

## **Justice Sub-Committee on Policing**

### **Designation of local commanders**

#### **Written submission from Argyll and Bute Council**

I refer to your request for a view on the role of the local Police Commander in Argyll and Bute and would offer the following comments on that matter .

1. The Council has always found the role of Local Police Commander as providing a focal point for engagement with Police Scotland and each of the officers who have held the post for our Council area has played a leading role in supporting the development and delivery of key policing objectives and the wider community planning agenda.
2. The Commander attends the Council Performance Review and Scrutiny committee on a quarterly basis to update members on progress against the local policing objectives and to respond to any matter of detail raised on the day .The attendance by the Commander has been very regular and discussions have always been positive and cordial .
3. The local Police Commander has always maintained a strong link with the Chief Executive of the Council and other senior officers, and is seen as a key partner in seeking to progress joint initiatives such as CONTEST, Community Safety etc.
4. The Council recognises that the local commander has to comply with national policy as set down by the Chief Constable but it is imperative that the they retain sufficient scope for flexibility in delivering those national objectives as well as the resources and discretion to target action on matters of local priority.

I trust these brief comments are of assistance to you.

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