

Justice Sub-Committee on Policing

Designation of local commanders

Written submission from East Ayrshire Council

Thank you for your letter dated 17 November 2016 seeking the Council's views on the designation of local police commanders.

At a practical level, the designation of Divisional Commanders by the Chief Constable is not something that the Council has any influence over. It is appropriate that this is a matter that rests with the Chief Constable.

The Council, through its Police and Fire and Rescue Committee, provides the mechanism to scrutinise local police performance and to monitor progress against our Local Policing Plan. The Council continues to strengthen its local governance and scrutiny arrangements to reflect emerging national good practice, as well as taking account of particular local circumstances and policing priorities. Our Divisional Commander has played a full and supportive role in the development of our local arrangements and has been responsive to any suggested improvement areas that local Elected Members have proposed.

Looking ahead, in partnership with the Divisional Commander, we have commenced the process to develop our next Local Policing Plan, covering the period 2017-2020. We are committed to ensuring that the new Plan continues to reflect the priorities of our local communities and our Community Planning partners, aligning as appropriate to the national priorities that have recently been set by the Scottish Government.

I trust these comments are of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Fiona Lees
Chief Executive