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## ARGYLL AND BUTE CPP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Argyll and Bute Council

13 April 2011

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### THE FUTURE OF POLICING IN SCOTLAND

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#### 1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 In line with a series of related pieces of work and consultations currently underway, the Scottish Government has launched a consultation on the future of policing in Scotland. Responses to the consultation are required before 05 May 2011 and the council will be providing a response within that timeframe to represent the views of Argyll and Bute Council. The consultation questions are outlined in appendix one.
- 1.2 This paper seeks to establish a view from the CPP Management Committee as to whether a joint response from the CPP would be appropriate. For the information of partners, the proposed council response would focus on the four key principles outlined in section 3.2.

#### 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the CPP Management Committee comes to a view on whether a joint response to the consultation would be appropriate.
- 2.2 That the CPP Management Committee comes to a view on which agency should co-ordinate a joint response if this is agreed to be the preferred way forward.

#### 3.0 DETAIL

- 3.1 The options outlined within the consultation range from a single Scottish police force, to a rationalised regional police force structure, to retaining eight police forces with increased collaboration. All of these options are discussed in more detail in the consultation documentation which can be accessed via the consultations section of the Scottish Government website.
- 3.2 The generic key principles for discussion for a proposed response are that:
  - Any new structure needs to take account of local accountability whether at Local Authority or Community Planning Partnership level

- Any new structure needs to ensure that local outcomes drive community policing and national outcomes do not cause a tension
- The focus of the review should be on outcomes and police roles
- Any new structure should protect and enhance local partnership arrangements

#### **4.0 CONCLUSION**

Whether individual or joint responses are provided, it would be appropriate to ensure that all options outlined through the consultation are considered in line with our wider discussions on shared services and in line with the wider work of the Christie Commission.

#### **5.0 IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Policy – no immediate policy implications
- 5.2 Financial – no immediate financial implications
- 5.3 Legal – no immediate legal implications
- 5.4 HR – no immediate HR implications
- 5.5 Equalities – no immediate equalities implications
- 5.6 Risk – the threats identified in the SWOT analyses should be considered as potential risks.

Sally Loudon, Chief Executive  
21 April 2011

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## Appendix One - Consultation Questions / Initial Answers

<b>Question 1</b>	<b>How could Police reform improve services and the delivery of outcomes?</b>
Answer	
<b>Question 2</b>	<b>What do you think are the greatest opportunities and challenges facing Policing in Scotland today and how do you think they should be addressed?</b>
Answer	
<b>Question 3</b>	<b>How can partnership working between the Police and other organisations be improved?</b>
Answer	
<b>Question 4</b>	<b>How can the Police better engage with communities to help them be more resilient and self reliant?</b>
Answer	
<b>Question 5</b>	<b>What arrangements and relationships do you think would lead to the greatest improvements in National and Local accountability?</b>
Answer	
<b>Question 6</b>	<b>Do you agree that change is necessary to protect frontline services?</b>
Answer	
<b>Question 7</b>	<b>Which option do you think should be pursued and why?</b>
Answer	
<b>Question 8</b>	<b>How can we best improve accountability, deliver efficiencies and deliver service improvement at local and national levels?</b>
Answer	
<b>Question 9</b>	<b>Do you have any views on how the process of change should be approached including the extent and pace of change within a given option?</b>
Answer	
<b>Question 10</b>	<b>To assist with our equality impact assessment on the reform please describe any equality issues (in relation to race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, transgender people, and religion) relevant to each of the options?</b>
Answer	
<b>Question 11</b>	<b>To assist with our regulatory impact assessment please described any financial or other impacts for business charities and the voluntary sector relevant to each of the options?</b>
Answer	
<b>Question 12</b>	<b>Do you think there needs to be any change to the existing rules and responsibilities of the key bodies responsible for policing?</b>
Answer	