

Meeting	Policing Performance Committee
Date	17 November 2020
Location	Video Conference
Title of Paper	Engagement of Local Authorities on policing - next steps in strengthening national and local joint approaches
Presented By	Eleanor Gaw
Recommendation to Members	For Discussion
Appendix Attached	No

PURPOSE

To provide an update on SPA Engagement with Local Authorities on policing – next steps in strengthening national and local joint approaches.

The paper is submitted for information.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 At the Policing Performance Committee 26 August 2020, a paper on Local Scrutiny Arrangements for Policing set out the background and supporting context for future work to strengthen national and local joint approaches in the scrutiny of policing. This included -
- The legislative framework, as set out in the 2012 Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act; the relevant duties, responsibilities and provisions with regard to Police Scotland, the Scottish Police Authority, and Local Authorities; and the policing principles.
 - The role of Police Scotland and local authorities as statutory participants in community planning, working together with community planning partners and consulting with local communities, to identify priority local outcomes.
 - Current local authority scrutiny arrangements for policing.
 - Progress in Police Scotland's development of a refreshed suite of local police plans.
 - The role and operation of the COSLA Police Scrutiny Conveners' Forum, including the involvement of SPA members and Executive Support.
- 1.2 Members considered the links between Local Policing Plans, Annual Police Plans and the Joint Strategy in terms of delivery, oversight and local engagement, and requested the development of proposals to update and improve the SPA's approach to strengthening the local voice in informing consideration of national issues.

2. NEXT STEPS

- 2.1 The Authority is facilitating joint high level engagement with Police Scotland Local Policing, COSLA and SOLACE. This will begin exploratory discussions, to examine opportunities for improvements which can enhance the ability of local priorities and opinions to better inform continuous improvement, national performance assessment and policy considerations.
- 2.2 This work is being progressed via a joint Local Policing Planning Oversight and Engagement discussion on 20 November 2020, hosted by the SPA. This will include consideration of -

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- Planning: How local demand is understood, resources are deployed flexibly and effectively, and how that is reflected in local police plans.
- Partnering: How the process of discussing and encouraging greater involvement of the other parts of the public and voluntary sector is undertaken to support a preventive and early interventionist approach to reducing threat and harm and a reactive approach to better support vulnerable citizens.
- Connecting: The “golden thread” of connectivity from local and neighbourhood policing through protective services, policing strategic outcomes and wider national performance outcomes and onto international policing.

Participants include representatives from the COSLA, SOLACE, Police Scotland Executive (Local Policing), Policing Performance Committee members and the SPA Executive Team.

Findings, potential improvement actions and next steps will be reported to the Committee as work progresses.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are requested to note the report.