

# Justice Secretary Briefed on Preparations for President Trump's Visit to Scotland

Justice Secretary Humza Yousaf has today received a briefing by senior Police Scotland officers on how the service is preparing for the upcoming visit of the US President and the protests expected to take place in various locations.

Mr Yousaf has urged those attending any protests this weekend, when President Trump visits Scotland, to do so safely and peacefully.

Speaking after meeting with Assistant Chief Constable Mark Williams, Mr Yousaf said:

"We understand that many people feel very strongly about President Trump and his administration's policies, and will want to express that this weekend when he is in the country.

"That is why there are a number of organised protest locations across the country this weekend and I would urge people who want to exercise their right to demonstrate in those locations, to do so in a safe and peaceful manner.

"It is clear that President Trump's visit will have significant operational implications for Police Scotland and planning has been taking place with partners for some time. I am confident that Police Scotland will provide a professional and effective policing response, keeping communities safe and facilitating peaceful protest.

"Further clarity around President Trump's plans whilst visiting Scotland would greatly aid the planning that is being taken forward by our police and wider partners."

Assistant Chief Constable Mark Williams, Police Scotland, said:

"The President's visit to Scotland will require a significant policing operation, involving thousands of officers and specialist resources. As with the visit of any high profile head of state, detailed planning is already well underway.

"Whilst the exact details of his programme are still being finalised, our objectives will be to ensure the safety of the President and of those travelling with him and to maintain public safety. In addition, we will work closely with any groups to facilitate lawful protest.

"As with any visit of this nature we do not disclose the specific details of the operational deployment."

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