

Performance against Key Targets April 2016 to December 2016

Area of Activity	Performance Target	Performance Achieved 2015-16	Performance Achieved Apr-Dec16	Description of Target
Take and Implement Decisions	75% within 4 weeks	77%	74%	Take a decision on the appropriate course of action and implement that decision in at least 75% of cases within 4 weeks of the date on which the report is received from the reporting agency. (NB: This target applies to all cases except cases which are likely to be dealt with under solemn procedure i.e. the more serious cases, where the case is likely to be dealt with in the High Court or in the Sheriff Court before a Jury.)
Service of Indictments ⁽¹⁾	All indictments are served within timebar	100%	100%	No High Court or Sheriff and Jury cases lost because no further action can be taken due to failure to serve indictment(s) within timebar (or amended timebar, if an extension is granted).
Investigation of Deaths	80% within 12 weeks	92%	89%	In deaths which require further investigation, conduct the investigation and advise the next of kin of the outcome within 12 weeks in at least 80% of cases.
Investigation of Criminal Allegations against the Police	90% within 12 weeks	92%	93%	Complete the investigation of criminal allegations against police officers and advise the complainer of the outcome within 12 weeks of the date on which the report is received in at least 90% of cases.

Information Notes:

⁽¹⁾ Our key target in respect of the service of indictments reflects the legislative requirement on COPFS to serve an indictment on all accused within very strict time limits. Failure to adhere to the time limits has very serious consequences and can, in certain circumstances, prevent the prosecution going ahead. The time limits vary according to the court in which the accused will be tried and whether the accused is on bail or remanded in custody. This key target is focused on demonstrating that we prepare solemn cases in accordance with these strict time limits. Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prosecutions in Scotland has recommended that we ensure that all High Court bail indictments are served no later than 7 days before timebar. This supports the target of having no cases timebar before service of indictment is achieved in any case.