Justice Sub-Committee on Policing

Impact of police reform on local policing

Written submission from West Lothian Council

It is proposed to respond to the consultation on the basis that whilst Police Scotland has only been operational for some 9 months and good progress has clearly been made at the national level, significant concerns over the commitment to joint working at a local community level remains including the level of police abstractions for the 21 police officers funded directly by the Council.

Further monitoring will be required to provide evidenced impact on the changes. Opportunities exist to improve sharing of information on planned extractions and the impact of this on local communities.

Opportunities exist to improve the consultation arrangements between Police Scotland and Scottish Councils in relation to proposed changes planned by the new organisation, learning from the recent examples of Traffic Wardens, Police Counters and Community Safety Police Analysts role.

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