



Subject: POLICE – RESOURCES
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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Police Service of Scotland came into being on 1 April 2013. The process was about more than amalgamating existing forces and other police organizations such as the Scottish Crime and Drugs Enforcement Agency. The purpose was to establish an organization which would meet the strategic aims of police reform

- Strengthen the connection between services and communities by creating a new formal agreement with each of the local authorities
- Create more equal access to specialist support
- Protect and improve local services within the available budget

1.2 Further details on the structure of the national force (commonly known as Police Scotland) can be found in the information pack issued to members. Essentially, the three local authorities previously covered by Central Scotland Police now have local policing services delivered by Forth Valley Division, one of 14 operational divisions across Scotland. The division encompasses response officers and community officers and staff responsible for local crime investigation, road policing, public protection and local intelligence. The other functions previously undertaken by Central Scotland Police are now delivered through regional or national structures. Staff with experience and expertise in these other functions moved to the new departments and units, whilst Forth Valley Division retained staff to deliver the local functions.

2. INFORMATION

2.1 The new structures are still developing and some of the rationalisation of roles and staffing levels is ongoing. Some of the changes which meant a requirement to help staff regional units have offered benefits to Forth Valley Division to balance that commitment. For example, the regional Operational Support Unit based at Alloa has on a number of occasions provided officers to assist in search or public order duties who would otherwise have had to be abstracted from operational shifts with potential disruption to service delivery.

In addition, the unit has provided an available resource to help police events, support local initiatives and respond to incidents.

- 2.2 At this point, decisions on final resourcing levels within different functions are still being considered nationally and locally and will be reported on further and in more detail in future reports. To date, performance has been maintained and in many cases improved within the new structures as is illustrated in the performance report presented to the Scrutiny Committee.

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