

Minister for Victims and Community Safety meeting with SFRS Board Chair and Chief Officer – 2 May 2023

Present

Siobhian Brown MSP – Minister for Victims and Community Safety

Dr Kirsty Darwent – SFRS Board Chair

Ross Haggart – SFRS Chief Officer

In attendance

Redacted

Redacted

Overview of SFRS

Following the welcome and introductions, Mr Haggart set out the 3 main issues for SFRS:

- The role of firefighters so that more can be done to protect communities
- The Operation disposition of resources. The fire station footprint has not changed in the last 10 years and SFRS is assessing risk to match resources where they are most needed.
- Reviewing the efficiency and effectiveness of corporate services and considering if there is potential to do more in collaboration with Police, ambulance and other partners.

Recruitment and Retention

Issues around staffing were discussed. Mr Haggart set out some of the challenges on recruitment and retention of on-call firefighters and the work of the On-Call improvement programme.

Board Members

The recruitment of up to 4 new Board members was discussed. **Redacted**

Capital Budget

The Minister set out that the Scottish Government was under considerable pressure on the overall capital budget.

Redacted

Broadening the firefighter role

Dr Darwent highlighted the good relationships built up with the FBU which allowed for the in-principle agreement on the broadened role business case. The case sets out that the proposal is value for money as it delivers efficiencies across the public sector but especially in Health.

Collaboration

Collaboration more broadly was discussed with Dr Darwent reporting good progress had been made including sharing corporate services and focusing on wider community user focussed services. The Minister offered to help in any way which would add value.

Fire Enforcement

Mr Haggart said that good progress had been made on the SFRS review of enforcement with ensuring that all premises with an action plan have been reviewed to make sure the SFRS action plan is appropriate. **Redacted.**

Mr Haggart set out that the Jenners building was under renovation and therefore the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) were the enforcing authority for fire safety enforcement. The police led enquiry was underway but could take some time to complete and the internal SFRS inquiry, in partnership with the FBU was also in progress. The Minister asked to be kept informed of developments.

Ministerial Visits

The Minister said she looked forward to visiting a fire station and the SFRS Headquarters, potentially to see the electric fire appliance and to get a deeper understanding of fire and rescue.

Retirements

Mr Haggart highlighted that changes to the firefighter pension schemes (HM Treasury remedy to age discrimination and changes to Commutation factors (i.e. movement of pension into a lump sum) meant that the risk of relatively high numbers of experienced officers could choose to retire early, particularly once the choice exercise is completed by SPPA in October 2023.

2023-24 Budget

Dr Darwent set out that despite the additional £10m provided in the budget along with the £4.4m budget cover to be transferred in the Autumn Budget Revision, SFRS is still faced with making savings in the region of £9m to deliver a balanced budget. **Redacted.**

Fire and Rescue Unit

4 May 2023

Note of Meeting between The Minister for Victims and Community Safety and the SFRS Chief Fire Officer and Board Chair – 13 September 2023

Present

Siobhan Brown MSP – Minister for Victims and Community Safety
Kirsty Darwent, SFRS Board Chair
Ross Haggart, SFRS Chief Fire Officer (CFO)

In Attendance

Redact
Redact

The meeting was held at the Scottish Parliament (TG.24)

SFRS Temporary Appliance Withdrawal

SFRS has now removed its second or third appliances from 10 fire stations in September 2023, along with making changes to the high-reach appliance provision. Water rescue provision on the Clyde is also changing. The Minister stated her planned engagement with MSPs on the issue.

The relationship with the FBU and increased threat of Industrial Acton was noted.

Redacted

Workforce planning including RDS

The Minister updated that at her recent meeting with **Redacted**, the issue of attrition, recruitment and retention of both wholetime and on-call firefighters was raised. **Redacted**.

CFO confirmed the UK-wide nature of the issues.

Redacted

SFRS Budget

Redacted

The Minister confirmed she was doing what she could to protect the SFRS budget in context of the extremely challenging overall Scottish budget.

SFRS Board Recruitment

The SFRS Board Chair confirmed **redacted** people have been shortlisted. It is hoped new members will begin in December.

Enforcement

Redacted

The Minister noted Jackie Baillie raised the issue of enforcement in the context of Cameron House at a recent meeting. **Redacted**

Summary and AoB

The Minister thanked everybody for their attendance and contributions and looked forward to meeting again in the future.

Minister for Victims and Community Safety meeting with Fire Brigades Union 20
June 2023

Present

Siobhian Brown MSP – Minister For Victims and Community Safety

Redacted FBU Executive Council Member Scotland

Redacted FBU Scottish Regional Secretary

In attendance

Redacted

Redacted

Discussion Points

Appliance Withdrawal

Redacted

Ms Brown set out that the RSR was indicative and did not automatically mean that there would be no additional funding in the Budget Act each year.

Retained Duty System

Redacted

Broadening the firefighter role

Redacted

Ms Brown set out that the joint business case with SFRS on broadening the role was still on the table but funding pressures mean it might not be deliverable in the short term.

Decontamination

Redacted

The FBU set out that a project is underway for blood and urine sampling of 1,000 firefighters across the UK. Currently Scotland was not involved because of a lack of funding.

Ms Brown set out that SG would consider any case for funding.

[Post meeting note: Colin Brown has now written requesting funding which is being considered]

The FBU explained that there continued to be positive engagement with the SFRS leadership on this issue.

Firefighter Pay

The FBU noted the complexity of the NJC collective bargaining arrangements but welcomed that SFRS was an important player and had made a significant contribution in reaching the 2 year pay deal.

Minimum Service Levels Bill

Ms Brown set out that the Scottish Government opposes this legislation as it is counter to Fair Work Principles of recognising the workers voice. The FBU said that reaching a deal on firefighter pay showed the value of negotiation, collective bargaining and the right to strike.

The Mark Griffin Private Members Bill was discussed. **Redacted** set out that devolving this to the Scottish Parliament was complex but moving forward and the Scottish Government planned to consult on industrial disease and associated benefits as a wide package.

Ms Brown endeavoured to keep the FBU up to date with significant developments.

Ms Brown closed the meeting by thanking the FBU for the full and frank discussion and looked forward to further establishing a good working relationship with regular meetings.

WILDFIRE EQUIPMENT MEETING – 20 JUNE 2023

Present

Mairi Gougeon MSP – Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands

Siobhan Brown MSP – Minister for Victims and Community Safety

Don McGillivray – Director of Safer Communities

Kate Huggins – Special Advisor

Jeanette Campbell – Special Advisor

Ross Haggart – SFRS Chief Officer

Redacted – SFRS Wildfire lead

Redacted – Forestry Land Scotland

In attendance

Redacted

Redacted

Redacted

Redacted

Redacted

Mr Haggart thanks the Cabinet Secretary for her visit and set out that SFRS were in the process of rolling out its wildfire strategy, and this would augment existing resources. This has identified 3 tiers of fire stations.

- Tier 1 fire stations where all firefighters can be asked to attend wildfires using structural firefighting PPE.
- Tier 2 fire stations where firefighters will be issued with specific wildfire PPE. There will be 21 Tier 2 fire stations, 15 of which are Retained Duty and 6 are volunteer community response units.
- Tier 3 fire station will have specialist 4 wheel drive vehicles, all terrain off-road vehicles specific wildfire PPE and will receive advanced training in defensive firefighting techniques such as creating fire breaks. There are 10 Tier 3 fire stations.

Mr Haggart emphasised that structural firefighting PPE is safe to use for crews tackling wildfires and is the standard equipment for all fires. The PPE is heavy, but tunics can be removed on the basis of risk assessment, and it is safe for them to do so.

Mr Haggart stated **redacted**

Ms Brown asked if there had been an increase in wildfires and how the SFRS wildfire strategy was progressing including the roll out of new specialist equipment?

Mr Haggart responded that there had been no measurable increase in the number of incidents but the severity and the amount of resources needed to tackle them had increased.

The global supply chain issues had caused delays in the delivery of equipment. SFRS were working closely with the National Fire Chiefs Council and Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service to conduct joint training in new firefighting techniques.

Redacted.

During wildfire operations, crews are rotated every 2-3 hours. A dedicated welfare officer ensures the safety and wellbeing of crews is the main priority with regular rest and water breaks. The SFRS welfare officer also ensures the safety and wellbeing of partners and other responders.

Redacted.

Ms Gougeon said that it is incumbent on us to make life better and easier for our brave firefighters who are putting themselves in danger to protect communities.

Redacted

Fire and Rescue Unit
26 June 2023

Home Affairs
PS/Minister for Victims and Community Safety

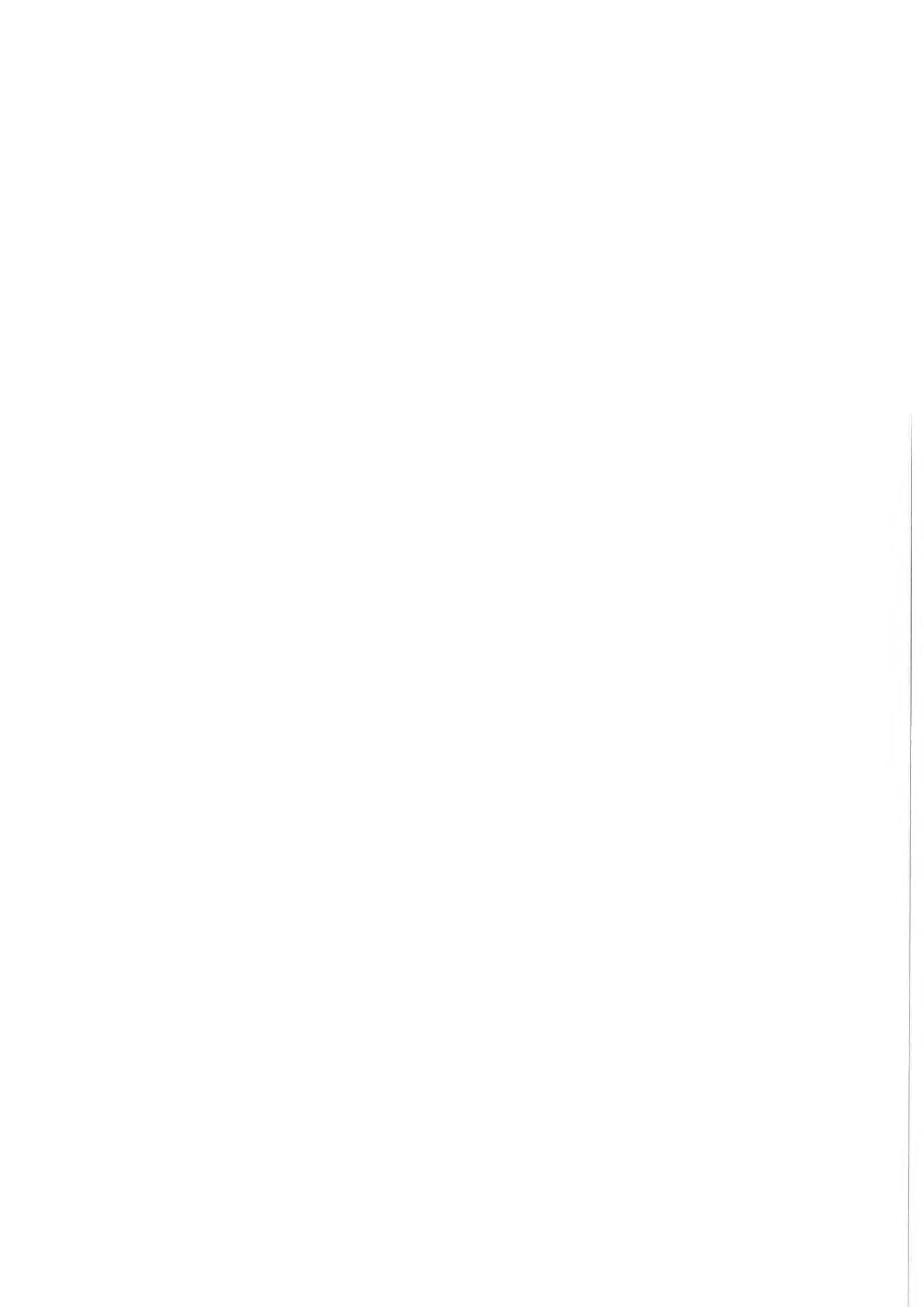
To see below a short note of Ministers' conversation yesterday with **Redacted**. Subject to their approval, we will save this to erdm as the formal record of the meeting.

Thanks,
Mo.

Attendees: Redacted (FBU)
Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs
Minister for Victims and Community Safety
Mo Rooney, Safer Communities Division

1. Ministers and the FBU reflected on the positivity of relations between the FBU and the SFRS leadership, based on mutual trust and respect. **Redacted**
2. Ministers and the FBU discussed some of the cultural challenges which continue to exist within the fire service, with the FBU's key reflection being on the value of supportive interventions at middle management level and face to face training. The FBU reflected on the particular challenge of growing diversity within the fire service in the context of low levels of recruitment.
3. The Cabinet Secretary noted that public services are more complex than purely the financial dimension; reform is a more effective route to improved outcomes. **Redacted**.
4. Adequacy and availability of training for firefighters, alongside the pressures on the retained duty system, are key concerns for the FBU. Depopulation of rural areas and the retained role being unattractive are impacting on recruitment to retained roles. **Redacted**.
5. The Cabinet Secretary reflected on the acute nature of the budget challenge, and confirmed that she would be seeking the best possible outcome for the Justice portfolio through the budget process. There are significant pressures across the Justice portfolio, and there is a need for all players to consider options to do things differently. **Redacted**
6. FBU thanked Ministers for their financial support of the FBU's DECON campaign. FBU are in regular contact with the researcher as the work progresses.
7. The FBU highlighted its UK Firefighters Manifesto (2024), targeted at a UK level with some crossover with the 'Firestorm' report as a good starting point for an ongoing conversation between FBU, SFRS and SG.

END



Ayr Station Hotel fire – SFRS Briefing to the Minister for Victims and Community Safety – 26 September 2023

Present

Siobhain Brown MSP – Minister for Victims and Community Safety

Stuart Stevens – Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Deputy Chief Officer

David Farries – SFRS Director of Operations and Assistant Chief Officer

In attendance

Redacted

Redacted

Redacted

The Minister asked SFRS colleagues to provide her with an update on the incident at Ayr Station Hotel.

Height Appliances

Redacted.

SFRS have made a strategic decision to base the nearest high reach appliance for Ayr at Kilmarnock. This decision has been informed by local assessment of risk. The previous combined high reach pumping appliance at Ayr has been replaced with a new standard appliance. There has been no recent staffing reductions at Ayr fire station.

The removal of the combined high-reach appliance was part of the strategic overall reduction from 26 to 16 high appliances across Scotland. The placement of those assets was decided on an analysis of risk and demand.

Firefighting at the Station Hotel

The Station Hotel at Ayr is a derelict building. Internal firefighting is the most effective form of tactic but putting firefighters into a derelict building is an unacceptable risk as the condition of the building is unknown. The objective in dealing with the fire in Ayr was to control any spread and to put the fire out but with a recognition that the building is lost. The only way to achieve that is to fight the fire from above in a defensive firefighting posture.

Height appliances can be used as water towers to pour water on the fire from above but this can only be done when the integrity of the roof is damaged by the fire – otherwise the water would simply run off the roof. SFRS are therefore confident and provided an assurance that the timing of the arrival of high-reach appliances to the incident did not have any material effect on the outcome of the incident.

The usual water-tower tactic is to surround the building but the Ayr site was particularly challenging because of railway lines and scaffolding which meant the fire could only be effectively approached from a single side.

Redacted.

Forward look

SFRS provided an update on their plans to replace the ageing high-reach appliances

Redacted.

SFRS are looking at new technologies to provide the capability to perform as a water tower.

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Sunday, November 19, 2023 3:18 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Subject: Abuse of Fireworks

Abuse of Fireworks

Dear First Minister,

I am sure you are aware of the violent attacks on the Police in Edinburgh and Glasgow over Guy Fawkes weekend. I can imagine you do not want to see a repeat of these thuggish attacks next year.

I would like to highlight other problems that arise during what has now become the fireworks season. In **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**, the fireworks started a couple of weeks before Halloween and were still to be heard on the 15th and 16th November, a period of about four weeks or so. They appear to have stopped now perhaps due the wet weather we are experiencing in the West.

We have a small dog that is very fearful of fireworks and hides way upstairs under the bed whilst they are ongoing. It is quite upsetting to see and has resulted in her becoming fearful and refusing to go out in the dark. This I know will seem trivial but I don't think it is fair that an animal should be in fear for that length of time. I am sure that this is repeated in many households. There is also the matter of farm animals and wild animals which may be affected as we live near a couple of farms and have a country park nearby. I am not too happy either at being woken after midnight by the noise coming from some of the loudest fireworks, not a bang or a whizz any more but more like a boom.

I don't wish to spoil anyone's fun at the appropriate time but for the fireworks, some of which sound akin to mortars being exploded, to continue for such a lengthy time is unnecessary. I suspect most of the time it is teenagers who are involved.

I feel it is time now, given the violence towards the police and low level inconvenience caused to pet owners to consider restrictions on the sale and use of fireworks. I know you are limited in the powers you have to deal with this problem, but I wonder if you have any plans to tackle what has now become a perennial nuisance.

Kind Regards

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

From:

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: 13 November 2023 20:28

To: Constance A (Angela), MSP <Angela.Constance.msp@parliament.scot>

Subject: Fireworks

Hi **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

I was pleased to read recently that you were open to a ban on the sale of fireworks. Can you please raise this for discussion in the Scottish Parliament? My dog has been terrorised by fireworks for the past 6-7 weeks. Enough is enough. I can't bear to see her terrified every evening.

If the sale and use of them was limited to 5 November that would fair enough. I'd be happy to take her away somewhere remote for the night and let people have their fun but it's not fair to animals to have to suffer in this way. Their hearing is more acute and they don't understand that they're not in any danger.

If an outright ban isn't possible perhaps you could legislate on acceptable noise levels of fireworks. It's the loud bangs that make my dog confused and scared.

I also condemn the way thugs targeted the police with fireworks in the Niddrie area of Edinburgh on bonfire night. I'm sure the NHS would be happier not having to deal with the stupidity of people mishandling fireworks. It seems to me like a lot of people and furry friends would benefit from a ban.

Regards

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: 07 November 2023 20:37

To: Constance A (Angela), MSP <Angela.Constance.msp@parliament.scot>

Subject: Fireworks

Hi

I would be pleased if you could raise my objection to fireworks and the distress they cause to animals domestic and wild, also the distress to people with PTSD and Autism, also the criminal use they inflict to police. The incidents in Niddrie, Edinburgh was shocking for the people living in that part of Edinburgh.

The importation of fireworks should be banned.

The use of silent fireworks should be encouraged and the ones with bangs should be banned

I look forward to hearing from you.

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Mrs Angela Constance

MSP Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs

Scottish Government
St. Andrew`s House Regent Road
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

Our Ref: **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**
8 November 2023

Dear **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Mr **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Public sale of fireworks I write on behalf of the above-noted constituent regarding the public sale of fireworks. My constituent **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

believes he has witnessed an escalation in acts of violence against all emergency services in line with discharge of fireworks. He contests that the annual November 5th celebrations have given rise to a situation where some sections of the public feel it is “their right” to cause disruption, anguish and mayhem by their actions. Not only do acts involving fireworks disrupt communities and put emergency services under additional pressure **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** reports that he has been on appliances over the years which have sustained broken windows and wing mirrors and damage to equipment during these events.

In addition, he has witnessed **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** being subjected to attacks and injury, including one young firefighter who partially lost his hearing in one ear after a firework thrown at him exploded next to his head. It is a matter of some concern to my constituent that fireworks are still available for public sale and is keen to see tougher measures to prevent this.

Fireworks always have the potential to cause serious injury, added to this the unpredictable nature of their combustion and popularity amongst those who wish to use them irresponsibly in their communities, they present additional challenges not only for affected residents but also on already overstretched emergency services. Disorder such as that witnessed in areas of Edinburgh and elsewhere last weekend, cannot become the norm.

Recent years have seen increasing fireworks-based disturbance and violence, and repeat similar scenes of fireworks being used in an anti-social manner last year. Closer to home, many communities within my Dumbaron constituency also report adverse effects. It is clear that tougher sanction is required surrounding the public sale of fireworks and that current measures do not go far enough in preventing misuse and, at best, nuisance for emergency services and communities. I would contest that it is now clear that existing legislation lacks clarity on how firework misuse and anti-social behaviour will be addressed.

I would urge you to consider the issues highlighted and the impact of fireworks nuisance on communities and emergency services. Many thanks for your assistance.

Yours sincerely
Jackie Baillie MSP Dumbaron Constituency

From: **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Sent: Sunday, November 5, 2023 10:39 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: Cole-Hamilton A (Alex), MSP <Alex.Cole-Hamilton.msp@parliament.scot>

Subject: Fireworks/ Police

Good evening,

I have just seen a video of thugs targeting the police with fireworks, in the Niddrie area of Edinburgh. I am in no doubt whatsoever that this will not be an isolated incident in both Edinburgh and presumably in other areas across Scotland.

I am horrified that our police should be subjected to this disgusting behaviour, putting the safety of our officers at risk.

This behaviour, appears to be getting worse each year, with all our emergency services being at the mercy of those thugs.

I have **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** for more than **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** and view those services as colleagues.

At the absolute least action by government, this should now lead to a complete ban on the sale of fireworks to the general public.

Responsible persons, holding official and safe fireworks displays, should be the only way that they can be bought.

I am aware that the actual criminal attacks need to be addressed but also aware that is a much bigger problem.

Your sincerely

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Dear Sir 1st Minister Mr Yousaf,

I m writing to you about fireworks, please would you consider banning the sale of fireworks to the public?

1. So bad for the inverment If we want to get to Net Zero
2. The morons that call out our emergency service then attack them on and near bonfire night.
3. They are detrimental to our wild life.
4. They terrify our domestic pets. I know this first hand. We need to buy Valium from the vet for our family dog. It's a disgrace. And shame on you if you don't do something about this matter. I'm sorry if I've caused any offence but feel so strongly about this. We need lazer fireworks instead? Please!

I would love to get a response back from you please. And if you need more information I will gladly expand on the subject? Even have the response from **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**,who's response was " well my cat likes fireworks " not good !

You can contact me **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** appreciate you are a very busy man. And I'm so glad,relieved and happy your

family are home safe and sound. I shed tears after your mother in laws report on the news.

Thank you for reading my email. Look forward to your reply thank you and I put my trust on the msp

Yours faithfully **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

From: **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 11:01 AM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; martin.docherty.mp@parliament.uk;

Jackie.Baillie.msp@parliament.scot; david.mcbride@west-dunbarton.gov.uk;
Karen.MurrayConaghan@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Subject: Banning Public Sale of All Fireworks

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

I **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Through my years **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** I have witnessed an escalation in acts of violence against all emergency services by an element within our local areas that in my opinion have gotten more out of control due to a lack of reprimanding in our new woke society and strain that is put on our Police Service and Justice system.

Guy Fawkes night is one period where these youths have gradually gotten to a point where they now feel it's their right to disrupt society and cause as much anguish and mayhem as they possibly can.

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

sustaining broken windows, wing mirrors, damage to equipment, etc. due to these acts of violence **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** a young firefighter who now has partially lost his hearing in one ear (he now only hears white noise) due to firework being thrown at him and exploding next to his ear, fortunately for him no other serious injuries were sustained.

Watching, reading and hearing reports **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** still serving, **I feel that the time has now come for all fireworks to be banned from public sale**, immediately!

At the end of the day these fireworks, no matter how trivial are manufactured with an amount of gunpowder and have the potential to cause serious injury or maybe worse. That added to the element of our communities who are using them to cause mayhem, disruption, pain, suffering and subsequently, an even bigger strain on our already overstretched emergency services and Justice system.

Will there be complaints about a big brother society or removal of civil liberties, yes, but from a small minority of do-gooders but mostly from the element who want to use these items for mischievous purposes. The rest of society and our emergency services will only breathe a sigh of relief

There are plenty of organised events within communities where those that are organising them will have access to obtain fireworks that will be used correctly, in a safer environment for the enjoyment of our communities and also have access to bigger more wondrous displays for our communities to enjoy.

The time has come for more action and harsher penalties on those who are caught carrying these dangerous weapons.

Yours faithfully,

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent from my iPhone

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 12:37 AM

To REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: RE: Bonfire Weekend: Awareness for Comms - Niddrie Disruption 5th November

DISRUPTION IN NIDDRIE

Please see below background which provides context to the disruption in Edinburgh tonight and that will accompany any lines drafted by comms colleagues . I have attached draft press release from SFRS, the Minister for Victims and Community Safety Press release from Friday 3rd of November and links to relevant FMQ documents. Please note we are still awaiting Police Scotland's draft press release, I will send first thing tomorrow morning.

Background

- There were reports of medium sized groups of people being a public nuisance with Fireworks at Hay Avenue in Niddrie at 17:45 on 5th November. Police Officers attended the scene where they were attacked with golf balls and masonry. Officers then received orders to pull back and allow Police Scotland Public Response Units to attend the scene.
- There were 75 Police Scotland Public Response Officers initially, this peaked to 150 Officers at the height of disruption.
- A reported crowd of around 30-40 people, with Circa 300 people in attendance, then attacked officers with Fireworks and around 40 Petrol Bombs.
- No arrests have been made at this point with a priority on Police Officer safety.
- The disruption has been picked up by various major news outlets and is expected to be a pressing story tomorrow morning.

Operation Moonbeam background

1. Operation Moonbeam is a well-established, continuously evolving multi-agency response to the challenges of the Bonfire night period. The 2023 iteration is its sixth year of operating.
2. Operation Moonbeam planning continues to be refreshed and refined in light of the events and learnings of the previous years in order to provide a suitable and proportionate response.
3. The onset of Bonfire night period typically sees a marked rise in anti-social activity and associated criminality across the country. This behaviour is highly disruptive and dangerous.
4. Discussions amongst Operation Moonbeam Gold Commanders (Assistant Chief Constable Tim Mairs, PS & Assistant Chief Officer Andrew Watt, SFRS) this evening reinforced the message that Operation Moonbeam is to protect people in the communities, property and emergency services. This year Police Scotland were subject to an unprecedented number of serious attacks including petrol bombs in record numbers.
5. There is plans for Assistant Chief Constable Tim Mairs to brief the media tomorrow afternoon 6th November.

Anti-Social Behaviour FMQ:

<https://erdm.scotland.gov.uk/documents/A41698525/details>

Police FMQ: Policing FMQ - 09 November 2023 (A45821862)

Violence reduction FMQ: 2 November 2023' -

<https://erdm.scotland.gov.uk/documents/A45815888/details>

Fireworks FMQ: Building Safer Communities - Fireworks - FMQ Brief & Q&A details - Objective ECM (scotland.gov.uk)

We will be able to provide a more conclusive report tomorrow morning.

Kind regards

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Sunday, November 5, 2023 6:27 PM

To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Cc: Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>; **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Subject: Bonfire Weekend: Awareness for Comms - Call with Gold Command 18:00 - 05/11/2023

AWARENESS FOR COMMS

- Police Scotland have informed Scottish Government that they have authorised the use of Section 60 stop and search powers under the Public Order Act 1994 again tonight for areas which have active dispersal zones in place in Edinburgh.
- No concerns from Police Scotland over incidents throughout the day with no highlighted incidents from Scottish League Cup Semi Final match.
- 1 reported attack on SFRS resource in West Lothian, no injuries to personnel.
- There is currently reports of 40 members of the public demonstrating anti-social behaviour in the Niddrie area of Edinburgh. Intel has suggested that members of the public are planning to use petrol bombs for targeted attacks on Emergency Services.
- Reports of 30-40 youths attending an unlicensed bonfire display in Beaully Square, Kirkton Dundee. This is the same area which seen disruption on 31st October. Police are currently assessing approach to ongoing incident. Possible request to use Section 60 powers which have been authorised in Edinburgh.
- Several Police Divisions have reported an increase in 'Youth' activity and anticipate low level disorder.

Next planned update tomorrow morning. If serious incidents develop we will provide briefing to be used in response.

Kind regards

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Building Safer Communities | Safer Communities Division | Safer Communities Directorate | DG: Education and Justice | **Scottish Government**
1W St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

Hi **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Further info on Cammy Day's talking points for GMS.

Please note the points made about firework control zones below (FCZ). Police were attacked with masonry, golf ball, fireworks and petrol bombs. FCZ would not have prevented the extent of attacks on police this evening.

Further briefing notes with you shortly

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: 05 November 2023 22:09

To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)>

Cc: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: RE: Hay Avenue [OFFICIAL]

Thanks **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Council Leader will be going on just after 7am. I've copied our bullets for Cammy below.

- Emergency services were called to reports of youths gathering in the Hays Avenue of Niddrie and setting off fireworks at around 4:30pm on November 5.
- There were then a series of clashes with Police throughout the evening, officers were attacked with fireworks, petrol bombs and other projectiles.
- We're clear that this behaviour is completely unacceptable and our emergency services have our full support.
- We've been working hard for months with our colleagues, partners and communities to try and mitigate incidents like this so it's extremely disappointing to see a minority behaving in this way.
- Examples include preventative work with schools, community centres, youth associations, alongside social media campaigns, and increased patrols from our waste services to uplift potential fire hazards.
- Scottish Govt has passed legislation allowing local authorities to create Firework Control Zones (FCZs), an area wherein it is a criminal offence for a member of the public to ignite a firework, including on private property.
- Unfortunately, due to the anticipated minimum four to six month timescales involved, it wasn't possible to implement any FCZs for this year.
- Officers will work on an implementation plan with partners for FCZs for next year.
- I'd urge anyone with information on last night's incidents to contact Police Scotland or Crimestoppers.
- Thanks to the many police officers and other members of the emergency services for their bravery and commitment tonight – in the most challenging of circumstances
- And to the vast majority of residents who enjoyed Bonfire Night responsibly

ENDS

Thanks,

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

**I Media and Social Media Officer | Corporate Services | The City of Edinburgh Council | 2.2
Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh, EH8 8BG | REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**



From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Sunday, November 5, 2023 10:02 PM

To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

< REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Cc: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: RE: Hay Avenue [OFFICIAL]

Hi **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Thanks for this.

What time will Cammy be doing Radio Scotland? ACC Mairs is calling them at 8am and SFRS are doing 8.50am.

I'm currently working on our external comms and will share with you once it's agreed.

The main bullet points will be:

- The violence in Edinburgh is unprecedented
- Wider issue than just youth-related issues
- Partnership approach has been successful, given lower levels of attacks on other emergency services
- Behaviour of those responsible unacceptable and they will be brought to justice.

Cheers

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: 05 November 2023 21:43

To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: RE: Hay Avenue

Hi all,

Council Leader is going to be interviewed on this by BBC Radio Scotland tomorrow morning.

Can I ask if Police Scotland have been asked to put anyone up? And what your latest lines are please? I'm just drafting some bullet points for Council Leader but any further information would be really helpful.

Thanks very much,

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Media and Social Media Officer | Corporate Services | The City of Edinburgh Council | 2.2 Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh, EH8 8BG | REDACTED s.38(1)(b)



From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Sunday, November 5, 2023 8:49 PM

To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: RE: Hay Avenue

Good evening all,

Just wanted to let you know that we're going to send out the following statement to media concerning the ongoing situation in Niddrie.

Council Leader Cammy Day said:

"I'm appalled to see the scenes in Niddrie this evening. We've been clear that this sort of conduct is unacceptable.

"We've been working hard throughout the year with our partners and in our communities to mitigate Bonfire Night related disruption, so it is extremely disappointing to see a minority of people behaving in this way.

"This reckless behaviour endangers lives and like the majority of people in the community, I share in their dismay and upset at this disgraceful behaviour. I would like to reassure residents that we are working closely with Police Scotland to ensure the community are safe and appeal to anyone who can help identify those responsible to contact police so they can be dealt with appropriately by the justice system.

“Our emergency services have our full support and do a fantastic job of keeping us all safe.”

ENDS

I hope you and colleagues are staying safe tonight.

Thanks,

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

I Media and Social Media Officer | Corporate Services | The City of Edinburgh Council | 2.2
Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh, EH8 8BG | REDACTED s.38(1)(b)



From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Sunday, November 5, 2023 6:39 PM

To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: FW: Hay Avenue

FYI our release if asked

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: 05 November 2023 18:35

To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: Hay Avenue

Hi both,

Please find my proposed If Asked re the ongoing deployment in Hay Avenue.

Cheers

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

A Police Scotland spokesperson said: "Operation Moonbeam resources are currently supporting local officers in the Hay Avenue area of Edinburgh, following reports of a large group of youths involved in the antisocial use of fireworks within the area.

"The police response is ongoing at present and local road closures are currently in place.

"The public are thanked for their support at this time."

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Corporate Communications Executive Lead

Corporate Communications

Police Scotland

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

CorpCommunicationsAccountManagement@scotland.pnn.police.uk



From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Sunday, November 5, 2023 11:02 PM

To REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: SFRS Media Release - Post Bonfire Night

Hi **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Please see the below – which is ready to go.

We are awaiting final figures etc.

Thank you,

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

EXTERNAL RELEASE: AWAITING FIGURES

Firefighters across Scotland have come under attack while responding to 999 calls on Bonfire night.

Crews have been bombarded with fireworks and bricks after being mobilised to tackle a series of outdoor fires.

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) has reported nine attacks during an eight-hour period.

The attacks happened in Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Blantyre in South Lanarkshire and Blackburn in West Lothian.

There were no injuries reported to the crews involved however a fire appliance in West Lothian had a windscreen smashed by a brick and had to be removed from operational service.

These attacks have followed four previously reported attacks on crews in Ayrshire and Edinburgh in the week leading up to Bonfire Night.

Andy Watt Assistant Chief Officer for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service said: "Attacks on our firefighters are completely unacceptable.

"Our staff should be able to carry out their role without being attacked. It is disappointing that people have tried to hurt firefighters and have damaged our appliances and equipment.

"This type of behaviour not only prevents our crews from bringing any emergency to a safe and swift conclusion, but it can impact on our emergency service colleagues - including the police – when they are supporting us on scene to ensure the safety of our personnel.

"We thank our emergency service partners Police Scotland for their continued assistance and we will continue to work in partnership with them to identify those responsible.

"This type of behaviour is, of course, carried out by a small minority within society and we once again thank our communities for their continuing support and working together with us to stay safe."

SFRS received more than XXXX calls from the public and firefighters across Scotland responded to approximately XXX bonfires across the country between 3.30pm and 11.30pm on Sunday, 5 November.

Meanwhile Operations Control handled more than XXXX calls from members of the public.

In the run up to the event, the SFRS had appealed to the public to be aware of the dangers of both fireworks and unsafe bonfires with a message to consider the impact of their actions on communities and emergency services.

ACO Watt added: "Bonfire Night is traditionally one of our busiest nights of the year.

"We put a huge amount of planning and preparation into this evening with local partners and other emergency services as we work together to protect communities, which is always our top priority.

"I would like to pay tribute to the professionalism and resilience of our frontline personnel, our Operations Control staff and our support staff who have shown extreme commitment over this busy period.

"Their dedication has allowed us to continue to protect communities throughout Scotland on Bonfire Night."

Notes to Editor:

A further regional breakdown of incidents and stats is currently unavailable. These initial statistics may be subject to review in due course.

West SDA: XXX calls received, tbc attacks on crews and XXX bonfires attended

East SDA: XXX calls received, tbc attacks on crews and XXX bonfires attended

North SDA: XXX calls received, tbc attacks on crews and XXX bonfires attended

ENDS

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Communications Officer
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

General or out of hours media enquiries: <http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/news-campaigns/media-team.aspx>



SCOTTISH

FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Working together for a safer Scotland

BONFIRE NIGHT ATTACKS Media Request discussion

All,

An updated FMQ attached – let me know of any issues and I can send up.

Thanks

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Scottish Government

1W

St Andrew's House

Regent Road

Edinburgh EH1 3DG

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: 30 November 2023 08:34

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: FW: Bonfire night attacks

FYI, Please can you update relevant FMQs. Best wishes, **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Unit Head, Building Safer Communities | Safer Communities Division | Safer Communities Directorate | DG: Education and Justice | **Scottish Government**
1W St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2023 8:21 AM

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: Bonfire night attacks

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

In today's media snips - Daily Mail (Scotland) 5 **Sixty officers hurt in Bonfire Night attacks** SIXTY police officers were injured by firework-throwing thugs in a 'deplorable' wave of Bonfire Night violence across Scotland, the chief constable has revealed. Jo Farrell hit out at those who attacked officers in her first report to the Scottish Police Authority, ahead of its meeting today. Some incidents involved yobs dressed in black and wearing masks who threw fireworks, stones and petrol bombs at police and emergency workers in Edinburgh,

We'll want to update FMQ/core briefs and media lines.

Mo Rooney

Deputy Director, Safer Communities Division

Scottish Government

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

I am contactable by email, on my mobile, and on Teams.

Note of Meeting with the Minister and officials on the Fireworks Licencing Implementation – 21 November 2023 – 10.30am hybrid in SAH

Attendees: in person:

Minister for Victims and Community Safety- Siobhian Brown

REDACTED s.38(1)(b) Ministerial PO

REDACTED s.38(1)(b) – Unit Head, Building Safer Communities

REDACTED s.38(1)(b) – Team Leader, Fireworks Policy

On Teams:

REDACTED s.38(1)(b) Deputy Director, Safer Communities

REDACTED s.38(1)(b) SGLD

REDACTED s.38(1)(b) Fireworks Policy Team

The Minister noted the submission from **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** of 15 November 2023.

The discussion covered:

- A summary of the nature of firework related harm and incidents from the Bonfire Night weekend 2023

- An assessment of the extent a licencing service or restricted days provisions would have prevented the violent localised disorder. The discussion also reflected on the impact of the delivered provisions including new offences and the introduction and use of firework control zones for bonfire night 2024.
- The legal parameters around the implementation of a ban on sales and use of fireworks
- The financial decision making context and budget planning
- The options available to strengthen and target interventions to prevent violence and local incidents becoming annual events around bonfire night

Action Points:

- Officials to provide further detailed briefing on Option 3.
- The Minister agreed to discuss the options with the Cabinet Secretary at her regular weekly meeting and provide feedback on her conclusion and recommended next step.

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)steer re budget/alternatives, as discussed

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Building Safer Communities

Directorate for Safer Communities

Scottish Government

1W

St Andrew's House

Regent Road

Edinburgh EH1 3DG

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: 22 November 2023 08:34

To REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: RE: Draft follow up briefing for the Minister on option 3

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

all,

REDACTED s.27(1)

I'd suggest a few key bullet points up front to frame the Minister's conversation with Cab Sec:

- Saw first hand events at Niddrie on Bonfire Night from Operation Moonbeam control room. Significant incident of antisocial behaviour and disorder. Whilst fireworks were involved, they were neither the cause nor focus of the disorder.
- Keen to prioritise action on antisocial behaviour, supporting work of antisocial behaviour working group and looking at options for place-based responses to Bonfire Night disorders. Firework control zones may be a helpful tool in this.
- **REDACTED s.30(b)(i)**

In terms of the wider brief, I'd suggest thinning down, not trying to go too far on the detail of what we'll be able to do instead (a lot remains budget contingent),

REDACTED s.30(b)(i)

REDACTED s.30(b)(i)

REDACTED s.30(b)(i)

Thanks,
Mo.

Mo Rooney
Deputy Director, Safer Communities Division
Scottish Government

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

I am contactable by email, on my mobile, and on Teams.

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: 21 November 2023 14:56

To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: Draft follow up briefing for the Minister on option 3

Hi all, I have drafted the follow up briefing that the Minister **REDACTED s.27(1)**. Happy for your comments and I will finalise and send up asap.

REDACTED s.30(b)(i)

Just let me know when or if you update it.

I have also added a link to the note we have drafted too. **REDACTED s.30(b)(i)**

Best wishes, **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

| Unit Head, Building Safer Communities | Safer Communities Division | Safer Communities Directorate | DG: Education and Justice | **Scottish Government**
1W St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

From REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Monday, November 27, 2023 5:11 PM

To REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: RE: Niddrie

Hi all,

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

and I spoke with **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**
of CEC **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** this afternoon:

- **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** works on community safety policy for CEC.
- He noted that a fireworks summit is going to take place, date TBC but the next pre-meeting about the summit will take place involving Cllr Day and CEC officials next week. Note this is currently billed as a fireworks summit, not an ASB summit.
- FCZ plans being worked through by officials. Current working assumption is that there will be appetite to explore at least one FCZ, in the Niddrie area, for next year. No discussions taken place with PS thus far about this idea, the whole topic of FCZs in Edinburgh is to be brought to a working group currently in the process of being formed.
- CEC officials aware of the limitations of FCZs and of the variety of criminality carried out during the Bonfire Night period. For this reason he'd be happy to discuss further the Council's broader approach. We made the suggestion that a follow-up meeting could take place to that end – would that be something people would still be interested in?
- We will in any event check in with **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** on the FCZ specifics in the next few weeks once the working group is underway – the expectation is it will meet before Christmas.

Thanks

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Building Safer Communities
Directorate for Safer Communities

Scottish Government

1W
St Andrew's House
Regent Road
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

From **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Sent: 17 November 2023 13:22

To **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Subject: RE: Niddrie

Hi there.

I've held off on this I was expecting from further feedback from Police Scotland on the Niddrie summit that Edinburgh City Council were hoping to put together.

BSC team are in a strong position to support some kind of local led preventative solution via Cashback funded youth work and Fearless. (Fearless ran a campaign in Kirkton this year). Outside of Justice there may also be some interest in finding a place-based solution. I ran into **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**(DG Communities) last week and she was going to try and join the dots for us. (note: **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**)

We have several interested parties who could help find a solution. However, it feels like ECC are the lead agency on this. It would be good to understand what is in train already before we any further action.

Regards
REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 12:54 PM
To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: RE: Niddrie

Hi **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** welcome back! I hope you had a good week. I have not followed up on this yet. Happy for you to do so. Minister meeting likely to be on Wed by the way. Best wishes, **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)
| Unit Head, Building Safer Communities | Safer Communities Divison | Safer Communities Directorate | DG: Education and Justice | **Scottish Government**
1W St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 12:25 PM
To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: RE: Niddrie

Hi both,

Would it be helpful for me to follow-up on this? Or is work already in hand?

Thanks!

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)
Building Safer Communities
Directorate for Safer Communities

Scottish Government
1W

St Andrew's House
Regent Road
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

From REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: 09 November 2023 14:12

To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: FW: Niddrie

FYI

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Unit Head, Building Safer Communities | Safer Communities Division | Safer Communities Directorate | DG: Education and Justice | **Scottish Government**
1W St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 1:50 PM

To REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: Niddrie

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

For awareness, in SVRU Governance Board meeting yesterday, SVRU indicated they were planning on focused activity in Niddrie on back of the weekend. We reflected that there would be merit in the team making the connection with your team in that context. **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** will be able to help facilitate that.

Mo Rooney
Deputy Director, Safer Communities Division
Scottish Government

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

I am contactable by email, on my mobile, and on Teams.
Hello all.

Please find attached feedback from Crimestoppers on their element of the fireworks campaign. Good evidence provided on campaign reach on social and traditional media.

Perhaps most important is the intelligence provided (please treat as confidential) about what was potentially going to take place in Niddrie. This intelligence led to police having public order specialists on standby to manage serious planned disorder.

If this intelligence had not been provided, we could have been dealing with more serious injuries to emergency personnel and damage to property. This is a really strong example of the value Crimestoppers bring to the portfolio around prevention.

Regards

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 5:50 PM

To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: Crimestoppers and Fearless Fireworks Impact Reports 2023

Hello **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Please see below a link where you can download the impact reports for the 2023 Crimestoppers and Fearless Fireworks misuse campaigns.

If you need anything further from Crimestoppers let me know. **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

can cover off anything from the Fearless campaign.

Kind regards

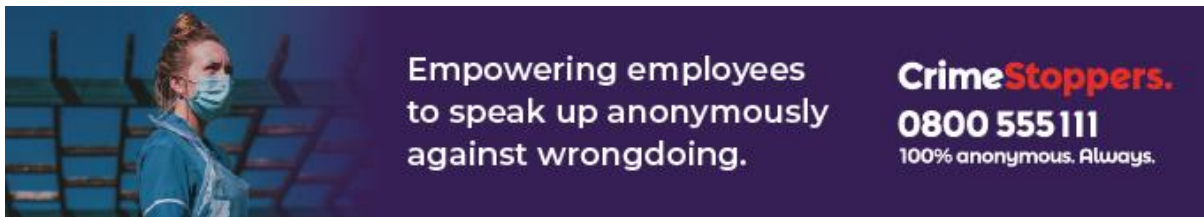
REDACTED s.38(1)(b) National Manager - Scotland

Crimestoppers Trust, PO Box 324, Wallington, SM6 6BG

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

W: www.crimestoppers-uk.org | Switchboard: 020 8835 3700

CrimeStoppers.



X: [@crimestoppersuk](https://twitter.com/crimestoppersuk) | **Facebook:** [@crimestoppers](https://www.facebook.com/crimestoppers) | **YouTube:** [@crimestoppersuk](https://www.youtube.com/crimestoppersuk) | **LinkedIn:** [@crimestoppersuk](https://www.linkedin.com/company/crimestoppersuk)

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From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b) On Behalf Of Director of Safer Communities
Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 2:53 PM
To: Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Home Affairs <CabSecJHA@gov.scot>
Cc: Director of Safer Communities <DirectorofSaferCommunities@gov.scot>; REDACTED s.38(1)(b)
Subject: RE: SCANCE COMMISSION FOR 14 NOVEMBER 2023 - cleared contributions requested by 1pm on Monday, 13 November 2023

Hi REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

One suggested item from Safer Communities below:

| Name of Directorate (e.g. Safer Communities) | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------|---|
| Suggested SCANCE item | What it will cover | Part 1 or Part 2 of SCANCE? | Lead official who will provide draft if agreed by Cab Sec |
| Bonfire Night arrests | Update on arrests made by Police Scotland following Bonfire Night disorder. Currently only 8 arrests. Police Scotland are due to provide an update on numbers of arrests and charges on 10 th Nov | Part 2 – to note only | REDACTED s.38(1)(b) |

Kind regards, REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Assistant Business Manager | Directors Office | Safer Communities Directorate | Scottish Government

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

> **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Home Affairs

Sent: 08 November 2023 09:10

To: Director of Justice <DirectorofJustice@gov.scot>; Director of Safer Communities <DirectorofSaferCommunities@gov.scot>; Director for Equality, Inclusion and Human Rights <DirectorforEIHR@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Home Affairs <CabSecJHA@gov.scot>; Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; Communications Justice and Home Affairs <CommunicationsJusticeAndHomeAffairs@gov.scot>;

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: FW: SCANCE COMMISSION FOR 14 NOVEMBER 2023 - cleared contributions requested by 1pm on Monday, 13 November 2023

Importance: High

Business Managers

Please see email below from Cabinet Secretariat regarding next week’s SCANCE.

Ms Constance would welcome suggested items from each Directorate for her consideration. Please send responses – **including nil returns** – by **4.00pm tomorrow** (Thursday). In considering suggestions, please refer to the attached SCANCE guidance, and complete the table below. All returns (nil or otherwise) should be cleared by **relevant Deputy Directors**.

| Name of Directorate (e.g. Safer Communities) | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| Suggested SCANCE item | What it will cover | Part 1 or Part 2 of SCANCE? | Lead official who will provide draft if agreed by Cab Sec |
| <i>Title of SCANCE item</i> | <i>Please include a sentence or two on what the SCANCE note will cover and why a SCANCE note is being suggested</i> | <i>Part 1 of SCANCE will require speaking note and for more significant items. Part 2 items will be “taken as read” and no speaking note is required.</i> | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

All SCANCE suggestions from across the Portfolio will be put to Cab Sec for her to agree/select those she wishes to proceed with. Only after that will private office commission a draft SCANCE note from Business Managers/lead officials.

Please refer to the “tips” below when preparing SCANCE.

Happy to discuss.

Thanks,

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Deputy Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs – Angela Constance MSP

Scottish Government | 1W.11, St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG |

Tel: **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** | Email: CabSecJHA@gov.scot

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Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

SCANCE CONTRIBUTION

Cleared contributions must be sent to Cabinet Secretariat by Private Office by 1 p.m. on Mondays, (unless an extension has been agreed). Private Office will have its own deadline ahead of this.

ACTION FOR PRIVATE OFFICE

MPO should indicate if this SCANCE note is to be included in (check relevant box):

Part 1 of the SCANCE paper

(This is for notes that your Minister wants to talk to in Cabinet and feels may need some discussion. This should be reserved for the most pressing, high-profile issues.)

Part 2 of the SCANCE paper

(This is for items to be noted by Cabinet and taken as read without any discussion. Ministers will not be invited to speak to these items in Cabinet.)

TOPIC HEADING: BONFIRE NIGHT 2023 – UPDATE ON ARREST NUMBERS

MINISTER: CABINET SECRETARY FOR JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

Written Note

(The text in the box below will be included in the SCANCE paper which will issue to Ministers the day before Cabinet meets)

Send to your Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretariat Inbox

Bonfire Night typically sees a marked rise in anti-social behaviour and associated criminality in Scotland and to address this a range of measures have been put in place. Operation Moonbeam is the multi-agency response to the Bonfire Night period in Scotland.

The Minister for Victims and Community Safety visited the Multi-Agency Control Centre for Operation Moonbeam on 5 November 2023. This was the latest in a series of Ministerial engagements with emergency services leading up to Bonfire Night. During her visit the Minister obtained assurance about the preparations for responding to disorder and expressed support for emergency service personnel engaged in active operations.

Initial analysis suggests no overall rise in recorded fireworks offences, compared to 2022. However, there were serious localised incidents in Edinburgh (Niddrie), Dundee (Kirkton) and Glasgow (Barmulloch) on Sunday 5th November that required a specialist police response.

Police Scotland made an operational decision not to pursue an active arrest strategy during the peak of the disturbances to protect public protection officers, emergency service personnel and the public. Instead police deployed intelligence gathering on the 5th of November and have been analysing evidence in preparation to make further arrests.

As of 10th November arrest and charge numbers were as follows:

Total number of arrests made is 9, with 3 resulting charges. Arrests and charges are centred on E Division (Edinburgh) with a total of 5 in this area. The remaining 4 arrests are split across 4 other divisions including Dundee and Glasgow. To date there are 6 recorded offence aggravations under new Fireworks and Pyrotechnics Articles (Scotland) Act 2022 legislation.

Injuries to Police Personnel

The total number of injuries to police personnel is 35. 28 E Division (Edinburgh) and 7 G Division (Glasgow). These vary from minor burns to being struck with items/fireworks. 16 officers have suffered ringing in their ears, 2 of which are still being assessed for the severity of damage. 4 officers are currently absent as a result of injuries sustained. Police Scotland are managing this in accordance with current guidelines/procedures.

Police Scotland and partners are already undertaking debriefing and analysis, to identify how preparations can be even better and more robust next year, and we will be engaging with them to learn any lessons that need to be addressed.

Speaking Note

(The text in the box below is for the Minister to use to introduce the item or respond to any questions about the item at Cabinet. It should provide additional detail from the written note)

A copy of this should be sent to Cabinet Secretariat when complete

Send to your Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretariat Inbox

Part 2 only – no speaking note.

Links to further information (if applicable)

FMQ brief: 'Building Safer Communities - Fireworks - FMQ Brief and QandA' -
<https://erdm.scotland.gov.uk/documents/A41890914/details>

Name of Official: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Extension Number: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Sunday, November 12, 2023 1:17 PM

To REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: FOR CLEARANCE - SCANCE Update on Bonfire Night arrests and injuries to police personnel

Hello there.

Apologies I ran out of time on this on Friday due to the **OUT OF SCOPE** Please now find attached draft SCANCE (pt.2 only) updating on Bonfire Night arrests and injuries to police personnel.

Can you please clear and send onwards.

Building Safer Communities - Bonfire Night SCANCE- update on arrest numbers - 10 November 2023 details - Objective ECM (scotland.gov.uk)

I've requested some further information on October (i.e., Halloween) fireworks arrests from **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** Police Scotland to support the PQ. **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** if you could follow up on this on Monday it would be much appreciated.

Thanks

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

| Team Leader, Building Safer Communities | Safer Communities Divison | Safer Communities Directorate | DG: Education and Justice | **Scottish Government**
1W St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b) On Behalf Of Director of Safer Communities
Sent: Monday, November 13, 2023 9:00 AM
To: Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Home Affairs <CabSecJHA@gov.scot>
Cc: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)
Director of Safer Communities <DirectorofSaferCommunities@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: SCANCE COMMISSION FOR 14 NOVEMBER 2023 - cleared contributions requested by 1pm on Monday, 13 November 2023

Morning REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Apologies for not getting this to you on Friday. Please see draft note attached.

Kind regards,

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Assistant Business Manager | Directors Office | Safer Communities Directorate | Scottish Government

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Home Affairs

Sent: 09 November 2023 17:26

To: Director of Safer Communities <DirectorofSaferCommunities@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Home Affairs <CabSecJHA@gov.scot>

Cc: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: RE: SCANCE COMMISSION FOR 14 NOVEMBER 2023 - cleared contributions requested by 1pm on Monday, 13 November 2023

Thanks REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

. Cab Sec is content with this SCANCE suggestion.

I'd be grateful for a draft note by COP tomorrow (Friday) please.

Thanks,

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)- Deputy Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs – Angela Constance MSP

Scottish Government | 1W.11, St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG |
Tel: 0131 244 3117 | Mob: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)- | Email: CabSecJHA@gov.scot

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Angela Constance MSP
Bonfire Night disorder

GMS
07Nov23
07m02

Presenter

Angela Constance is Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs. Good morning to you. Thank you for joining us.

Angela Constance

Good morning, thank you for the invitation.

Presenter

And do you have any update on arrests? We heard that one had been made on Sunday night in Edinburgh. Have there been any further arrests since these incidents?

Angela Constance

So Police Scotland confirmed last night that nine emergency workers had been injured and that 21 crimes had been committed. It's really important to stress, Laura, that investigations are ongoing and while our police service and emergency services did a splendid job in responding to a very disruptive and, indeed, serious situation and need to be commended for that, they, of course, are now focused on continuing to gather intelligence. That intelligence gathering began in the lead up to bonfire season. And it is imperative that we send a message to the public that if they have information available about people who are responsible and in particular those adults who have been organising young people to attack our emergency services, that it's crucial that they come forward with that information.

Presenter

What do you think is behind these riots? Because they are riots. People don't just head out and chuck petrol bombs at the police for no reason.

Angela Constance

So there are many and varied reasons, somewhat complex. We do, of course, know that the vast, vast majority of our young people are law abiding and are a credit to their families, their schools and their communities. There are, of course, some young people who can be disengaged from society or, indeed, vulnerable and therefore at risk of exploitation from adults and from – **[CROSSTALK]**

Presenter

The former Children's Commissioner, Tam Baillie, was on the program about an hour ago. He says cuts to youth services in deprived areas are a driver for this sort of anti-social behaviour.

Angela Constance

Well, I would dispute that, Laura, but the point that Mr Baillie makes about prevention is an important one and this government continues to invest in preventative services, whether that's through the cashback programme that supports over 33,000 young people, whether it's the violence reduction framework where there is investment of £2 million. But the point that Mr Baillie made about yes, you know, there is that emergency response to incidents of serious disorder and it's important that the law is enforced and, indeed, our laws are enforced. But there is a broader issue about – **[CROSSTALK]**

Presenter

Well, that's a point I was just going to ask you about, about the enforcement of the law, because we spoke to the British Fireworks Association yesterday on the program and they say that the average fine handed down for the misuse of fireworks is £147. I wonder what you'd like to see happen to any of the young people who are caught who were involved in this.

Angela Constance

Well, of course, it will be for the courts to decide and the prosecutors to decide what action is taken against individual young people. That is not, and should not, be for politicians.

Presenter

The First Minister has said that they should feel the full force of the law.

Angela Constance

Yes, yes they should.

Presenter

Yet the Scottish Government has given courts sentencing guidelines which suggest that under 25s shouldn't be sent to prison.

Angela Constance

And the Scottish Government has also supported our court system to be robust where they consider that most appropriate. We should remember that as well as, you know, fireworks and pyrotechnics legislation which can indeed carry a sentence, a custodial sentence, as well as hefty fines, we do have common law offences for assault and breach of the peace where the penalties are unlimited either in terms of fines or indeed imprisonment and people can receive very lengthy prison sentences and, indeed, up to life under common law – **[CROSSTALK]**

Presenter

But if sentencing guidelines... but if sentencing guidelines suggest that people under the age of 25 shouldn't be imprisoned, that they should undergo rehabilitation, in the case of most of these incidents the people involved won't receive any sort of major punishment. Is that right?

Angela Constance

Well, it's important to accurately reflect what the sentencing guidelines for young people actually say. Yes, it has a focus on rehabilitation and evidence led sentencing in terms of what, at the end of the day, has most prospects of working to make our communities safe but it also very clearly mentions punishment and imprisonment. So these matters are up to the courts. The guidelines are there for guidance to sentencers but it's important that we accurately reflect what the sentencing guidelines actually say.

Presenter

The Scottish Police Federation are suggesting that officer numbers in Scotland will fall below 16,000 by April next year. I wonder how you expect Police Scotland to deal with being fired on by fireworks and petrol bombs if they actually have fewer officers?

Angela Constance

Well, that's not analysis that I'm privy to or, indeed, have received so I would question any analysis or suggestion that suggests that police numbers would fall below 16,000. In recent times, police numbers have been stable.

Presenter

Police Scotland's own projection puts figures at about 16,200 but it's still far short of the 17,234 which the SNP promised would be the minimum strength of officers on the streets.

Angela Constance

Well, for several years now the police numbers is a matter that should be decided by the Chief Constable. Now, I know that obviously the overall budget available to Police Scotland will have a bearing on how they deploy their resources and the number of officers that they recruit. And it is important that we don't get into too much speculation in advance of this side of the budget being either published or, indeed, agreed by parliament.

Presenter

Okay. Very, very briefly, just a yes or no answer. Cammy Day, the leader of Edinburgh City Council said he would be in favour of a ban on the sale of fireworks. Would you support him in that? Yes or no?

Angela Constance

I'm open minded about it. Open to discussion. Open to discussion about – and it's not within our powers for an outright ban, but open to discussion.

Presenter

Angela Constance, Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs, thank you very much indeed.

[END]

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 9:19 AM

To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: Cab Sec transcript - GMS

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Transcript of Cab Sec's GMS interview attached.

Thanks, **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Communications Team Leader
Justice and Home Affairs
Scottish Government

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

[@ScotGovJustice](#) | [gov.scot](#) | [@scotgov](#)

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 7:34 AM

To: Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Home Affairs <CabSecJHA@gov.scot>

cc: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

>; Communications Justice and Home Affairs <CommunicationsJusticeAndHomeAffairs@gov.scot>;

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>;

Subject: FW: Running Issues note

Good morning

Here are the latest headlines and lines issued overnight.

Please let me know if you require anything further.

Kind regards

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

GMS 0700

Kings Speech to include measures to increase oil and gas licences

Israel won't agree to a ceasefire until hostages released

Perfect storm of financial pressures affects culture sector

Russia destroyed Ukrainian drones

Post Office to allow delivery companies other than Royal Mail

BBC Scotland website 0700

Bonfire Night violence was organised, say police

Parents criticise 'lifeline' Auchinleck leisure centre closure

1. **Train drivers wanted for 'Harry Potter rail route'**

STV News website 0700

Police petrol-bombed in disgusting Bonfire Night violence

Perfect storm of financial pressures facing culture sector

Paramedics brace for winter pressure on ambulance service

NEWSPAPER FRONT PAGES

Scotland's papers: Fears over police cuts and 'Green King's' speech - BBC News

Scotsman – Police cuts damaging bond with community

Daily Record – Sheriff porn and racism scandal

Daily Mail – Poppy Seller punched by protesters

The Times – Driverless buses on the roads by 2030

Rioters emboldened by weak justice system

Edinburgh News – Night of Mayhem

REPORTING SCOTLAND 07:25 TUESDAY

King Charles will make his first King's Speech at Parliament which will include oil and gas licences and a Minimum Services Act.

Roadworks to start on Rest and Be Thankful road next week

MV Alfred to remain on Western Isles routes for another six months

Perfect storm of financial pressures facing culture sector

REPORTING SCOTLAND 22:30 MONDAY

Police say youth violence orchestrated by adults
Sheriff convicted of using sexist and racist terminology

LINES ISSUED OVERNIGHT

QUERY (DAILY MAIL)

The Daily Mail is covering a story about how a veteran who was selling poppies for Poppyscotland had to leave Waverley Station when pro-Palestinian protestors staged a sit-in protest on Saturday. Given the First Minister's position and the fact his family was in Gaza, I just wondered if it would be possible to get comment from the First Minister or Scottish Government about his views on the protest and the fact that this veteran had to leave the station?

LINE TO TAKE

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

“We support Police Scotland’s approach to all protests and counter protests to ensure they are conducted safely and peacefully for everyone.”

QUERY (BBC)

UK Gov will on Tuesday introduce the Strikes Act to provide Minimum Service levels for Border workers, ambulance and rail workers.

LINE TO TAKE

Neil Gray, Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy, said:

“Ministers strongly oppose any Act that undermines legitimate trade union activity and does not respect fair work principles. This is another appalling piece of anti-trade union, anti-worker legislation from Westminster that will harm, not improve industrial relations.

“It is our long-standing position that a progressive approach to industrial relations along with greater – not fewer – protections for workers is at the heart of a fairer, more successful society and prosperous economy. The UK Government’s introduction of the Minimum Service Levels Act is in direct contradiction to that, ignores the devolution settlement and fails to recognise the authority of the Scottish Government in devolved areas.

So we will continue to do all we can to oppose this legislation and will not co-operate with establishing any minimum service orders here.”

QUERY (STV, BBC, HERALD)

The 'perfect storm' of financial pressures facing Scotland's culture sector "has not abated" over the last year, according to a new report from Scottish Parliament's Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee.

LINE TO TAKE

A Scottish Government spokesperson said: "The Scottish Government investment in arts and culture will increase, so that in five years our investment will be £100 million higher than it is now.

"However due to the cost crisis we have had to make difficult choices to live within our largely fixed budgets. Our ability to respond to the cost crisis is limited by the inactivity of the UK Government and the financial restrictions of devolution.

"We will continue to do everything within our powers and resources to help those in the culture sector most affected by current economic challenges."

QUERY (EXPRESS)

Pancreatic Cancer UK release below which features a Fife supporting their "Don't Write Me Off" campaign calling on all governments across the UK to fund a new, faster and fairer pathways.

LINE TO TAKE

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

"We are determined to improve cancer survival rates and have funded over £650,000 to the Scottish HPB Network to develop the Pancreatic Cancer Pathway Improvement Project, which is live across all health boards.

"By continuing to invest in cancer diagnostics and waiting times we are striving to detect cancer earlier and faster. We are optimising cancer diagnostic pathways and activating additional Rapid Cancer Diagnostic Services and would encourage anyone with unusual or persistent symptoms to contact their GP."

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

News | Senior Media Manager

Constitution, External Affairs and Culture Communications

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Mobile **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** | Portfolio Media inquiries: 0300 244 9029

From REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 6:12 PM

To: **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**>; Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Home Affairs

<CabSecJHA@gov.scot>; Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>

cc: **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

News Desk <Newsdesk@gov.scot>; Communications Justice and Home Affairs <CommunicationsJusticeAndHomeAffairs@gov.scot>; **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**
Subject: RE: BID - Firework disturbances -GMS

Copying in **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**
on duty

Thanks, **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

From: **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**
Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 4:39 PM
To: Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Home Affairs <CabSecJHA@gov.scot>; Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>
cc **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**
News Desk <Newsdesk@gov.scot>; Communications Justice and Home Affairs <CommunicationsJusticeAndHomeAffairs@gov.scot>; **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**
Subject: BID - Firework disturbances -GMS

PO/Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Home Affairs
Minister for Victims & Community Safety

We have received a bid for Ms Constance to appear on GMS tomorrow to talk about firework disturbances. They are aware this is Ms Brown's portfolio but they are keen for CabSec as they wish to discuss wider justice issues relating to the public disorder on display and the use of weapons, including petrol bombs.

Details of the bid with a SpAds recommendation are below. Grateful if Ms Constance and Ms Brown could consider and advise who may be best placed to do this bid, if minded.

Many thanks
REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

| WHO | OUTLET | TIME | LIVE/PRE-REC | INTERVIEWER | TOPICS |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|-----------------|-------------|--|
| Ms Constance/Ms Brown | GMS | 08:10 | LIVE (FaceTime) | TBC | Fireworks disturbances/public disorder |

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)
Senior Media Manager
Justice and Home Affairs
Desk: 0131 244 2718; **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**
Scottish Government | [news.gov.scot](https://www.news.gov.scot)

Hi REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Ms Brown is content with the recommendation to decline this bid.

Thanks,

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Private Secretary to Minister for Victims and Community Safety, Siobhian Brown
The Scottish Government | 1W.11, St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
T: +44(0)131 244 4579 | Ext: 44579 | M: REDACTED s.38(1)(b) E: ministerVCS@gov.scot

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From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: 06 November 2023 16:47

To: Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>

Cc REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

News Desk <Newsdesk@gov.scot>; Communications Justice and Home Affairs <CommunicationsJusticeAndHomeAffairs@gov.scot>; <REDACTED s.38(1)(b)> Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Home Affairs <CabSecJHA@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: BID - Firework disturbances -GMS

PO/Minister for Victims & Community Safety

We have received a bid from STV Scotland Tonight for Ms Brown to talk on their panel discussion about fireworks disturbances.

Details of the bid are below, with a comms and SpAds recommendation.

Grateful if the Minister could advise if she is content with this approach.

Many thanks

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

| WHO | OUTLET | TIME | LIVE/PRE-REC | INTERVIEWER | TOPICS | Recommendation | Ot |
|----------|----------------------|------|--------------|-------------|------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Ms Brown | STV Scotland Tonight | 9pm | Pre-rec | TBC | Fireworks disturbances | decline | Would be in person in ST |

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Senior Media Manager

Justice and Home Affairs

Desk: 0131 244 2718 **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Scottish Government | [news.gov.scot](https://www.news.gov.scot)

Hi **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Please see the meeting details for The Nine bid at 5:45pm. They have asked if the Minister could join a few minutes early and have a bright background if possible. The clip, which will last about four minutes, will go out around 9:04pm.

Many thanks

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Senior Media Manager

Justice and Home Affairs

Desk: 0131 244 2718; **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Scottish Government | [news.gov.scot](https://www.news.gov.scot)

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 2:00 PM

To: Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>

cc: **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

News Desk <Newsdesk@gov.scot>; Communications Justice and Home Affairs

<CommunicationsJusticeAndHomeAffairs@gov.scot>; **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Home Affairs <CabSecJHA@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: BID - Bonfire incidents - BBC The Nine

Hi **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

The Nine have confirmed the bid for 5:45pm with Ms Brown. This will be done on Zoom (joining details to follow) and the interviewer will be Laura MacIver.

Many thanks

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Senior Media Manager

Justice and Home Affairs

Desk: 0131 244 2718; **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Scottish Government | [news.gov.scot](https://www.news.gov.scot)

From REDACTED s.38(1)(b) > On Behalf Of Minister for Victims & Community Safety

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 10:56 AM

To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)>; Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>
Cc: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)
News Desk <Newsdesk@gov.scot>; Communications Justice and Home Affairs
<CommunicationsJusticeAndHomeAffairs@gov.scot>; REDACTED s.38(1)(b)
>; Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Home Affairs <CabSecJHA@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: BID - Bonfire incidents - BBC Radio Scotland

Hi REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Ms Brown is available at 17:45 to do this bid. Assume that would therefore be a pre-record via zoom?

Thanks,

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)
Sent: 06 November 2023 10:50
To: Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>
Cc: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)
News Desk <Newsdesk@gov.scot>; Communications Justice and Home Affairs
<CommunicationsJusticeAndHomeAffairs@gov.scot>; REDACTED s.38(1)(b)
Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Home Affairs <CabSecJHA@gov.scot>
Subject: BID - Bonfire incidents - BBC Radio Scotland

PO/Minister for Victims & Community Safety

We have received a third bid for the Minister to speak today about last night's firework disturbances and firework safety more generally. Details of the bids are below with a comms and SpAd recommendation.

Grateful if the Minister could advise if she content with the approach.

Many thanks

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

| WHO | OUTLET | TIME | LIVE/PRE-REC | INTERVIEWER | TOPICS | Recommendation | Other details (if required) |
|----------|--------------|---|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Ms Brown | BBC The Nine | 9pm in Glasgow studio OR 6-7pm in person in | LIVE or pre-rec | TBC | Fireworks disturbances/safety | Accept | |

| | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | Glasgow or via Skype/Zoo m. The earliest they could do the interview would be 5:45. | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)
Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 2:35 PM
To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)
Subject: RE: REDACTED UNDER section 34(1)- lines

Hi REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Re your email to REDACTED s.38(1)(b) below.

It is no surprise that organised criminals seek to use young people in any anti-social activity. It is unlikely that the activity in Niddrie can be viewed through a SOC lens unless it was used as a distraction to tie up police resources. **REDACTED UNDER section 34(1)**

It became evident during the pandemic that more young people were becoming involved in serious organised crime and as a consequence, Scotland's Serious Organised Crime Taskforce (SOCT) initiated a piece of work on the criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults. This work continues but the first output delivered was the publication by SG of guidance on criminal exploitation in June on behalf of the SOCT. The guidance for front-line practitioners aims to support a shared understanding of criminal exploitation and to help professionals identify those at risk from serious organised crime and put in place appropriate mitigation measures. The guidance will be made available to all front-line workers – including in social work, policing, the NHS, education settings and the third-sector – who come into regular contact with children and vulnerable adults. A sub-group of the SOCT is considering how best to reinforce the guidance and develop resources for practitioners.

I hope this is helpful but let me know if you need anything else.

Regards.

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)
Organised Crime Unit | Scottish Government | 1WR St Andrews House | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

I am working from home. If you need to speak to me urgently please contact me on the mobile.

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 2:13 PM

To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Cc: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: RE: REDACTED UNDER section 34(1)

- lines

Hi **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Thanks for flagging this. I'll get back to you with some child protection lines. I'm copying to **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)** in Organised Crime Unit as they may want to add something.

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 1:51 PM

To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Cc: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: Child Criminal Exploitation - lines

Hello there.

Do you have any lines you could share with us on **REDACTED UNDER section 34(1)**?

We are managing the fall out from last night's anti-social behaviour in Niddrie and Police Scotland **REDACTED UNDER section 34(1)**. The context is that police are aware of organised crime in the area. **REDACTED UNDER section 34(1)**

Anything you can share on **REDACTED UNDER section 34(1)** would be helpful to support the Minister with potential media or parliamentary questions.

Can we ask for a swift response as there are further media interviews planned for late this afternoon.

Thanks

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

| Team Leader, Building Safer Communities | Safer Communities Divison | Safer Communities Directorate | DG: Education and Justice | **Scottish Government**
1W St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 3:47 PM

To REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

cc: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

News Desk <Newsdesk@gov.scot>; Communications Justice and Home Affairs

<CommunicationsJusticeAndHomeAffairs@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: BIDS - Firework disturbances -GMS, Scotland Tonight

OK for GMS to go to Ms Constance. Happy to decline Scotland Tonight but can we make clear that they should use the Minister's interview from earlier.

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 3:57 PM

To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

cc: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

<Newsdesk@gov.scot>; Communications Justice and Home Affairs

<CommunicationsJusticeAndHomeAffairs@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: BIDS - Firework disturbances -GMS, Scotland Tonight

can you send GMS to both ministers please, as Ms Brown will have done three she may be best placed for GMS but she has committee and Cab sec has cabinet so travel may be issue for timing

content to decline the other

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 3:43 PM

To REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

<Newsdesk@gov.scot>; Communications Justice and Home Affairs

<CommunicationsJusticeAndHomeAffairs@gov.scot>

Subject: BIDS - Firework disturbances -GMS, Scotland Tonight

SpAds

We have received two further bids on fireworks:

- GMS have asked for Ms Constance to be on tomorrow's programme. They are aware fireworks is for Ms Brown but they say they are keen for CabSec as they wish to address wider justice issues of public disorder and criminality, given some of the scenes that were seen on Sunday (use of petrol bombs etc). Grateful for your views on this.
- STV have also bid for Ms Brown to take part in a panel discussion on fireworks on Scotland Tonight. This would be a pre-record around 9pm and would be in their studio in Edinburgh or Glasgow. Given Ms Brown has already done a bid for STV on this today, are you content to recommend decline for this?

Thanks

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Senior Media Manager

Justice and Home Affairs

Desk **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Scottish Government | news.gov.scot

From REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 2:21 PM

To REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: Lines on addressing or tackling organised crime - Niddrie bonfire night incidents

Hi, we are briefing the Minister for Victims and Community Safety today for media bids in relation to the Niddrie bonfire night disruption. Do you have any up to date briefing lines that we can use on our work to address organised crime – the police are suggesting that the disorder was organised and that adults were exploiting young people to attack the police.

Best wishes, **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

| Unit Head, Building Safer Communities | Safer Communities Division | Safer Communities Directorate | DG: Education and Justice | **Scottish Government**
1W St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 11:45 AM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Home Affairs <CabSecJHA@gov.scot>; Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; Director of Safer Communities <DirectorofSaferCommunities@gov.scot>; SGoRR Information <SGoRRInformation@gov.scot>

cc: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: Incident report from Operation Moonbeam Gold Command 5th November.

**FIRST MINISTER, CABINET SECRETARY FOR JUSTICE & HOME AFFAIRS,
MINISTER FOR VICTIMS & COMMUNITY SAFETY**

Please find below incidents reports provided from our partners at Police Scotland, Scottish Ambulance Service & Scottish Fire and Rescue Service at 11:00 on 6th November. This information covers disruption over the evening of 5th November through to 07:00 on 6th November. Please note we are also providing up to date briefing for the media bids.

The Minister for Victims & Community Safety is asked to note the below information.

1. POLICE SCOTLAND

The table below shows the breakdown of all calls tagged with 'Fireworks' and 'Moonbeam' on STORM between **0700 hours Sunday 05/11/23 – 0700 hours Monday 06/11/23**.

It also shows injuries sustained to members of the public, emergency services and police officers.

| Division | No. of 'Fireworks' calls | No of 'Moonbeam' calls | No. injured members of public | No. injured Emergency Services | No. injured Police Officers | No. of Public Order Tactics deployed |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| North East Police | 20 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Forth Valley Police | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Tayside Police | 19 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Edinburgh police | 112 | 10 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Greater Glasgow Police | 171 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Scottish Borders Police | 34 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Renfrewshire & Inverclyde Police | 24 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Argyll & Bute & West Dunbartonshire | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Highland & Island Police | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fife Police | 18 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lanarkshire Police | 61 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ayrshire | 27 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dumfries & Galloway | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 518 | 26 | 5 | 9 | 0 | 0 |

Table 2

The 2nd table shows the breakdown of all: arrests; charges; offence aggravations under new Fireworks and Pyrotechnics Articles (Scotland) Act 2022 legislation; action taken under dispersal orders and proactive powers between **0700 hours Sunday 05/11/23 – 0700 hours Monday 06/11/23**.

| Division | No. of arrests | No. of charges | No. of offence aggravations under new Fireworks and Pyrotechnics Articles (Scotland) Act 2022 legislation | No' of dispersals using powers under Dispersal Orders | No. of arrests for Dispersal Orders offences | Proactive powers used |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---|---|--|-----------------------|
| North East Police | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Forth Valley Police | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Tayside Police | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Edinburgh police | 1 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 14 |
| Greater Glasgow Police | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Scottish Borders Police | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Renfrewshire & Inverclyde Police | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Argyll & Bute & West Dunbartonshire | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Highland & Island Police | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fife Police | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lanarkshire Police | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ayrshire | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dumfries & Galloway | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 2 | 2 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 14 |

Arrests subject to change as full review of incidents still to be carried out

Dispersal Orders between 0700 hours Saturday 04/11/23 – 0700 hours Sunday 05/11/23

There were 13 dispersal notices served in E division and 14 searches in relation to S60 Criminal Justice and Public order act 1994.

Crimes and incidents related to Fireworks/Moonbeam between 0700 hours Sunday 05/11/23 – 0700 hours Monday 06/11/23:

There have been 21 crimes recorded within the time period, significant updates below.

*There may be other crimes that will be raised as a result of investigations so this figure could increase. Majority of crimes recorded are under culpable and reckless conduct, however, after investigation offences may be recorded under the new

Fireworks and Pyrotechnics legislation.*

REDACTED UNDER section 34(1)

2. SCOTTISH FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Reporting period 1530 hours to 0000 hours, Sunday 5th Nov 2023.

- No significant incidents of note;
- No strategic issues outstanding;
- Incident activity within the capabilities of SFRS resources;
- 9 acts of violence encountered;
- 563 incidents attended with 355 confirmed as related to bonfire activity.

3. SCOTTISH AMBULANCE SERVICE

- There were no concerns/issues raised by SAS.

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Building Safer Communities | Safer Communities Division | Safer Communities
Directorate | DG: Education and Justice | **Scottish Government**
1W St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
T: 0141 242 5639 (Ext:25639)



From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 10:55 AM

To: ACC Local Policing East <ACCLocalPolicingEast@scotland.police.uk **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Subject: RE: Moonbeam Return [OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good Morning

Please see attached.

Any issues/queries please contact me on one of the following numbers;

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Regards

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

From REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 6:52 AM

To: Minister for Victims & Community Safety <MinisterVCS@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>

Cc: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: RE: Bonfire Weekend: Awareness for Comms - Niddrie Disruption 5th November

Ms Brown's PO

Adding Mr Gray's PO for additional awareness

Adding Cab Sec's PO to this briefing from officials on the trouble in Niddrie, Edinburgh, that occurred last night, ahead of Mr Gray's bid with GMS shortly.

Attaching the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service position and a first person piece prepared for the Victims and Community Safety Minister. The below also sets out FMQs on anti-social behaviour and violence reduction.

Thanks

REDACTED s.38(1)(b) Duty Comms

REDACTED s.38(1)(b) Senior Media Manager DFM and Finance / Mobile: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)-

From: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 1:02 AM

To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Cc: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Subject: Approved Police Scotland News Article

Hi folks,

Below is our approved release, which I will be sending out shortly.

Many thanks,

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Corporate Communications Executive Lead

Corporate Communications

Police Scotland

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

CorpCommunicationsAccountManagement@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Police Scotland has faced unprecedented levels of violence while protecting communities from Bonfire Night disorder.

While initial analysis suggests no rise in recorded fireworks offences, compared to last year, throughout Sunday, 5 November, 2023, there were a number of serious disturbances that required a specialist police response across the country.

In Edinburgh, officers received reports from concerned members of the public at around 4.40pm in relation to a large group of both adults and young people gathering in the Hay Avenue area of Edinburgh,

Approximately 50 youths within this group were responsible for directing fireworks at vehicles and buildings with members of the public inside and escalated their behaviour when police arrived, attacking both uniformed and Public Order Officers with fireworks, petrol bombs and other projectiles.

Detectives investigating the attacks on officers within Niddrie are actively pursuing a number of individuals, who they believe were providing local youths with fireworks and petrol bombs to target police. Inquiries into this matter are continuing.

In Dundee, two police vehicles, that were out to provide a visible presence to the local community, were damaged after being struck by bricks in the Beaully Square area at 6.55pm.

In Glasgow, at around 9pm, police received a report of two separate groups of youths fighting and throwing fireworks at one another within the Quarrywood Avenue area of Barmulloch.

In total, eight officers sustained minor injuries during deployments in Edinburgh and Glasgow.

While only a small number of arrests were made on the evening, as a result of the significant challenges officers faced to ensure no harm came to communities, substantial pieces of evidence have already been gathered and dedicated inquiry teams have been established to progress these investigations. It is anticipated further arrests will take place in the coming days.

Assistant Chief Constable Tim Mairs, Gold Commander for Operation Moonbeam said: "The overwhelming majority of Scotland enjoyed Bonfire Night safely and responsibly, but once again, a minority of individuals have been responsible for an unacceptable and frankly, disgusting level of disorder that left communities alarmed and police officers injured.

"We took learning from last year's operation and enhanced the level of Public Order resources available to local policing divisions to ensure we could get these assets into locations they were needed quicker, providing a more robust response to criminal incidents.

"The lower levels of disorder experienced in other parts of the country demonstrates that this approach was the correct one. Our partnership work ensured that there was a reduction in damage to public property and that, overall, the emergency services and wider communities were better protected.

"However, the violent nature of the situation witnessed in the Niddrie area of Edinburgh is extremely concerning, not least because it is believed young people were being actively encouraged and co-ordinated by adults to target officers while they carried out their duties.

“Investigations into the offences that arose throughout Scotland on Sunday evening are continuing and we will make every effort to ensure anyone who was involved is identified and brought to justice. If any members of the public believe they have information that can assist our inquiries, then please contact us via 101, or make an anonymous report to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

“Police Scotland officers were subjected to unprecedented levels of violence, and yet they continued to demonstrate professionalism and dedication to keeping communities safe. I am both proud of, and grateful to, all of those who were on duty and put themselves in harm’s way to protect the public during this very challenging time.”

From REDACTED s.38(1)(b) On Behalf Of ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox

Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 11:13 AM

To: REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

Cc: ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox <ETFMQPQ@gov.scot>

Subject: FMQ Brief Request - Fireworks - Due 4pm today

Importance: High

Hi all,

We have an FMQ brief request that I think will sit with your area.

The FMQ team consider that your policy area may feature in FMQs this week and have asked that you prepare a brief for the First Minister on:

Fireworks

11 Nov

The Herald 21 Enough is enough: time for action on dangerous fireworks There will be people in some parts of Scotland who are very relieved indeed that Bonfire Night is over for another year. People in the Niddrie area of Edinburgh for example, where the police faced young people armed with rockets and petrol bombs. Or Kirkton in Dundee where children as young as 10 were seen setting off fireworks. The fact that it is happening at all is shocking, but sadly

The Herald 2 'Mob rule' of pyro ultras driving fans ving out of Scottish football TERRIFIED fans are being driven out of Scottish football grounds by ultra groups who are using threats and intimidation against supporters of their own clubs so they can stage illegal pyrotechnic displays at matches, it can be revealed. Key stakeholders in the game in this country are set to discuss how to tackle the increasing use of pyro at games this month after the cinch PREMIERSHIP encounter between Dundee

Could you please confirm this has been picked up?

The deadline is 4pm today.

If you do not have a previous FMQ a blank template is attached for reference. We have also attached some helpful guidance on formatting your FMQ brief together with a handy checklist to use before you return your brief. Please use the checklist when updating your FMQ brief to ensure that it follows FMQ guidelines

<< File: FMQ FORMATTING.docx >> << File: FMQ checklist.docx >> << File: FMQ Template.docx >>
You can also find further guidance at the following link -<http://saltire/my-workplace/ministerial-preferences-and-support/best-practice/Pages/Preparing-FMQs.aspx>

Thank you in advance for your contribution and if you have any questions please get in touch with either **REDACTED s.38(1)(b)**

Many thanks

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

FMQ and PQ Support Officer

First Minister Questions & Parliamentary Questions

Room 1N.04 | St Andrew's House | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

REDACTED s.38(1)(b)

<< OLE Object: Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) >>

You can find more detailed information on answering PQs here [Answering Parliamentary Questions \(PQs\)](#)

You can also [download the PQs desk aid to print out and keep](#). It summarises the process and important timings to remember for delivering PQs each week.

If you or anyone in your team require any training/awareness in PQs please get in touch