

1. Scottish Leaders Forum and SSG – 24 April 2024

1.1. Minutes and notes held

1.1.1. Note of meeting

DCC Jane Connors is a member of the Scottish Leaders Forum's Strategic Steering Group (SSG). An informal meeting was held between two members of the SSG and the SLF Programme Team on 25 April 2024 and we are unable to provide the information you have requested because an exemption under section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) applies (s.30(b)(ii) [Free and frank exchange of views](#)).

2. Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs and Chief Constable – 30 April 2024

2.1. Minutes and notes held

We are unable to provide the information you have requested because an exemption under section 25(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) applies (information otherwise accessible). You can view the minute of the meeting on the [Scottish Government website](#).

3. First Minister and Chief Constable – 16 May 2024

3.1. Minutes and notes held

We are unable to provide the information you have requested because an exemption under section 25(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) applies (information otherwise accessible). You can view the minute of the meeting on the [Scottish Government website](#).

4. Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs and Chief Constable – 4 June 2024

4.1. Minutes and notes held

We are unable to provide the information you have requested because an exemption under section 25(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) applies (information otherwise accessible). You can view the minute of the meeting on the [Scottish Government website](#).

5. Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs, SPA Chair and Chief Constable – 26 June 2024

5.1. Minutes and notes held

Please refer to section 6

6. Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs and Chief Constable – 26 June 2024

Note: On the day of the meeting, the Cabinet Secretary met with the Chief Constable and SPA Chair. Hence, both meetings were combined into one with one minute/note of meeting. Therefore, providing combined information in this section.

6.1. Minutes and notes held

We are unable to provide the information you have requested because an exemption under section 25(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) applies (information otherwise accessible). You can view the minute of the meeting on the [Scottish Government website](#).

7. Permanent Secretary and Chief Constable – 24 June

7.1. Minutes and notes held

7.1.1. Note of meeting

From: Donald McGillivray

Sent: Monday, June 24, 2024 6:34:47 PM

To: Permanent Secretary

Cc: Penelope Cooper; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]; Catriona Dalrymple; Denise Swanson

Subject: Key Points from perm Sec/Chief Constable meeting

JP

Here's my quick summary of points discussed in the meeting with the Chief Constable just now:

- CC advised that Police Scotland is developing a new vision for the organisation that will guide investment and change priorities. This will be supported by a delivery plan.
- On police numbers, 257 recruits joining in July across Tulliallan and Jackton. Numbers will reach 16500 by end of the year but there is a high number of leavers at present so numbers have dipped. CC said numbers will be above 16234 at key measurement points and this is reflected in the paper going to the Board this week, but we **agreed to double check position at end June measurement point** as those appeared to be lower. Recruitment this FY will be highest ever.
- BWV contract has been signed with Motorola but rollout timeline being reviewed. This will take some weeks to finalise.
- Further work needed on CJ system efficiency. Plans being developed for a workshop then a meeting of system leaders. JP will be meeting Malcolm Graham early in his tenure to press importance of progress on this issue. CC highlighted Home Office use of consultants for some change work which could also be helpful here: **Action: Don and Cat to provide paper setting out key data and performance measures ahead of his visit to Glasgow Sheriff Court.** DCC Smith offered to assist with this
- Positive progress being made on dealing with mental health cases/demand. CC has created a taskforce to improve response and risk assessment. Work on a joint framework with health is progressing and will soon go out for consultation. Strategic group will meet over the summer.
- Perm Sec invited the CC to a session he is arranging with public sector leaders including new leaders of Glasgow City and Edinburgh City Councils.

Don

Don McGillivray

Director for Safer Communities

Scottish Government

St Andrews House

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Mobile: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

8. Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill and Police Scotland (including Chief Constable) – 16 May 2024

8.1. Minutes and notes held

8.1.1. Note of meeting

Key issues raised on Thursday with Chief Constable:

- The work to reform the regulatory regime (particularly conduct regulations) to make them more efficient and save on costs is of extreme importance and should be accelerated and if possible worked on in parallel with the Bill making its passage through parliament. The Chief highlighted the cost - benefit of accelerated hearings to fast track cases [redacted - Section 30(b)]
- Importance of keeping pace with UKG, acknowledging the HO response to Lady Angiolini's recommendations on vetting [redacted - Section 30(b)]. Chief spoke of it being a "privilege to be an officer not a right" and need for clear legislative mechanism to exit those from Police Scotland who do not maintain vetting status. The Bill is an opportunity to modernise existing legislation and bring together in the new legislation.
- Appreciation that trade unions will need to be involved if police staff are affected by any changes to regulations, noting the vetting element for them.
- Performance regulations are overly bureaucratic / overregulated [redacted - Section 30(b)].
- There should be an ability to complete misconduct proceedings ahead of criminal case where the evidence is incontrovertible. [redacted - Section 30(b)]
- Equity of arms – legal representation should be for the force as well as subject officer? [redacted - Section 30(b)]
- [redacted - Section 30(b)]
- Supportive of publishing outcome of hearings in public (which they already do) [redacted - Section 30(b)]
- [redacted - Section 30(b)]
- Discussed whether bill could be used to impose requirements to do random drug testing. Explained powers already exist to do so and this issue was contemplated in 2018 [redacted - Section 30(b)]. Explained we can revisit when overhauling the regs.

9. Counter Terrorism Threat briefing – 25 June 2024

9.1. Minutes and notes held

Threat Briefing

Scottish Parliament, Tuesday 25 June 2024

Present

John Swinney MSP	First Minister
Angela Constance MSP	Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs
Ruth Charteris	Solicitor General
Jo Farrell	Chief Constable, Police Scotland
Andrew Freeburn	Assistant Chief Constable, Police Scotland
JP Marks	Permanent Secretary, SG
Neil Rennick	DG Education and Justice, SG
Don McGillivray	Director Safer Communities
Penny Curtis	Deputy Director DSCR, SG
Kenny Donnelly	Deputy Crown Agent, COPFS
Chris Mackie	PPS/First Minister, SG

Threat Briefing

DCC Connors provided an overview of the current threat, some of the main points of which were as follows:

- The threat level remains SUBSTANTIAL – an attack is likely and that there had been no significant change in the threat picture.
- That the main risk was of a self-initiated, low sophistication attack.
- Typically, the risk involves young men, radicalised online.
- Elections taking place across Europe with the potential to be targets for attacks.
- In Scotland, a number of upcoming events, including General Election, Open Golf, Interpol General Assembly.
- [redacted - Section 31(1)]
- [redacted - Section 31(1)].
- [redacted - Section 31(1)].

Discussion

The following points arose in discussion:

Elected Representatives

There was some discussion about the political atmosphere and nature of debate and PS emphasised the basic advice it offers political representatives.

Israel/Gaza

PS noted that there has been a slight increase in incidents of hate crime, but still small numbers. There have been 586 protects in 2024 and 30 arrests which is different to the picture in England. FM reflected conversations with members of the Jewish and Muslim communities which were content with the policing response in Scotland.

[redacted - Section 31(1)]

Children and young people

[redacted - Section 31(1)]. **Action** to ensure that Education is engaged in developments.

FM also raised issue of children who are victims of sextortion (NCA recent alert to schools). PS took **action** to seek further information about the scale of the problem in Scotland, number of cases etc.

CT Nominal Management

Noted that the Strategic Contest Board for Scotland had a discussion at its recent meeting on progress on nominal management (CT offenders who are released and need to be managed in the community). [redacted - Section 31(1)]

Cross-Border Law Enforcement

CSJHA asked about cross-border relationships, looking ahead to engagement with the UKG after the general election. PS noted the importance of reinforcing relationships, the importance of emphasising differences in the Scottish justice system when key individuals change post (e.g. unique role of the Lord Advocate), and that Scotland is an outlier on CT in the UK (lower level public awareness and potential for complacency).

Noted that post-Brexit, PS are still able to cooperate with EU law enforcement, but that process and data sharing can be slower. Potential to advocate for improvements with a more positive UK/EU relationship.

Safer Communities: DSCR
July 2024