



<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Forensic Services Committee</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>06 August 2024</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Video Conference</b>
<b>Title of Paper</b>	<b>Committee Priorities and Outcomes</b>
<b>Presented By</b>	<b>Paul Edie, committee chair</b>
<b>Recommendation to Members</b>	<b>For Discussion</b>
<b>Appendix Attached</b>	<b>Yes – committee priorities and outcomes report</b>

**PURPOSE**

This paper provides reflections on areas of committee focus over 2023/24 and outlines priority area of focus and target outcomes for the period 2024-2026.

## **1. Background and Context**

- 1.1. A summary of key business is reported to the Authority board after each committee meeting, ensuring that key areas of assurance and any issues of concern are highlighted for awareness across the Authority membership, and that achievements are noted and celebrated.
- 1.2. In line with the Authority's approach to continuous improvement in committee effectiveness and governance the Authority chair, Martyn Evans, requested that each committee chair identify priority areas of focus and target outcomes that they would take responsibility for driving progress on through governance and committee oversight.

## **2. Forensic Service Committee Priorities and Outcomes**

- 2.1. Appended to this report is a summary document which outlines reflections of the work of the committee over the last year as well as detailing the three main areas of focus I feel are critical to the success of the committee and the three target outcomes which will be key to delivery of Forensic Services going forward.

## **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1. There are no direct financial implications in this report.

## **4. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1. There are no direct personnel implications in this report.

## **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1. There are no direct legal implications in this report.

## **6. REPUTATIONAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1. This report evidences committee scrutiny, challenge and support with a focus on driving continuous improvement.

## **7. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1. There are no direct social implications in this report.

**8. COMMUNITY IMPACT**

8.1. There are no direct community implications in this report.

**9. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

9.1. There are no direct equalities implications in this report.

**10. ENVIRONMENT IMPLICATIONS**

10.1. There are no direct environment implications in this report.

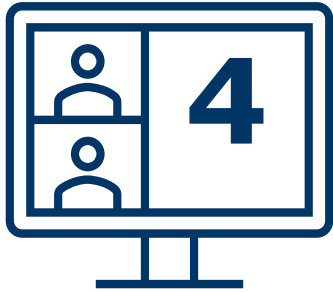
**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are invited to discuss the content of this report.

# Forensic Services Committee

## 2023-24 Reflections

### Committee activity




meetings held during the year

### Papers presented


	Public	Private	
May 2023	9	3	75%
Aug 2023	9	2	82%
Oct 2023	8	1	89%
Feb 2024	7	1	89%

### Main areas of focus and assurance sought




#### Toxicology

- Project weaver
- Long-term substantiable model




#### New scene tasking unit

- In place since early 2023
- Linked to approach to search and recovery scenes




#### Workforce

- New operating model
- Strategic workforce planning




#### Change portfolio

- Scene examination
- Operating model
- Data migration
- Core operating system




#### Drug driving

- Outsourcing provision
- In house capacity
- Backlog reduction




#### Cold case review

- 10 years of service
- 70 cases reviewed spanning over 60 years



#### Memo of Understanding

- Agreement between FS, Police Scotland and COPFS



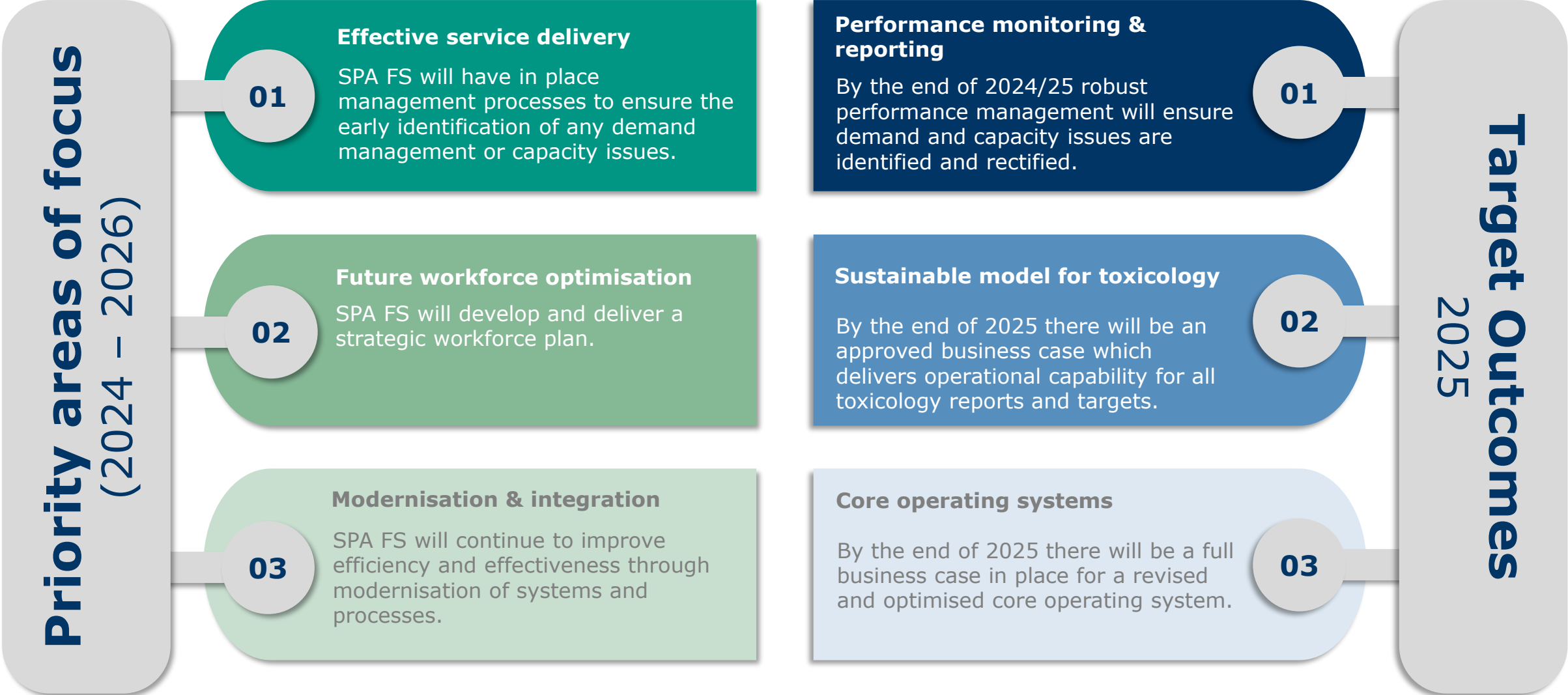
#### Performance

- Framework development
- Benchmarking
- Cost per case analysis
- Demand v capacity



# Forensic Services Committee

## Current & future priorities



**Priority areas of focus**  
(2024 - 2026)

**01**

**Effective service delivery**

SPA FS will have in place management processes to ensure the early identification of any demand management or capacity issues.

**02**

**Future workforce optimisation**

SPA FS will develop and deliver a strategic workforce plan.

**03**

**Modernisation & integration**

SPA FS will continue to improve efficiency and effectiveness through modernisation of systems and processes.

**Performance monitoring & reporting**

By the end of 2024/25 robust performance management will ensure demand and capacity issues are identified and rectified.

**01**

**Sustainable model for toxicology**

By the end of 2025 there will be an approved business case which delivers operational capability for all toxicology reports and targets.

**02**

**Core operating systems**

By the end of 2025 there will be a full business case in place for a revised and optimised core operating system.

**03**

**Target Outcomes**  
2025