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**COMMITTEE: CIVIC GOVERNMENT APPEALS BOARD 25 FEBRUARY 2008**

**REPORT NO: CSD/052/08/PD**

**BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR  
(CORPORATE SERVICES)**

**CONTACT OFFICER: PETER DOW (8028)**

**SUBJECT TITLE: CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 – REPORT  
FROM STRATHCLYDE POLICE ON THE CONDUCT OF THE CAIRDE NA  
HEIREANN ANTI IRISH RACISM MARCH OF 12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2008**

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**1.0 PURPOSE**

1.1 This report seeks the Appeals Board’s consideration of Strathclyde Police’s Report on the conduct of the Cairde na hEireann’s Anti-Irish Racism March of 12<sup>th</sup> January 2008 and determination of any action in light of the Police report.

**2.0 SUMMARY**

2.1 On 4<sup>th</sup> January 2008 the Appeals Board granted permission for Cairde na hEireann’s Anti-Irish Racism March on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2008. The Appeals Board also requested that Strathclyde Police provide the Board with a report on the conduct of the march. A copy of Strathclyde Police’s Report is produced (Appendix 1).

**3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 That the Appeals Board, after full consideration of Strathclyde Police’s Report decide what action (if any) to take in light of the Report.

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**DIANE I. CAMPBELL**  
**HEAD OF LEGAL & ADMINISTRATION SERVICES**



**STRATHCLYDE  
POLICE**

**CHIEF CONSTABLE**  
Stephen House QPM

4 February 2008

Your Ref: PK/MC

Our Ref: B/BF/CM/BF07/02

Mr Peter Kelly  
Legal & Administration Services  
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Dear Mr Kelly

**EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL  
CIVIC APPEALS BOARD HEARING 4 JANUARY 2008**

**CAIRDE NA H'EIREANN ANTI-IRISH RACISM MARCH, KIRKINTILLOCH  
SATURDAY 12TH JANUARY 2008**

I refer to the above and write in discharge of the request made by the Board during their hearing of 4 January 2008, that Strathclyde Police revert with a report as to the conduct of participants consequent to the conclusion of same.

I can advise that approximately 200 marchers participated. In the absence of detailed specification by the Board, the muster point was agreed with organisers as the hard standing footway within Peel Park at its South East corner. The march commenced on schedule and completed the revised route approved by the Board without incident, taking approximately 40 minutes to do so. Minor disruption to vehicular traffic was experienced by those travelling along the sections of the route along which the march was, at that time, proceeding. An earlier commencement time such as that identified by the Roads Department at the hearing of 4 January 2008 may have proved beneficial in this regard.

One participant was arrested in connection with inappropriate conduct unconnected to the direct organisation of the march, and is subject of a report to the Procurator Fiscal at Glasgow. The organisers were compliant to police instruction on the day and fully accorded with the terms stipulated by the Board in respect of the conduct of the procession.




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Approximately 50 counter-demonstrators assembled within the Cowgate and were detained by uniformed police officers for a brief period of time to ensure public safety and maintain order. As evidenced in subsequent newspaper reports, a significant number of police resources, drawn from across the Force area, were utilised to ensure the event passed without incident.

The Board may find of interest the remarks made during the course of speeches at the conclusion of the procession that the organisers would hope that this would now represent a yearly event.

I trust the foregoing is sufficient for the purposes of the Board.



Calum Murray  
Superintendent  
Sub-Divisional Officer



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