

<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>16 September 2021</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Corporate Director Education, Communities &amp; Organisational Development</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>P&amp;F/05/21/HS</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Hugh Scott, Service Manager, Community Learning Development, Community Safety &amp; Resilience and Sport</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>715450</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Committee Update Report (Sept 2021)</b>		

---

## **1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Committee on current and emerging issues relating to Police and Fire and Rescue Services.
- 1.2 The report includes a further update from the Scottish Parliament's Justice Sub-Committee on Policing in respect of Police Scotland's use of remote piloted aircraft systems (RPAS) and body worn video cameras, an update from the COSLA Police Scrutiny Convenor's Forum in respect of RPAS and the proposed future template report on the performance and activities of Police Scotland to the Committee.

## **2.0 SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The report provides an opportunity for the Committee to be made aware of national initiatives, reviews, and consultations and, where appropriate, to inform Members of potential future agenda items relating to Police and Fire and Rescue matters.
- 2.2 This report is intended to draw these elements together with a view to informing and shaping future meeting agendas as appropriate and raising awareness of emerging issues.
- 2.3 This report provides updates for the following:
  - Local Policing Plan Consultation Response;
  - Independent Advisory Group on Emerging Technologies in Policing;
  - The Scottish Police Authority and Scottish Police Authority Board; and,
  - The Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Board.

## **3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 That the Committee notes the current and emerging national issues relating to Police and Fire & Rescue matters.

**Ruth Binks**  
**Corporate Director**  
**Education, Communities & Organisational Development**

## **4.0 Local Police Plan Consultation**

- 4.1 The development of Local Police Plans for 2020-23 is being jointly progressed by the Scottish Police Authority (SPA), Police Scotland and COSLA. The first stage consultation was open from 27<sup>th</sup> June to 13<sup>th</sup> August 2021 and an initial Officer based response was submitted during the period of Committee recess.
- 4.2 Follow up discussion sessions are planned for September, with dates to follow. These discussion sessions will build on the feedback received through the survey, and present a further opportunity for any concerns or issues to be raised and proposed solutions identified, as well as for best practice examples to be identified and shared. Once dates are confirmed, Elected Members will be contacted to ensure an opportunity for full engagement.

## **5.0 Independent Advisory Group on Emerging Technologies in Policing**

- 5.1 The group was established following the work of the Justice Sub-Committee on Policing in exploring issues relating to the potential introduction of cyber kiosks, facial recognition, body-worn video cameras and remote piloted aircraft systems.
- 5.2 The work of the group is being progressed via four work streams, with each producing separate reports and recommendations: -
- Legal framework and ethical standards
  - Evidence and scientific standards
  - Consultation and community engagement
  - Oversight, scrutiny, and review
- 5.3 The Consultation period ran from 5<sup>th</sup> July to 20<sup>th</sup> August 2021, Officers completed the consultation on behalf of the committee due to the holiday period.

## **6.0 The Scottish Police Authority and Scottish Police Authority Board**

- 6.1 The SPA met on the [30<sup>th</sup> June 2021](#) and considered several updates. This included Policing Performance, Finance Regulations and Health Safety and Wellbeing. The next meeting is due to take place on the 25<sup>th</sup> August 2021.
- 6.2 Policing Performance: The SPA discussed the [Quarterly Performance Report \(Q4 2020/21\)](#) The linked strategic planning processes and alignment with the strategic outcomes of: -
- Public Safety and wellbeing
  - Needs of local communities
  - Confidence in policing
  - Positive working environment
  - Sustainable and adaptable Service
- 6.3 [Chief Constables 2020/21 Year-end Performance Assessment](#) is largely shaped around the strategic outcomes and an appropriate update in relation to the police response to the pandemic. The report is presented with the following sections: -
- Chief Constable's foreword
  - Executive summary
  - Policing in 2020/21
  - Public Confidence
  - Operation TALLA – Police Scotland Response to COVID-19
  - Summary of Performance
  - Measures of Progress towards strategic outcomes

6.4 [Policing Performance Framework](#) outlined the refreshed framework to ensure there is a strategic alignment with: -

- Joint strategy for policing (2020)
- Annual Police Plan (APP)
- Operation Talla strategic objectives
- DCC/DCO Delivery plans
- Equality Outcomes

6.5 The survey on Body Worn Video (BWV) “is the second of its kind” and is currently in a period of Consultation. The reasons for using Body Worn Video by Police Scotland include: -

- Improving the quality of interactions with the public
- Reducing and resolving complaints
- Increasing officer safety
- Reducing delays to justice
- Greater public transparency

The consultation period runs from 1<sup>st</sup> June to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 and Elected Members have been invited to submit their comments.

6.6 The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 was passed by Scottish Parliament on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2005 with cross-party support and received Royal Assent on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2005. The plan set out proposed commitments of Police Scotland in support of the National Gaelic Language Plan and this is now in a period of consultation. The commitments in support of the plan can be summarised as -

- Increase the use of Gaelic
- Increase the learning of Gaelic
- Promote a positive image of Gaelic

The consultation period runs from 23<sup>rd</sup> July to 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and Elected Members have been invited to submit their comments.

## **7.0 The Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Board**

7.1 The SFRS Board was held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021 and included updates to the undernoted Committees: -

- Audit & Risk Assurance Committee
- Change Committee
- People Committee
- Service Delivery Committee

A summary of each Committee is undernoted, with the next meeting scheduled for the 26<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

7.2 [Audit & Risk Assurance Committee](#) (ARAC) commenced on the 8<sup>th</sup> of July 2021 and the next meeting is scheduled for the 7<sup>th</sup> of October 2021.

The ARAC was invited to:

- Note the Overview Dashboard Report
- Scrutinise the Audit Scotland action plan
- Scrutinise the content of the Assessing the Effectiveness of Inspection Activity report

7.3 The Change Committee considered a proposal for the post implementation review report on [The New Watch Duty System Phase One & Two](#) on the 5<sup>th</sup> of August. The next meeting is scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2021.

7.4 The People Committee: [2<sup>nd</sup> of June 2021](#) considered reports on : -

- POD Performance Report
- Learning Needs Analysis
- Independent Audit Inspection Plan
- Health and Safety Policy Statement
- HS Annual Report 2019-20
- Strategic Risk Summary
- Annual Value Added Statement 2020-21
- UK Fire Standards 2021
- SFRS Training Centre, Newbridge - British Standards Institute Assessment Report
- POD Policy Review Schedule Update
- 

The next meeting of the People Committee is scheduled for 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2021.

7.5 Service Delivery Committee: [26<sup>th</sup> May 2021](#) included update reports on : -

- Service Delivery Update Report
- Q4 Performance Report 2020-21
- Audit / Inspection Action Plan
- Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal (UFAS) Review Update
- [Grenfell Tower Fire Update Report](#)

The next meeting of the Service Delivery Committee is scheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2021.

## 8.0 IMPLICATIONS

### Finance

8.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

#### Financial Implications

##### One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

##### Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (if Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

### 8.2 Legal

In respect of section 10 of this report, section 45(5) of the Police & Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 notes; A local commander must provide to the local authority such— (a) reports on the carrying out of police functions in its area (including by reference to any local policing plan in force for the area), (b) statistical information on complaints made about the Police Service in, or the policing of, its area, and (c) other information about the policing of its area, as the local authority may reasonably require.

### 8.3 Human Resources

There are no Human Resources issues associated with this report.

### 8.4 Equalities

None at this time, although recognition will be given to the wider and associate equalities agenda.

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES (see attached appendix)
X	NO - This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

#### Fairer Scotland Duty

IF this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision –

Has there been an active consideration of how this reports recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
X	NO

#### Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals
X	NO

### 8.5 Repopulation

There are no direct repopulation issues associated with this report.

## 9.0 CONSULTATIONS

9.1 There were no consultations required outwith those noted in the report.

## 10.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1
- Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Committee Update report (March 2021)
  - Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Committee Update report (May 2021)