constable.
- 1.4 Jo Farrell is an outstanding and highly experienced senior police leader who has made an exceptional contribution to policing over her extensive career. She has a proven history of innovative policing and she has UK wide experience heading the demanding Digital Data and Technology portfolio for the National Police Chiefs' Council.
- 1.5 We look forward to working with her to build on the high level of policing operational stability and effectiveness achieved in recent years and further accelerate the culture change programmes.

## **2 Engagement with Trade Unions and Staff Associations**

- 2.1 My engagement with the statutory staff associations, trade unions and diversity associations continues. Since our meeting last month, Tom Halpin and I have met with the Scottish Police Federation (SPF). This meeting largely focused on the SPF's statutory remit in relation to the efficiency of the service, with aspects in relation to officer welfare being predominately being discussed at the People Committee. Key discussion points were the demands placed on policing, the importance of body worn video and the vital role evidence, research and cross jurisdictional learning can have on the effective delivery of policing.
- 2.2 Fiona McQueen and I also met with Unite to discuss current issues and priorities for its members and hear their views. I am grateful for their continued efforts and constructive dialogue.

### **3 Modern Slavery / Human Trafficking Summit**

- 3.1 I was delighted to attend a Modern Slavery / Human Trafficking Summit at Scottish Crime Campus in Gartcosh on 15 June. The event was organised by the [Santa Marta Group](#) and Police Scotland, and attended by senior stakeholders working across the world and international boundaries to end these appalling practices. I found the summit hugely informative. There was a focus on supporting and developing moral leadership to refocus energy on Human Trafficking as a serious international organised crime priority.

### **4 Retirement of Sir Iain Livingstone**

- 4.1 This Board meeting marks the last for our Chief Constable Sir Iain Livingstone who will retire in August.
- 4.2 I want to put on record the Authority's support, appreciation and thanks to Sir Iain for his efforts to build stability and strengthen policing in Scotland. He has made an immense contribution, led with great imagination, courage, dignity, grace and distinction. He leaves Police Scotland significantly stronger and more effective than ever, despite substantial operational, societal and financial challenges. We are immensely grateful for his input and wish him well for his retirement.

### **5 Retirement of Sally Loudon**

- 5.1 Sally Loudon, Chief Executive of COSLA will retire later this month following seven years with the organisation. Sally has been a significant supporter of policing and the Authority over this period. She has been instrumental in strengthening accountability, engagement and collaboration with policing to better serve, protect and enhance local communities. I want to put on record the Authority's thanks for her efforts and wish her well for her next chapter.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are invited to discuss the contents of this report.