Police complaint handling - Presentation noted.

5 There was heard a presentation by Superintendent Bryan McGeogh and Chief Inspector Emma Grimason, Police Scotland, regarding police complaint handling, advising

(1) of the structure of the Professional Standards Department (PSD), highlighting the various departments and their responsibilities;

(2) of the 6 stages of complaint handling, with the option for the Police Investigation and Review Commissioner (PIRC) to review if the complainer was dissatisfied with the way PSD had dealt with a complaint;

(3) of what a relevant complaint about the Police was, as defined by section 34 of the Police, Public Order and Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2006;

(4) that if a complaint was of a criminal nature then it must be referred to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service;

(6) of the role of the National Complaints and Resolution Unit and the National Gateway Assessment Unit and what happened with enquiries of a sexual nature which might require specialist officers;

(7) of steps taken if suspension or restricted duties applied and the preliminary misconduct assessment, investigation and hearing;

(8) of the background, final report and number of recommendations from the Dame Elish Angiolini review into Police complaints handling, investigations and misconduct issues;

(9) of the call for views in relation to the new Police Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny (Scotland) Bill, with Police Scotland currently considering its response in relation to the financial and legal implications of the Bill; and

(10) of the Prevention and Professionalism campaign and how it tied in with the work of ‘Policing Together’.

After consideration, the Partnership thanked both Superintendent McGeogh and Chief Inspector Grimason for their comprehensive presentation.