



## **Improving Support for the Accused Person with A Learning Disability**

### **Keynote Speakers**

#### **Dan Gunn OBE, Independent Chair, SOLD Advisory Group**



Retired in 2014 from Scottish Prison Service as acting Director of Operations having been 'inside' for 38 years, I had been Governor of Glenochil, Edinburgh, Polmont YOI, Greenock and the Barlinnie Special Unit. My additional policy interests were Equality, Health, Youth crime and taking a holistic approach to criminal justice. I am now a Trustee in various voluntary sector justice bodies including Sacro (Vice-Chair), Families Outside, Venture Trust, Positive Prison? Positive Futures and Ypeople. Through my involvement with the Church of Scotland, I am a member of the National Prison Visitor Centre Steering Group and I chair the Stirling Interfaith Community Justice Group and the Jt.Faiths Board on Community Justice. I received an OBE in 2008.

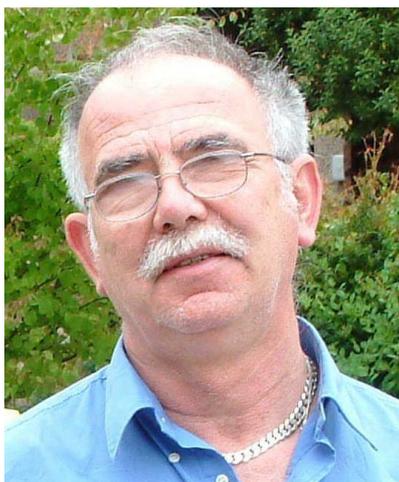
## **Derek Penman, HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary**



Derek was appointed Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary in Scotland in January 2014. This is an independent appointment under Royal Warrant and confers wide ranging powers to look into the "state, effectiveness and efficiency" of both Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority.

He joined Central Scotland Police as a cadet in 1982 before becoming a Constable in 1984. Following postings in both uniform and CID, he attended the University of Glasgow and graduated in 1993 with an honours degree in law. Through promotions within Central Scotland Police, Derek has held a variety of operational and corporate posts. In 2008, he was appointed Assistant Chief Constable, Crime and Specialist Operations, with Grampian Police. In January 2011, Derek returned to Central Scotland Police as Deputy Chief Constable and in November of the same year, he was appointed Temporary Chief Constable.. In January 2013, following the transition from eight Forces into a single Force, he was appointed as Assistant Chief Constable, Local Policing North for Police Scotland. He resigned from Police Scotland in 2014 to take up his current independent post.

## **James McNab, SOLD User group**



James was a founding member of People First (Scotland) in 1989. He has been on the People First board of directors since its inception and is currently the chair of the staffing committee.

He has campaigned about the rights of people with learning disabilities in the criminal justice and forensic systems for many years.

James was one of a small group of residents of Gogarburn Hospital, who in 1983 raised a judicial review, which won the right to vote for people with learning disabilities resident in long stay hospitals.

## **Allan Speirs, SOLD User group**



Allan Speirs is a member of the SOLD User Group. He is working hard to improve the experiences of people with learning disabilities accused of committing an offence.

He is here today to present a video of himself talking about his experience of being interviewed by the police and going to court.

Allan is happy to speak to people about his experience in the coffee break and at lunchtime.

## **Superintendent Malcom MacCormick, Police Scotland**



Malcolm joined Strathclyde Police from the teaching profession in 1988 and has served in a variety of administrative and operational roles over the last 28 years. He was promoted Superintendent in 2010 and spent over 2 years as

Force programme manager for the Commonwealth games planning team before undertaking a number of other operational roles including event commander of the SECC during the 2014 Games.

In 2014 Malcolm was appointed project manager of the National Custody Project and in 2015 was transferred to Superintendent Support within the then Custody Division. His main responsibilities lie around human resource management, finance, health and safety and the custody estate. With the amalgamation of Custody and Criminal justice into Criminal justice services Division in March 2016 Malcolm has taken over the support role for both functions.

Malcolm still maintains a keen interest in operational matters and provides cover for the Operations Superintendent as required. As

the father of a son who has been diagnosed with ADHD he is acutely aware of the need to provide appropriate support for vulnerable children and adults who enter the police custodial system.

**Dr. Iain McKinnon,**



Dr Iain McKinnon is Consultant Psychiatrist in Forensic Learning Disability with Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust. He is also Honorary Senior Clinical Lecturer at Newcastle University. Among a range of clinical and research interests, he has led the redevelopment of police custody risk assessment screening with the Metropolitan Police in London. This work formed the basis of his PhD, and aimed to improve the detection of a

range of health morbidities and vulnerabilities among police custody detainees. The new risk assessment processes have been implemented by Northumbria Police and are now in the process of being evaluated. Dr McKinnon is also on a working group with the Home Office looking at the provision of Appropriate Adults in England and Wales.

**Suzanne Smith, Registered Intermediary, Northern Ireland**



Suzanne graduated from University of Ulster as a Speech & Language Therapist in 1994. Since this time she has worked in Adult Learning Disability Services as a Speech & Language Therapist. This has included working in the regional specialist hospital for Adults with Learning Disability in Northern Ireland. In 2013 she completed training and went on to become one of the first Registered Intermediaries in Northern Ireland. She continues to work as a Senior Specialist

Speech & Language Therapist and a Registered Intermediary.

### **Det. Sgt. Kirsty Baird, Police Scotland**

Detective Sergeant Kirsty Baird has 18 years police service, with most of her service within Central Scotland Police covering the Forth Valley Area prior to the formation of Police Scotland. She has for most of her service worked within the Criminal Investigation Department, Major Investigation Teams and the Public Protection Unit. For four years she worked within the Adult Support and Protection Unit and was responsible for investigating crimes committed against adults at risk. Liaison with specialists and engagement with appropriate adults to obtain statements and interview persons with a learning disability is an area of policing she is passionate about. She is now assigned to the policy department for Public Protection where she is working with all police divisions and partners to improve support for persons with a learning disability and to ensure fair access to justice for them.

### **Stephen Heath, Clarincom Appropriate Adult Service**



Stephen is Director of Clarity in Communication ([www.clarincom.co.uk](http://www.clarincom.co.uk)) a not for profit Community Interest Company. For 2 ½ years he has overseen the provision of the Appropriate Adult Service across the 3 Ayrshire Local Authorities. Ayrshire delivers a through service which also provides communication support in Court. In over 1200 service requests the average response time is 43 minutes.

Clarity's team of 10 have over 200 years combined experience in health, social care, counselling, advocacy and the justice system and passionately believe that those with mental ill health and learning disability, have the right to understand and be understood, particularly at critical times in their life.

Stephen was in public service for 37 years in the UK and abroad. His background is in the Justice system in a variety of roles. He retired from the Police as Head of Crime Management Training for Scotland and during a diverse career has worked closely with leading mental ill health professionals in designing and developing

complex interview strategies, training and combating the social and personal impact of substance and alcohol misuse, combined with mental ill health. In this regard, from 2003 to 2005, he led a team of senior health and social care professionals which won 2 Cosla Awards in the field of health improvement. He is an internationally experienced senior investigator and from 2006 to 2013 worked for the Government of the UAE leading a team of advisors in various specialisms. In preparation for the previous SOLD conference Stephen assisted Dame Joyce Plotnikoff with her Appropriate Adult/Intermediary role comparison study.

He has significant personal and professional experience in dealing with the impact of learning disability and mental ill health, in critical circumstances.

### **Ch. Insp. Rosie Wright, Police Scotland**



Rosie Wright joined Strathclyde Police in 1989 and has enjoyed a variety of roles since then, including Community Policing , CID, Force Communications and Road Policing. Since the formation of Police Scotland, she has undertaken a Local Area Commander's role in Lanarkshire and national roles in Local Policing and Safer Communities. Rosie has a particular interest in the policing of mental health and distress within our communities

and is a strong advocate and practitioner when it comes to partnership and collaboration to improve outcomes for those who are vulnerable and in need of intervention and support.