

**PE1600/O**

Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service submission of 31 January 2019

The Committee has previously shown interest in, and sought updates in relation to, the introduction of Speed Awareness Courses (SACs) to Scotland. I write to provide the Committee with a further update.

Police Scotland concluded their initial scoping work and submitted proposals to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service in September 2018. These proposals have been considered carefully by the Lord Advocate. The Lord Advocate has agreed in principle to the diversion at source to SACs by Police Scotland as an alternative to prosecution in appropriate cases. This agreement in principle is subject to approval of the specific arrangements which are to be put in place.

A multi-agency working group, including Police Scotland, COPFS, Scottish Courts and Tribunal Service, Scottish Government Transport officials and the Scottish Safety Camera Programme, will work together to devise the necessary infrastructure and guidance required to support the introduction of SACs in Scotland. This work will include the identification of potential course providers. The group's conclusions will be reported to the Lord Advocate for his consideration in due course.