



**REPORT TO: POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES COMMITTEE ON
17 AUGUST 2023**

SUBJECT: THEMATIC REPORT – CYBERCRIME

**BY: DETECTIVE INSPECTOR NORMAN STEVENSON, SPECIALIST
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1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee on Cybercrime.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III (J) (4) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to the monitoring of delivery of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services in Moray.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee scrutinise and note the information contained within this report.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Cybercrime continues to rise in scale and complexity in Scotland and globally. Internationally and domestically, criminals can attack business, public services and individuals across borders and jurisdictions.
- 3.2 The threat of large scale economic Cybercrime, Fraud, online child sexual offences and indecent images, cyberstalking, trading of weapons and trafficking of people on the dark web, and numerous other examples show how digitally enabled criminality inflicts disruption, financial harm and human suffering. We also know that Cybercrime is vastly underreported to Police.

4. RESPONSE

- 4.1 Police Scotland as part of our response has developed a Cyber Strategy, 'Keeping People Safe in a Digital World', with two keys strands:
- Cyber Resilient – to capture digital opportunities for keeping people safe and enable Police Scotland, the public and organisations to recognise, resist and respond to cyber incidents effectively

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- Cyber Investigation - to effectively pursue those responsible for Cybercrime while protecting and safeguarding victims.

CYBER INVESTIGATIONS AND DIGITAL FORENSICS

- 4.2 The Cyber Investigation Team specializes in investigating and responding to Cybercrime incidents within Scotland, collaborating with domestic and international partners, including government agencies, private sector organizations and academia for information sharing, joint operations, and capacity building.
- 4.3 Digital Forensic Analysts across Scotland conduct in-depth examinations of digital devices, network traffic logs, and other electronic evidence to identify perpetrators and establish a strong evidential case as expediently as possible.

POLICING IN A DIGITAL WORLD PROGRAMME

- 4.4 The Policing in a Digital World Programme supports our mission to develop a range of capabilities and partnerships to successfully deliver the Cyber Strategy. This means we ensure that all Officers and Staff on the frontline and in specialist roles have the appropriate skills, equipment, technology and support to prevent, respond to and investigate Cybercrime.

PREVENTIONS, PARTNERSHIPS AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING

- 4.5 The Cybercrime Harm Protection, Incident Support and Training Officers role is an integral part of the national Protect Network and they are focus driven by means of the Strategic Framework for a Cyber Resilient Scotland. At the individual level, the Protect Officers raise awareness and provide support to parents and carers of children and young people and other vulnerable people, sharing the resources available from trusted partners such as Cyber Aware, CEOP and Think You Know.

5. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))

The Moray Council's responsibilities with regards to the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 are directly relevant to Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan.

The work undertaken tackling Cybercrime is closely aligned to the overarching LOIP outcome for Moray of "Raising Aspirations."

The work of the partnership contributes directly to priorities 2, 3 and 4 of the LOIP:

"Building a better future for our children and young people in Moray";
"Empowering and connecting communities" and "Improving the wellbeing of our population."

(b) Policy and Legal

This report is presented to the Moray Police and Fire & Rescue Services Committee within its remit for local scrutiny of the Police.

(c) Financial implications

There are no identified financial implications.

(d) Risk Implications

There are no identified risk implications.

(e) Staffing Implications

There are no identified staffing implications.

(f) Property

Not applicable.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

Not applicable.

(h) Consultations

The Local Police Plan, upon which the performance is reporting, was subject to consultation with elected representatives and was heavily influenced by ongoing feedback from local communities within the Moray Council area

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 Police Scotland's Cyber Strategy and our dedicated Officers and Staff play a crucial role in safeguarding individuals, businesses, and critical infrastructure from the adverse impacts of Cybercrime. By focusing on prevention, investigation, prosecution, and collaboration, Police Scotland aims to keep pace with emerging cyber threats and ensure the safety and security of the Scottish public in the digital age.

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Background Papers: n/a

Ref: n/a