

THE MORAY COUNCIL

**MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES
COMMITTEE**

THURSDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2016

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ELGIN

PRESENT

Councillors R Shepherd (Chair), J Allan (Deputy), J Divers, G Leadbitter, G McDonald, C Tuke and S Warren

APOLOGIES

Apologies were intimated on behalf of Councillors G Alexander, M McConachie and D Ross

ALSO PRESENT

Councillors J Cowe and D Slater

IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson and Chief Inspector Stewart Mackie, all from Police Scotland, Aberdeenshire and Moray Division, Mr David Rout, Local Senior Officer and Mr David Meldrum, Group Manager, both from Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (Aberdeenshire and Moray Division), the Environmental Health Manager and Mrs Lissa Rowan, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the meeting

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE BY INVITATION

Mr Martyn Emberson, Chief Inspector, Her Majesty's Fire Service Inspectorate for Scotland

1. 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.

2. 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>
--------------------------------	-------------------------------------

16

14

3. MINUTE OF THE POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES COMMITTEE DATED 18 AUGUST 2016

The Minute of the meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee dated 18 August, 2016 was submitted and approved.

4. WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Committee noted that no written questions had been submitted.

5. PRESENTATION

On the invitation of the Chair, Mr Martyn Emberson, Chief Inspector, Her Majesty's Fire Service Inspectorate (HMFSI) for Scotland gave a presentation to the Committee outlining the role of HMFSI, an overview of the legislation, how the service has performed in the last financial year and where to access HMFSI reports to enable effective scrutiny of the local fire service.

Following the presentation, the Committee joined the Chair in thanking Mr Emberson for his interesting and informative presentation.

6. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE STRATEGIC PLAN 2013-2016

A report by David Rout, Local Senior Officer, Aberdeenshire and Moray informed the Committee of the recently published Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Strategic Plan that sets out the future strategic direction of the SFRS and their key aims for the next 3 years.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to note the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Plan 2016-19 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

7. OPERATIONAL UPDATE (VERBAL) – FIRE

The Committee was provided with an informative oral update on Scottish Fire and Rescue Service operational matters from Mr David Meldrum, Group Manager, SFRS where he advised that, in the last quarter, the SFRS had attended 144 fires, 16 road traffic collisions, 74 other special services and 271 false alarms. He also advised that the review of the volunteer unit at Gordonstoun had been completed and had been operational from the beginning of October 2016. He further advised that operational risk information had been gathered from premises throughout Moray so that risk information held was up to date should they have to attend any incidents.

In relation to training, he advised that the SFRS had taken part in multiagency training exercises, one of which had focused on suspension trauma, persons trapped in an RTC and persons rescued from a house fire and had been attended by Police Scotland, Scottish Ambulance Service, the Coast Guard, Moray GPs, A&E doctors and trainee A&E doctors.

With regard to Community safety and engagement, he advised that the SFRS were continuing their work with the British Heart Foundation and Save a Life Scotland and had delivered CPR training to over 400 people and in relation to Fire safety talks, he advised that they had attended Aberlour School Careers Event, Tomintoul and Forres schools where they had provided fire safety talks.

Mr Rout, Local Senior Officer advised that on 8 November Aberdeen Operations Control Room closed with a transfer of all 999 calls to Dundee Operations Control with no identified risks to the mobilisation of assets or resources within Moray and the call handling has went extremely well. This would continue to be monitored locally however to date there had been a smooth transition.

Following consideration, the Committee joined the Chair in commending the staff of the Aberdeen Control Room for the service they have provided over the decades and thereafter agreed to note the informative operational update from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

8. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE STATISTICS 2015-16 (INCIDENT, FIRE SAFETY AND ORGANISATIONAL DATA)

A report by David Rout, Local Senior Officer (LSO), Aberdeenshire and Moray Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) advised the Committee of the recently published SFRS statistics 2015-16.

During discussion, concern was raised in relation to the number of false alarms that the SFRS had attended which accounted for 56% of all incidents attended and it was queried as to what the average cost for each false alarm was.

In response, Mr Rout, LSO sought the agreement of the Committee to provide a presentation from the Fire Safety Enforcement Manager in relation to false fire alarms in Moray which would include the average cost for each false alarm. This was agreed.

The Committee joined the Chair in thanking the Fire Service for their continued good service and thereafter agreed:

- (i) to note the annual statistics for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service as set out in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (ii) that the Fire Safety Enforcement Manager will provide a presentation in relation to false fire alarms in Moray including the average cost for each false alarm.

9. FIRE AND RESCUE PERFORMANCE

A report by David Rout, Local Senior Officer (LSO), Aberdeenshire and Moray Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) informed 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 2 performance for 1 July – 30 September 2016 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

10. POLICE PERFORMANCE – i6 FURTHER UPDATE

Under reference to paragraph 9 of the Minute of this Committee dated 18 August 2016, a report by Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland provided the Committee with reassurance that the work on i6 had not been wasted and confirmed that there had been no detriment to the Scottish Police Authority and Police Scotland whilst waiting for the i6 system to come into operation.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to note the information provided in the Report in relation to the i6 project.

11. POLICE PERFORMANCE – COMPLAINTS

Under reference to paragraph 7 of the Minute of this Committee dated 18 August 2016, a report by Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland informed the Committee in relation to the number of complaints against the police that had been upheld.

Councillor Divers joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to note the information provided within the report in relation to complaints statistics.

12. DRUG RELATED DEATHS IN MORAY

Under reference to paragraph 10 of the Minute of this Committee dated 18 August 2016, a report by Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland provided the Committee with detail behind the increase in drug related deaths in Moray and wider Grampian region, including specific details regarding drugs abused, age and sex of victims and the work that is being undertaken to reduce this figure.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to note the information provided within the report in relation to drug related deaths in Moray.

13. POLICE PERFORMANCE

A report by Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland informed the Committee of the performance of Police in respect of the Local Policing Plan 2014-17 and other key indicators.

During his introduction, Chief Superintendent Thomson advised that the Moray Policing Plan 2017-20 will be presented at the next meeting in draft format for Committee approval. In relation to the format of the statistic performance reports, he sought the agreement of the Committee to provide thematic reports that will complement the statistical information with contextual information to enable the Committee to better understand the work of the Police in Moray. This was agreed.

During discussion surrounding the Road Safety and Road Crime statistics, clarification was sought in relation to the number of mobile phone offences which appeared to have dropped, when the number of mobile phone offences appeared to have increased nationally.

In response, Chief Superintendent Thomson advised that further information in relation to mobile phone offences from a Scotland wide perspective would be brought to a future meeting of this Committee.

During further discussion surrounding the drop in police establishment figures, clarification was sought as to the reasons behind this.

In response, Chief Superintendent Thomson advised that recruiting probationer constables to the Moray area was challenging and sought the agreement of the Committee to provide a report to a future meeting of this Committee in relation to recruitment challenges. This was agreed.

Thereafter, the Committee agreed:

- (i) to note the performance outlined in the report;
- (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;
- (iii) that thematic inspections of police performance would be carried out with a view to providing contextual and statistical information in future performance reports;
- (iv) that further information in relation to mobile phone offences from a Scotland wide perspective be brought to a future meeting of this Committee; and
- (v) that a report in relation to recruitment challenges be brought to a future meeting of this Committee.

14. QUESTION TIME

Councillor Leadbitter sought an update in relation to the proposed integration of Police Scotland and the Transport Police.

In response, Chief Superintendent Thomson advised that this matter was still out for consultation and confirmed that he would update the Committee when further information became available.

15. UPDATE – COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORTING

Under reference to paragraph 11 of the Minute of this Committee dated 18 August 2016, Chief Superintendent Mackie advised the Committee that he had attended a meeting with Chairs from most of the Community Councils and Area Forums in Moray regarding the provision of statistical information relevant to their area. He advised that they had reached an agreement that a monthly report would be provided from the Community Planning Partnership providing information from all Partners in relation to activity within each area, with a view to commencing in December 2016. This was noted.

16. OPERATIONAL UPDATE (VERBAL) – POLICE [PARA 14]

The Committee agreed to note an informative oral update from Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland in relation to operational matters and the responses to the relevant questions thereafter.