

SLIDE 1 - INTRODUCTION

Scottish Policing and Europe
A Developing Relationship

It is the intention within a short presentation to outline the vision, objectives and key elements which are being pursued between 2008 and 2011 to provide greater visibility, coherence and structure to the engagement and involvement of the Scottish Police Service within Europe and beyond.

This limited, realistic but pro-active approach is predicated on the belief that the diversity and quality of policing in Scotland is worthy of articulation to the European Policing Community.

Whilst recognising the strong professional links which we retain within the United Kingdom the delivery of policing and our legal system are distinctive to Scotland with much that can be gained by both Scottish Policing and Europe both operationally and in policy development by the creation of opportunities for greater engagement, knowledge transfer and information exchange.

A brief outline will be given on what we are seeking to achieve through involvement within the existing European Union co-operation structures, the developing role of the UK International Assistance Policing Board on which Scotland is now represented and the importance of the Scottish Institute for Policing Research and the Scottish Police College in engaging with the European Policing and academic communities.

Both SiPR and the College having an important role in demonstrating and evidencing to colleagues in Europe the unique and distinctive policing style within Scotland which has an increasing capacity and capability to deal with the strategic threats and vulnerabilities presented by terrorism and organised crime but which continues to be underpinned by visible, localised, partnership focused community oriented policing.

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SLIDE 2 - KEY THEMES

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SLIDE 3 – AIM AND VISION

The aim to increase the visibility and engagement of the Scottish Police service within Europe and beyond is driven by a number of factors:-

1. The recognition that there is a demand for knowledge but a lack of processes and structures to facilitate transfer and exchange.
2. Where Scottish Policing and Police training has already made a contribution it has a reputation for excellence.
3. Devolution creates an opportunity and a requirement for Scotland working closely with UK colleagues to increasingly be represented within EU and international co-operative structures.
4. The establishment of SiPR has created an awareness in the international academic community of the evidence based approach being developed in Scotland. The creation of SiPR has even at this early stage of development demonstrated that the body of research expertise has grown significantly within the twelve participating Scottish universities.

The Scottish government has recently set out an agenda for increased participation and influence in Europe. It is the view of ACPOS that the principles within that agenda fit well with the

intention of the Scottish Police Service to become more engaged in Europe and internationally.

It is our vision that Scottish Policing is distinctively recognised as a valued contributor to policing policy and practice both within the UK and internationally.

Within the Scottish policing community the objectives over the next three years are to

1. Increase awareness of the developments in European policing.
2. To ensure policing in Scotland benefits in both operational and policy terms from improved engagement.
3. To identify and progress opportunities for raising awareness and greater understanding of Scottish Policing in Europe and beyond.

SLIDE 4 - PRIORITY OBJECTIVES

Within Europe and internationally the priority objectives are

1. To ensure that Scottish Policing is able to make an appropriate contribution to EU and International Peace keeping operations.
2. To make an increasing contribution to the development of policy and training in Europe and internationally.
3. To participate with other European countries in research, training and the development of good practice and to enhance the reputation of Scotland through the contribution of knowledge based practice.
4. I have set a three year horizon to make tangible progress recognising that by 2011 the journey will only have begun.
5. An important step which we have taken forward this year is to contribute to the development of the UK International Assistance Policing Board which is now established with the first formal meeting taking place in July with Scottish Government and ACPOS represented.

I will briefly explain its initial remit.

SLIDE 5 - INTERNATIONAL POLICING ASSISTANCE BOARD

- which is to act in simple terms as a 'one stop shop' for consideration of all non-investigative and non-operational assistance.
- the IPAB will co-ordinate police force activities thus removing unnecessary duplication but will not fetter Chief Officers in developing appropriate bi-lateral relationships.
- whilst the IPAB would make a recommendation the final decision to authorise involvement or assistance will remain with the Scottish Cabinet Secretary, the UK Home Office Minister and the relevant Police Authority.

SLIDE 6 – UK POLICING

The Board will consider all UK including Scottish police service assistance relating to

1. POLICE TRAINING, OPERATIONAL DEVELOPMENT and ADVISORY SUPPORT to foreign states in order to improve police operational capability both at home and abroad.
2. PEACE SUPPORT OPERATIONS including conflict prevention, post-conflict stabilisation and recovery, peace enforcement and peace keeping and longer-term training and development.
3. Security and Justice sector training.
4. Development and secondment of police officers and staff to foreign states and international organisations.
5. Strategic international engagement in order to share best practice and develop policing doctrine.

The Board will NOT consider international activities in relation to counter-terrorism, disaster or emergency response activities.

It is envisaged that the Scottish contribution to peace support operations will develop and then be maintained at around 30-35 police officers from Scotland at any one time.

Once achieved this will be an internationally visible and tangible contribution by highly skilled and specialist officers in Scotland

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from Constable to Chief Officer rank to the establishment of democratic and community focused policing in foreign states requesting support and assistance.

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SLIDE 7 - EUROPEAN UNION AND ENGAGEMENT

The Scottish Police service has up to this point engagement with a number of police groupings in Europe but often this is at a third-party level with either UK agencies, organisations or civil servants representing Scotland within a wider UK context.

Whilst much of this representation meets our needs and interests and will continue to have our support there is an increasing recognition that the European Union as an entity in its own right is developing at a significant pace.

For example:-

There is now a structure for external relations (RELEX)

EUROPOL is continuing to develop with a significant change in its status occurring in 2010.

The EU now has a Co-ordinator for counter-terrorism.

An EU Organised Crime Threat assessment and strategic operational priorities are now in-place.

Common accredited EU standards for intelligence sharing, information management and other relevant areas are being developed.

EU mechanisms to manage risks and critical incidents from CT to CBRN are now taking shape.

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We do have limited Scottish engagement with relevant operational groupings with for e.g. the SCDEA having positive engagement on serious and organised crime issues at both an operational and strategic level.

BUT whilst recognising that we need to be realistic and pragmatic about what we can achieve we do need to be better aligned and involved in relevant developments such as those highlighted within Europe.

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SLIDE 8 – SCOTTISH INSTITUTE FOR POLICING RESEARCH

The Scottish Institute for Policing Research (SiPR) which was set up through a collaboration between ACPOS and 12 of Scotland's universities with significant support from the Scottish Funding Council is making early but tangible progress in establishing itself and thus Scottish policing within academic communities of Europe and beyond.

A number of visiting academics are engaged with SiPR with international academics sitting as members of the research institute advisory board. This Conference is in itself a tangible illustration of how relationships are developing within Europe and beyond.

The journey of establishing SiPR as a significant player in police research in Europe continues with increasing engagement with European research awarding bodies.

Scotland Europa and Scottish Enterprise are taking an interest in the work of SiPR with an increasing recognition that policing can make a valuable positive contribution to the portfolio of Scottish interests which they promote to a wider European and international community.

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SiPR has a significant role through to 2011 and beyond in evidencing and demonstrating the distinctive, unique and successful delivery of policing in Scotland and in ensuring through effective knowledge transfer that we begin to make a valued contribution to policy and operational doctrine within Europe.

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SLIDE 9 – SCOTTISH POLICE COLLEGE

The final strand to our strategic drive to effect greater engagement with Europe and beyond is through work being undertaken and developed further by the Director and his team at the Scottish Police College.

The College is recognised by the Scottish Police Service and increasingly within the UK and beyond as a centre of excellence.

Tulliallan won the national “Star” awards for accreditation in 2007 and the College has hosted many UK and international training programmes.

The International Development Unit at the College provides training programmes to a number of countries including Sri Lanka, Guyana, The Maldives, Western Australia and Saudi Arabia.

The UK Department for International Development has recognised the quality of what the College has to offer with an important contribution recently being made to a seminar organised by the

World Bank in the USA which focused on the provision of police training in developing countries.

It is recognised that currently there is little focus on a European Policing agenda.

Bi-lateral relationships are being developed with real opportunities for greater engagement with Europe being created by the development of academic programmes designed for the international market which are accredited by the Scottish Qualifications Authority and which focus on key areas such as Strategic Management and Leadership. The establishment of these international programmes at the College should over time enhance our ability to transfer knowledge and establish productive high-level relationships with the European and international policing community.

SLIDE 10 - CONCLUSION

I have in the short-time available to me painted with a broad brush our drive to engage more effectively with Europe and beyond.

The priorities which we have set over the next three years are realistic, achievable and will ensure that by 2011 we have a strong foundation in-place to continue to increase the visibility of Scottish Policing internationally and to ensure that as a recognised high performing policing partner we can begin to add our distinctive voice to the development of policing policy and practice within Europe and beyond.

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SLIDE 11 – THE JOURNEY HAS ONLY JUST BEGUN

I can assure you that the journey has only just begun.

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