# Scottish Police Authority – Transcript

**Vic Emery**: My name is Vic Emery and I am the Chair of the Board of Directors for the Scottish Police Authority.

***What is the role of the Scottish Police Authority?***

**Vic Emery**: The SPA was set up to not only maintain the police going forward but also to hold them to account and hold them to account in a number of different ways, scrutinising what they do, and also being accountable for all the funding that flows from the taxpayer through the Scottish Government and into the policing to keep everyone safe.

There are 17,500 police or thereabouts, there are 7,000 police staff, so there’s a lot of accountability that needs to be put in place. If you look at what the police do, they actually have the powers to take away people’s liberties and therefore the importance of governance cannot be overstated.

Equally, the importance of delivering the budget savings that the government wants us to deliver.

[End of transcript]