

Victim Support Scotland – Update noted.

9 There was submitted and noted a report by Superintendent John Menzies, Police Scotland, providing an overview of the work of Victim Support Scotland, advising that

- (1) Victim Support Scotland (VSS) was Scotland's largest victim oriented charitable organisation that worked closely with Police Scotland and the Scottish Government to support victims and witnesses of crime;
- (2) the VSS process was voluntary for victims and witnesses of any crime, which Police Scotland now offered on an informed consent process to comply with GDPR requirements;
- (3) the referral pathway had been improved by utilising upgraded systems of both Police Scotland and VSS and now provided a single point of contact whilst making the process more efficient for both organisations;
- (4) there was an integrated VSS champion officer embedded within every operational policing department across the Greater Glasgow Division;
- (5) referral acceptance rates in Glasgow had increased in 2025 compared to the previous year, with both years being above the national average when compared to other policing divisions across Scotland: and
- (6) Police Scotland would continue to work with VSS at a local and national level to raise awareness, improve the referral process and ensure people that need practical and emotional support during the criminal justice process had the opportunity to receive this in a way that meets their needs.

After consideration, the Partnership

- (a) thanked Superintendent John Menzies for his report; and
- (b) agreed that it would be beneficial to have someone from VSS present for any future input on the subject.