

Unrest in parts of the UK

2 min read

We understand that the recent unrest in other parts of the UK may be causing concern and uncertainty amongst our colleagues. There may also be colleagues who have had family members or friends who have been directly impacted.

We want to reassure you that we are closely monitoring the situation and will keep you updated. Police Scotland is aware of any potential protests and counter protests in Scotland and are prepared for this. We want to assure you that your wellbeing and safety is our top priority.

SQA will not tolerate any form of hate, discrimination or violence and we strongly condemn all forms of racism and discrimination.

Tackling discrimination and prejudice is a collective responsibility and we encourage colleagues to keep talking openly about equality, wellbeing and belonging and also to be aware of any concerns that we and our colleagues might be feeling at this time.

Everyone must actively promote respect, equality and tolerance, and work towards creating inclusive and diverse communities where people are valued for who they are, not because of their backgrounds or identities.

Together, we can work together to make the world a safer and more welcoming place for all.

If you feel unsafe or require support, you can contact your line manager and also access the following services for support and advice.

HR support is available by contacting the HR Shared Service team.

• The <u>employee assistance programme</u> can provide you with confidential support and guidance, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The employee assistance

- programme is for workers only.
- Trade union representatives can provide members with advice, help and support. Information about Unite and Unison can be found on the <u>intranet homepage under A-Z</u>.
- Mental Health First Aiders are available for first point of contact for support.
- The <u>Able Futures service</u> can be contacted for ongoing professional support for mental health and wellbeing.
- <u>SQA's community networks</u> can also provide peer support and guidance.

To report a hate crime please refer to the Police Scotland website.

