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POILEAS ALBA

<p style="text-align: center;">Crime Recording</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Policy</p>
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Owning Department:	Professionalism and Assurance
Version Number:	1.00 (Publication Scheme)
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Compliance Record

Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EqHRIA) Date Completed / Reviewed:	10/09/2020
Information Management Compliant:	Yes
Health and Safety Compliant:	Yes
Publication Scheme Compliant:	Yes

Version Control Table

Version	History of Amendments	Approval Date
1.00	Initial Approved Version	07/10/2020

Crime Recording Policy

The Police Service of Scotland, (hereafter referred to as Police Scotland), is committed to recording crime in line with the Scottish Crime Recording Standard (SCRS) which was introduced throughout Scotland in April, 2004.

Tackling crime and the causes of crime are key priorities for Police Scotland. Performance management and compliance monitoring are integral to modern policing and it is vitally important that crime recording and disposal practices are capable of withstanding rigorous scrutiny.

Accurate recording of crime assists analysis of crime patterns, trends and fluctuations as well as having a direct impact on budget and resource allocation. Accurate crime data illustrates to the service and the public at large how Police Scotland is performing and identifies areas, if any, which require closer monitoring.

Sources of crime reports are many and varied originating with members of the public and police officers alike. Police Scotland will record crimes made known to them regardless of when they occurred. Crimes recorded will be grouped under recognised categories for statistical purposes as defined by the Scottish Government Justice Directorate. Crimes will be recorded ethically and will comply with the agreed Standard and Counting Rules.

The SCRS sets out to ensure a more victim orientated approach is taken to recording crime, providing uniformity in crime recording standards throughout Scotland. A more detailed approach, with regards to the practical recording and application of counting rules is included within the 'Scottish Crime Recording Standard Manual' the content of which is updated and approved by the Scottish Crime Recording Board for 1st April each year.

Any changes required to the SCRS will be directed through the Scottish Crime Recording Board, chaired by the head of the Scottish Government Safer Communities Analytical Unit and includes representation from relevant partners.

The responsibility for ensuring compliance lies with the Chief Constable and is discharged on a daily basis by the Crime Registrars. The role of the Crime Registrars is critical to the management and compliance of the SCRS. The Crime Registrars will not be placed in a position where they are directly responsible for reducing crime levels or be answerable to a line manager who has such responsibility to ensure openness, transparency and clear independence. The Crime Registrar will have ultimate authority to determine whether or not a matter is, or is not, recorded as a crime and the crime classification that will be applied as well as the final arbiter for all 'No Crimes'.

Audits of incidents and crimes will be carried out by Crime Registrars with staff from the Scottish Government Analytical Unit and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of

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Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) also undertaking independent reviews / inspections as required, to ensure ethical and accurate recording of crime.

All staff involved in the process of recording incidents and crimes are responsible for complying with the SCRS, ensuring ethical and accurate recording of crime.