

Police Scotland ward update noted etc.

6 There was heard and noted a report by Inspector Stephen Gow, Police Scotland, advising that

- (1) emerging out of the festive period there had been reduced call demand through December that tailed off in January and this allowed for increased proactivity leading to increase stop searching for drugs and weapons, however there had been a large warrant allocation at the beginning of January;
- (2) off road bikes, quads and ebikes were of particular concern although there had been a reduction in calls due to colder, icy weather and darker nights, however it was anticipated that the volume of these calls would increase towards Spring and there were plans being put in place to try to mitigate this;
- (3) there had been a number of cannabis cultivations identified and shut down and there had been a large recovery of illegal tobacco and vapes in a joint venture with Trading Standards;
- (4) social media advice had been circulated in relation to sextortion and Police impersonation scams; and
- (5) in a good news story over 5,000 stolen birds eggs had been seized in an international intelligence operation, which was a new experience for officers involved and had resulted in a huge dent being made into the community dealing in those items.