

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>SPA Authority Meeting</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>17 January 2020</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>John McIntyre Centre, Edinburgh</b>
<b>Title of Paper</b>	<b>Chief Constable's Report</b>
<b>Presented By</b>	<b>Chief Constable Iain Livingstone QPM</b>
<b>Recommendation to Members</b>	<b>For Discussion</b>
<b>Appendix Attached:</b>	<b>No</b>

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Authority with information relating to the Police Service, policing and the state of crime.

This report is submitted as a Standing Agenda Item.

## 1. BACKGROUND

The purpose of Police Scotland is 'to improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland' and our focus is on Keeping People Safe. This paper is intended to provide Members with an update on key activity and events within Police Scotland.

## 2. TACKLING THREAT AND RISK

### **SERIOUS VIOLENCE (INCLUDING HOMICIDE)**

*Our priorities cut across all aspects of criminality and policing and we will tackle the areas that pose greatest threat and risk.*

#### **Murder of Mary McLaughlin – Greater Glasgow Division**

Mary McLaughlin, aged 58, was found dead within her home address in Partick, Glasgow in October 1984. A murder investigation was undertaken, however despite extensive police enquiries at that time, no person was identified as being responsible for her death.

On Wednesday 4 December 2019, a 58 year old male was arrested and charged with her murder. The male appeared at Glasgow Sheriff Court and was remanded in custody. The arrest followed a Police Scotland investigation, led by detective officers from the Homicide and Governance Review Team with assistance from the Major Investigation Team.

### **SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME**

*Our priorities cut across all aspects of criminality and policing and we will tackle the areas that pose greatest threat and risk.*

#### **Operation DAGENHAM – Tayside Division**

Operation DAGENHAM was an intelligence led operation by officers from Police Scotland's Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism Unit, which targeted a crime group intent on distributing controlled drugs, including heroin and cocaine, in Dundee. On Friday 13 December, at the High Court in Glasgow, four members of the crime group were convicted of crimes relating to the supply of controlled drugs, and sentenced to over 21 years imprisonment.

This operation to tackle criminality supports a wider multi-agency approach within Dundee to address the level of drug related deaths in the city.

**DRUGS**

*Our priorities cut across all aspects of criminality and policing and we will tackle the areas that pose greatest threat and risk.*

### **Drug Recoveries – Ayrshire, Forth Valley, Lothians and Scottish Borders Divisions**

As a result of Police Scotland enforcement activity in three Local Policing Divisions in December, five males were arrested and subsequently appeared at court, following the seizure of controlled drugs.

On Friday 13 December, while executing a warrant at an address in Moscow, Ayrshire, officers recovered a cannabis cultivation containing approximately 1,500 plants, with an estimated street value of around £1,000,000. On Thursday 19 December, following an intelligence led operation, vehicles and properties were searched in West Lothian and Forth Valley. During these searches, officers seized a quantity of cash and approximately 3.8kg of cocaine and 10kg of herbal cannabis, with a combined estimated street value of around £290,000.

## **3. DELIVERING ON OUR PRIORITIES**

**PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE**

*Supporting people considered vulnerable and working with partners to reduce harm.*

### **Information for Adult Survivors of Childhood Abuse**

On Monday 28 October, Police Scotland launched an 'Information for Adult Survivors of Childhood Abuse' animation film. The film aims to raise awareness among adult survivors of how to report childhood abuse to police, criminal justice processes, and the existence of survivor support services. Recent evaluation of the marketing campaign which supported the launch, demonstrated that the film has generated over 400,000 interactions on social media, with around 125,000 video views.

Police Scotland is fully committed to thoroughly investigating child abuse, no matter where or when it happened, or who was involved. Our priorities are to ensure the welfare and wellbeing of victims, the identification of persons who may pose a risk to children, and the protection of those who may be at risk of harm.

**WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES***Engaging with the public and communities to build resilience and prevent crime.***Festive Drink and Drug Driving Campaign**

On Tuesday 26 November, Cabinet Secretary for Justice Humza Yousaf MSP and Superintendent Louise Blakelock, launched the Police Scotland Festive Drink and Drug Driving Campaign. The campaign, which ran until Thursday 2 January 2020, was the first festive campaign since the introduction of new drug drive legislation. It was led by Road Policing Division, supported by Local Policing Division activity across Scotland.

The campaign was intelligence led, with targeted deployment of resources in areas of particular concern. Over 8,500 drivers were stopped, leading to the detection of 580 drink or drug driving offences. Officers carried out around 480 roadside drug screening tests, with 185 drivers providing positive results. The campaign drew positive coverage on social media, with strong support shown by the public.

**TACKLING CYBER RELATED CRIME***Building capability to address the threat from cyber related crime.***Digital Triage Devices**

Further to previous reports to the Board, and following extensive engagement with relevant stakeholders, Police Scotland intends to commence the operational roll out of Digital Triage Devices in January 2020.

Recognising that communities now lead digitally enabled lives, Police Scotland requires the appropriate and necessary capabilities to modernise policing practices to protect the citizens of Scotland, particularly those who are most vulnerable. The use of Digital Triage Devices by operational officers, supported by enhanced consent capture practices and publicly available supporting documentation, will enhance our capability to tackle crime and ensure continued high standards of service delivery. The devices will enable us to effectively triage digital devices in an open and transparent manner, assessing at the earliest opportunity whether evidence exists to support police investigations.

This will be discussed as an agenda item at the Board meeting.

**SUPPORT FOR OPERATIONAL POLICING**

*Delivering change that enables our people to deliver an effective and sustainable service.*

**Contact Assessment Model (CAM)**

As previously reported to the Board, CAM provides callers to Police Scotland with an improved assessment of threat, harm, risk, investigation and engagement (THRIVE), enabling us to deliver the most appropriate and proportionate outcome for every caller. Following the successful proof of concept exercise in Lanarkshire and Dumfries and Galloway Divisions, CAM was introduced across Greater Glasgow Division in October 2019.

Subject to ongoing monitoring and review, we remain on track for the roll out of CAM to remaining areas in the West of Scotland in early 2020, with introduction to the East and North of Scotland planned for Spring and Summer 2020.

**Criminal Justice**

On Monday 6 January, a Summary Case Management Pilot was introduced in Dundee, Paisley and Hamilton Sheriff Courts. The purpose of the pilot is to change the way summary courts operate, with Sheriffs actively managing cases in advance of trial and the summary of evidence contained within Standard Prosecution Reports being shared with Sheriffs prior to court hearings. Police Scotland welcomes this approach by the justice sector, and will fully support the pilot. Anticipated benefits include resolution of cases at the earliest opportunity, reduction in the number of cases called to trial, reduction in the number of witnesses unnecessarily called, and less disruption to officers through fewer court abstractions.

Criminal Justices Services Division continues to actively contribute to the Scottish Government led Digital Evidence Sharing Capability (DESC) Programme. DESC will streamline the process of capturing, storing and sharing digital evidence, to support more effective investigations, inform decisions on prosecution and allow faster resolution of cases through early disclosure. In conjunction with Criminal Justice partners, the intention is to improve and increase the effectiveness of evidence sharing, with a clear focus on victims and witnesses.

#### 4. STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT

##### **SCOTTISH INSTITUTE FOR POLICING RESEARCH (SIPR) CONFERENCE**

On Tuesday 10 December 2019, SIPR held its 9<sup>th</sup> Scottish International Policing Conference, which focused on Digital Policing and the ethical challenges regarding the role of technology in policing. At the Conference, Deputy Chief Constable Will Kerr addressed an audience of industry, academic and sector experts on the practical implications of technology in investigations, digital forensic capacity, and the implications on policing by consent in the digital age.

Further presentations were delivered on the use of technology to support operational policing, with the ongoing roll out of mobile devices across Police Scotland highlighted, including positive endorsement from serving officers who are using the devices.

##### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERS MEETING**

On Tuesday 7 January 2020, Deputy Chief Constable Will Kerr and other senior officers represented Police Scotland at a meeting with a number of Criminal Justice partners, held at Police Scotland Headquarters, Tulliallan. The meeting provided an opportunity to look ahead to 2020/21 in the context of the wider criminal justice system.

Partners also discussed implications for the criminal justice system of the 26<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties (COP26), to be held in Glasgow in November 2020.

##### **CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (COP26)**

On Thursday 9 January, I attended a COP26 Operations Board meeting in Whitehall, London, accompanied by Assistant Chief Constable Bernard Higgins. The meeting was hosted by Mr Peter Hill, Chief Executive for COP26, and included representatives from the UK and Scottish Governments, as well as other key stakeholders and partners. This forum provided a further opportunity for Police Scotland to continue to articulate and reinforce the unprecedented planning, operational, resourcing and financial challenges for policing, to ensure that COP26 is delivered safely and securely.

COP 26 will be discussed as an agenda item at the Board meeting.

### **NATIONAL POLICE CHIEFS' COUNCIL (NPCC)**

On Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 January I will attend the Chief Constables' Council in London, accompanied by Deputy Chief Officer David Page. This first meeting in 2020 of Chief Constables and senior policing colleagues from across the United Kingdom, will provide the opportunity to discuss matters of strategic importance which will arise in the year ahead.

## **5. SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONAL EVENTS**

### **GENERAL ELECTION**

In advance of and during polling for the General Election, which took place on Thursday 12 December 2019, Police Scotland worked closely with policing colleagues across the United Kingdom and key partners from Local Authorities, the Electoral Commission and Electoral Planning Board. The policing operation in Scotland, which was nationally coordinated to support local service delivery, focussed on a number of priorities, including a number of options around the security of parliamentary candidates.

A small number of election related incidents were managed effectively, including the multi-agency response when a suspicious package was found at Glen Tower, Motherwell, a location which was to be used as a polling station. Contingency plans were implemented to relocate the polling station, and a controlled explosion on the device was carried out as a precaution, by Explosive Ordnance Disposal experts. The device was found to be non-viable. Investigations resulted in the arrest of a 48 year old male who appeared at Hamilton Sheriff Court and was remanded in custody.

## **6. OUR PEOPLE**

### **SENIOR LEADERS' FORUM**

On Tuesday 17 December, I hosted the Police Scotland Senior Leaders' Forum at Police Scotland Headquarters, Tulliallan, which provides an opportunity for senior officers and staff to meet and discuss policing matters of strategic importance. The guest speaker was Sir George Hamilton QPM, former Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland, and the Forum also included a powerful input on mental health and wellbeing from Superintendent Ian Thomson.

**YOUR SAFETY MATTERS**

As previously reported to the Board, a Strategic Review, led by Deputy Chief Constable Fiona Taylor, is ongoing in respect of all matters relating to the prevention of violence against police officers and staff. On Friday 20 December, an article written by DCC Taylor was published in The Herald newspaper. The article highlighted concerns about the increase in assaults and abuse which our people are subjected to, and called for support for policing from the public. The content of the article was made available to all officers and staff, reinforcing the clear position that being assaulted and abused is simply not part of the job.

**SENIOR LEADER RECRUITMENT**

A revised national process for promotion to the ranks of Superintendent and Chief Superintendent will commence in Spring 2020, underpinned by the Competency and Values Framework. To support the introduction of the revised process, a number of information seminars have been held for prospective candidates, line managers and assessors. The revised process is being introduced as a consequence of my personal commitment to link the promotion process to day to day performance, with further positive changes to be introduced during 2020 through the development of Leadership Pathways.

**POLICE SCOTLAND OFFICERS HONOURED**

One current and three former Police Scotland officers were recognised in Her Majesty's New Year Honours. Assistant Chief Constable Gillian MacDonald, who led on Major Crime and Public Protection, and retired Detective Chief Superintendent Gerry McLean, who was head of Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism, both received the prestigious Queen's Police Medal for services to policing. Retired Sergeant Robert Fowler, who served as a Counter Terrorism Strategy Liaison Officer within Highland and Islands Division, was awarded an MBE for services to law and order. Retired Inspector Graham Miller, who was based within the Public Order Team at Jackton, was awarded the British Empire Medal, also for services to law and order.

The awards recognise the dedicated public service each recipient has given to communities across Scotland, a level of dedication that is reinforced by officers and staff throughout Police Scotland on a daily basis.



**RECOMMENDATION:**

Members are invited to note the information contained in this report.