



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Justice Sub-Committee on Policing

Chief Constable Iain Livingstone QPM  
Police Scotland

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Dear Chief Constable

### **Policing of football matches and other major events**

I am writing to you in my capacity as Convener of the Justice Sub-Committee on Policing following a discussion in the Sub-Committee on the policing arrangements for the forthcoming semi-finals of the SPFL Betfred Cup. For us, issues of public safety are paramount as is ensuring that Police Scotland is able to manage the policing of major events for the wellbeing of all, including the police officers and staff that work for you.

I was concerned to read suggestions that advice from Police Scotland had not been adhered to and I would be grateful for your views on the handling of the arrangements for these matches. It would be helpful to know what advice you originally provided to the SPFL regarding the holding of both matches on the same day in the same city, whether that advice benefited from input from unions and staff associations about the implications on workload, and also whether that advice changed over time and the reasons for that.

The Sub-Committee seeks reassurance from you that Police Scotland is able to provide authoritative advice to the organisers of major events and that this is adhered to given the overriding priority of ensuring the safe and orderly running of these events.

Yours sincerely

John Finnie MSP  
Convener, Justice Sub-Committee on Policing