

**Meeting 02 July 2021 13:00**

**Members attending:**

John Scott QC, Solicitor Advocate (Chair)  
Ephraim Borowski, Chair of the National Independent Strategic Advisory Group  
Gill Imery, HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS)  
John Logue, Deputy Crown Agent Operational Support, COPFS  
Dr Elizabeth Kelly, Associate Carnegie UK Trust  
Naomi McAuliffe, Programme Director Scotland, Amnesty International  
Professor Susan McVie, University of Edinburgh  
ACC Gary Ritchie, Police Scotland

**Apologies:**

Bruce Adamson, Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland  
Aamer Anwar, Solicitor and Human Rights campaigner  
Tressa Burke, CEO Glasgow Disability Alliance  
Chief Superintendent Linda Jones  
Deputy Chief Constable Will Kerr, Police Scotland  
Maria Galli, Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland  
Diego Quiroz, Scottish Human Rights Commission  
Brian Scott, Glasgow Disability Alliance  
Barry Sillers, Deputy Chief Executive, Strategy and Performance, SPA

**Secretariat:**

Eleanor Gaw, SPA  
Karen Vallance, SPA

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

The Chair welcomed attendees. Apologies were noted as above.

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

Members noted the minute of the meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021. Further information was provided on the timeline for data reports coming to the group in August.

### **3. Impact of changing regulations and weekly data report**

The Chair thanked ACC Ritchie for the weekly report, and the group acknowledged the decline in intervention numbers but the increase in the number of fixed penalty notices and quarantine referrals. The group noted that quarantine numbers may continue to be an issue despite other restrictions easing, and would need to be factored in as part of business as usual for policing.

### **4. Feedback from discussions at the Authority meeting 30 June**

The group reflected on the discussion at the Authority meeting, including Board Member questions on group representation and roles, the SWAN Scotland survey, and how any potential differing views between the group members and Police Scotland might have been dealt with. The Chair stressed that he, and all group members, took their independence extremely seriously, and any instances of significant differences would have been reflected in the public reports. The group agreed that the combination of group members from a criminal justice background, and those from other across sectors and areas of work, had been an important and positive contributing factor to the work of the group.

The group discussed the report presented to the Authority by Simon Anderson and Jen Waterson. Members welcomed the report, agreed it was positive and also highlighted potential learning for the future. With hindsight members would have welcomed the chance to discuss it at an earlier stage.

Members did comment that some areas of IAG work were perhaps under represented, in particular the specific and proactive pieces of work undertaken by individual group members.

It was noted that the Group's evidence and data planning had been clearly linked to the Terms of Reference, and the work of the group had been supported by exceptional levels of data provision by Police Scotland, which in normal circumstances may prove unsustainable.

While acknowledging that the group's work had been more often publicly reported than overtly public facing, members overall took the view that this was proportionate to the work and role of policing in the context of a

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public health crisis. In addition, it was considered that the group had better representation and closer links with local communities than was often the case.

Members also discussed the balance between providing a shared safe space for discussion, with appropriate challenge.

### **5. Future Work of IAG**

The group agreed a further discussion was required to establish which areas of work would still require focus once the group closes, and who would do that. An additional meeting in September, following the Authority meeting, may provide an opportunity to consider this. With regulations in place until March 2022, and in the context of rising case numbers, the requirement for any future work will be kept under review over the next few weeks by the Chair in consultation with the Authority and Police Scotland.

The group heard of concerns regarding rising case numbers, and the potential for this, together with restrictions easing, to bring new challenges for policing and service management. Members agreed to invite Professor Steve Reicher to a meeting in July, to discuss potential impacts and some of the challenges around changing behaviours.

#### **Action: Secretariat to contact Professor Reicher**

Future meeting agenda items were noted as -

9 July – CYPCS Report

23 July – First draft SCTS / FPN combined data report

30 July – First draft of FPN data report

17 August – Near final draft of FPN data report and SCTS/ FPN combined data report.

### **6. AOCB**

Professor McVie highlighted a round table event focused on the Covid response, organised jointly by the SPA, Police Scotland and SIPR, for 18 August (provisional date). Eleanor will seek more information to share with members.

#### **Action: EG**

#### **Date of next meeting**

Friday 9 July 2021 – 13:00 – 15:00

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