

THE MORAY COUNCIL**MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES
COMMITTEE****THURSDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2016****COUNCIL OFFICE, ELGIN****PRESENT**

Councillors R Shepherd (Chair), J Allan (Depute Chair), G Alexander, G Leadbitter, M McConachie, G McDonald, D Ross, C Tuke and S Warren.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were intimated on behalf of Councillor J Divers.

IN ATTENDANCE

Divisional Commander, Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson and Chief Inspector Stewart Mackie, both from Police Scotland, Aberdeenshire and Moray Division, Mr David Meldrum, Group Manager, Mr Bruce Milne, Station Manager, both from Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (Aberdeenshire and Moray Division), Ms Fiona Millar, Scottish Police Authority, Ms Cat Duggan and Mr Douglas Armstrong, both from the Police Scotland Strategy Team, the Head of Development Services and Mrs Lissa Rowan, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the meeting.

1. WELCOME

The Committee joined the Chair in welcoming Ms Fiona Millar from the Scottish Police Authority to the meeting and also welcomed Councillors Allan and Warren to their first meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee.

2. DECLARATION OF GROUP DECISIONS AND MEMBER'S INTERESTS

In terms of Standing Order 20 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct, there were no declarations from group leaders or spokespersons in regard to any prior decisions taken on how Members will vote on any item on the agenda or any declarations of Members' interests in respect of any item on the agenda.

3. EXEMPT INFORMATION

The meeting resolved that in terms of Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the public and media representatives be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items of business appearing at the relevant paragraphs of this minute as specified below, so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the appropriate paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

<u>Paragraph No. of Minute</u>	<u>Paragraph No. of Schedule 7A</u>
--------------------------------	-------------------------------------

13

14

4. MINUTE OF THE POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES COMMITTEE DATED 5 NOVEMBER 2015

The Minute of the Meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee dated 5 November 2015 was submitted and approved.

5. WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Committee noted that no written questions had been submitted.

6. CONSULTATION REVIEW OF SCOTTISH STRATEGIC POLICE PRIORITIES

A report was submitted by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning & Infrastructure) asking the Committee to consider the review of Scottish Strategic Police Priorities.

On the invitation of the Chair, Ms Cat Duggan and Mr Douglas Armstrong, both from the Police Scotland Strategy Team, gave a short presentation to the Meeting providing information on the current Scottish Strategic Police Priorities and how consultation will take place with a view to developing revised priorities that take account of local viewpoints.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Ms Duggan and Mr Armstrong responded to various questions raised by the Meeting.

Following lengthy discussion in relation to how the revised priorities should appear, concern was raised as to whether budget constraints will have an impact over future police priority and delivery. It was also considered that there was a need for national priorities to reflect local priorities and that flexibility should be ensured so that local priorities could be delivered. The Committee were also of the view that the existing outcomes from the current priorities should effectively form the new process and priorities. In relation to major events, threats and national security, it was felt that the revised priorities should reflect the importance of the local aspect and local resilience to such events. Furthermore, it was considered that the revised priorities should be associated with specific crimes or issues that individuals could relate to and that could be measured.

In response, the Head of Development Services agreed to draft a pre-consultation response from the Committee, taking into consideration the concerns and suggestions raised during the debate, for submission to the Strategic Police Priorities Unit.

Thereafter, the Chair thanked Ms Duggan and Mr Armstrong for their informative presentation and the Committee agreed:

- (i) to note the review of Scottish Strategic Police Priorities as set out in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (ii) that the Head of Development Services would draft up a pre-consultation response from the Committee for submission to the Strategic Police Priorities Unit which would include:
 - the Committee's concern in relation to whether budget constraints will have an impact over future police priority and delivery;
 - the need for national priorities to reflect local priorities and that flexibility should be ensured so that local priorities could be delivered;
 - that existing outcomes from the current priorities should effectively form the new process and priorities;
 - the revised priorities should reflect the importance of the local aspect and local resilience to major events and threats and national security; and
 - the revised priorities should be associated with specific crimes or issues that individuals could relate to and that could be measured.

Councillor McDonald left the meeting at this juncture.

7. CONSULTATION ON HM INSPECTORATE FOR CONSTABULARY IN SCOTLAND (HMICS) SCRUTINY PLAN 2016-17

A report was submitted by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning & Infrastructure) asking the Committee to consider the HM Inspectorate for Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) Scrutiny Plan for 2016/17.

During discussion surrounding the HMICS Scrutiny Plan, clarification was sought in relation to how Police Scotland and individual divisions responded to the Police Scotland staff survey; how the Investigated Powers Act that is currently going through parliament will impact on the cyber policing review; what scrutiny is taking place in relation to anti-terrorism work and what resources are being applied to it; and what risk assessment process is taking place and what level of resource from front line policing is being used to facilitate audits taking place.

In response, the Head of Development Services agreed to draft a response to the consultation on the HMICS Scrutiny Plan for 2016/17 including the queries that the Committee had raised during their debate.

Thereafter, the Committee agreed:

- (i) to note the HMICS Scrutiny Plan 2016-17 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (ii) that the Head of Development Services would draft a response to the consultation from the Committee that would include the following queries:
 - how Police Scotland and individual divisions responded to the Police Scotland staff survey;

- how the Investigated Powers Act, that is currently going through parliament, will impact on the cyber policing review;
- what scrutiny is taking place in relation to anti-terrorism work and what resources are being applied to it; and
- what risk assessment process is taking place, and what level of resource from front line policing is being used, to facilitate audits taking place.

8. INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE REVIEW POLICE SCOTLAND CALL HANDLING FINAL REPORT

A report was submitted by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning & Infrastructure) asking Committee to consider the final report of the Independent Assurance Review into Call Handling.

Following lengthy discussion the Committee raised a number of queries in relation to the Independent Assurance Review into Call Handling namely; why there was a 10% reduced response rate to 101 calls for Contact Centres in the North of Scotland compared to the East and West; in terms of the quality assurance framework, how Police Scotland would share the results of the regular call audits that are to take place with the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) and Local Police Scrutiny Committees; whether or not the delay of the I6 system would impact on the transfer of contact services; and how call handling in the North would transfer to a virtual service centre and how incident management would transfer to the Service Centre in Dundee.

In response, the Divisional Commander advised that, as the report was from the HMICS, he was not in a position to answer the specific queries raised by the Committee and sought the Committee's agreement to report back on the specific questions raised following the meeting. This was agreed.

Councillor Ross made reference to an email received by local police scrutiny committees from the SPA in relation to the restructuring of Police Scotland C3 on 29 January 2016 and follow up email that had been circulated on 3 February 2016, and stated that on receipt of these emails, he had submitted a written question asking how Police Scotland planned to consult with communities in relation to their concerns about, and timing of, the proposed transfer to a national service. He further stated that he had withdrawn his written question after being advised that there would be an opportunity to raise it during the discussion of the report on the Independent Assurance Review into Call Handling.

In response, the Divisional Commander advised that, as he had not had sight of the emails that had been sent to the Committee from the SPA, he was not in a position to respond to Councillor Ross' question and asked that he be provided with a copy of the emails with a view to responding to the question raised by Councillor Ross following the meeting. This was agreed.

Thereafter, the Committee agreed:

- (i) to note the findings of the Independent Assurance Review Police Scotland - Call Handling Final Report as set out in Appendix 1 of the report; and

- (ii) that the Divisional Commander would report back to the Committee in relation to the following:
- why there is a 10% reduced response rate to 101 calls for Contact Centres in the North of Scotland compared to the East and West;
 - in terms of the quality assurance framework, how Police Scotland will share the results of the regular call audits that are to take place with the SPA and Local Police Scrutiny Committees;
 - whether or not the delay of the I6 system will impact on the transfer of contact services; and
 - providing clarification in relation to call handling in the North being transferred to a virtual service centre and incident management being transferred to the Service Centre in Dundee.
- (iii) that the Divisional Commander be provided with a copy of the emails received by local police scrutiny committees from the SPA in relation to the restructuring of Police Scotland C3 and advise the Committee how Police Scotland intend to consult with communities in relation to their concerns about, and timing of, the proposed transfer to a national service.

9. OPERATIONAL VERBAL UPDATE - FIRE

The Committee was provided with an informative oral update on Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) operational matters from Mr Bruce Milne, Station Manager, SFRS, where he advised the Committee of the incidents that had taken place in the last quarter and the ongoing work in relation to prevention/protection and response/resilience.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to note the informative operational update from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and the responses to the relevant questions thereafter.

10. FIRE AND RESCUE PERFORMANCE

Under reference to paragraph 3 of the Minute of this Committee dated 26 March 2014, a report was submitted by the Local Senior Officer (LSO), Aberdeenshire and Moray, Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (SFRS) informing the Committee of the performance of the SFRS locally in respect of the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2014-17.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to note the performance outlined in the report applicable to quarter 3 performance for 1st October 2015 to 31st December 2015 as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report.

11. POLICE PERFORMANCE

Under reference to paragraph 2 of the Minute of this Committee dated 26 March 2014, a report was submitted by the Divisional Police Commander, Aberdeenshire and Moray Division, Police Scotland informing the Committee of the performance of Police in respect of the Local Policing Plan 2014-2017, and other key indicators.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the performance outlined in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (ii) that the Local Commander will continue to report to the Committee quarterly on performance measures against service objectives as articulated in the 2014-17 Local Policing Plan.

12. QUESTION TIME

There were no questions raised.

13. OPERATIONAL UPDATE (VERBAL) [PARA 14]

The Committee agreed to note an informative oral update from the Divisional Police Commander, Aberdeenshire and Moray Division in relation to operational matters and the responses to the relevant questions thereafter.