

MORAY COUNCIL**MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES
COMMITTEE****THURSDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2017****COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ELGIN****PRESENT**

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

APOLOGIES

Apologies were intimated of behalf of Councillors G. Alexander, J. Divers and G. Leadbitter.

IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Division Police Commander and Chief Inspector Stewart Mackie (both Police Scotland (North East Division)), Mr David Rout, Local Senior Officer and Mr David Meldrum, Group Manager (both Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (Aberdeenshire & Moray)), the Head of Development Services and Mr Darren Westmacott, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the Committee (both Moray Council).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE BY INVITATION

Mr Graeme Laird, Station Manager (Prevention and Protection Manager), Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (Aberdeenshire & Moray).

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 Member's interests in respect of any item on the agenda.

2. EXEMPT INFORMATION

The Committee 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.

Paragraph No. of Minute
16

Paragraph No. of Schedule 7A
14

3. MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF THE POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES COMMITTEE DATED 17 NOVEMBER 2016

The minute of the meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee dated 17 November 2016 was submitted for approval.

Referring to paragraph 5 of the minute, Mr David Rout, Local Senior Officer (Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (Aberdeenshire & Moray)) advised that a report on the outcome of Her Majesty's Fire Service Inspectorate (HMFSI)'s local area inspection of Moray would be submitted to future meeting of Committee.

Thereafter, the Committee agreed to approve the minute of the meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee dated 17 November 2016.

4. WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Committee noted that no written questions had been submitted.

5. UNWANTED FIRE ALARM SIGNALS IN MORAY

On the invitation of the Chair, Mr Graeme Laird, Station Manager (Prevention and Protection), Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (Aberdeenshire & Moray) gave a presentation to the Committee on Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals in Moray.

The Committee joined Councillor Warren and the Convener in commending the work with distilleries by SFRS and thanking the Station Manager (Prevention and Protection) for presentation.

Thereafter, the Committee agreed to note an informative presentation by the Station Manager (Prevention and Protection), Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (Aberdeenshire & Moray)) on Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals in Moray.

6. REVIEW OF SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE – MORAY LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN

A report was submitted by Mr David Rout, Local Senior Officer (Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (Aberdeenshire & Moray)) informing the Committee of the requirement to conduct a mandatory review the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan. A proposed timeline for review of the Plan was provided as Appendix 1 to the report.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to note the report relating to the mandatory requirement to review the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan, as set out in Section 3 and Appendix 1 of the report.

7. OPERATIONAL UPDATE 2017-2020 – LOCAL POLICING PLAN

Chief Superintendent Thompson, Division Police Commander (Police Scotland (North East Division)) advised the Committee that he would provide an update on the Local Policing Plan under Item 16 of the agenda 'Operational Update (Verbal) – Police'. This was noted by the Committee.

8. OPERATIONAL UPDATE (VERBAL) – FIRE

The Committee was provided with an informative oral update on the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) operational matters from Mr David Meldrum, Group Manager (SFRS (Aberdeenshire & Moray)).

The Committee joined Councillors Allan, McDonald and Warren in commending the work of the Buckie Crew, in respect of their ongoing charity work, and the Lossiemouth Crew for their response to a recent fire and subsequent home visits to neighbours of the incident.

Thereafter, the Committee agreed to note the informative operational update from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS).

9. FIRE AND RESCUE PERFORMANCE

Under reference to paragraph 3 of the minute of the special meeting of this Committee dated 26 March 2014, a report was submitted by Mr David Rout, Local Senior Officer (Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (Aberdeenshire & Moray)) informing the Committee of the performance of the SFRS locally in respect of the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2014-17. A copy of the performance report was provided as Appendix 1 to the report.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to note the performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) in respect of the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2014-17 for the period 1 April 2016 to 31 December 2016, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

10. POLICE PERFORMANCE

Under reference to paragraph 2 of the minute of the special meeting of this Committee dated 26 March 2014, a report was submitted by Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Divisional Police Commander (Police Scotland (North East Division)) informing the Committee of the performance of Police Scotland in respect of the Local Policing Plan 2014-2017 and other key indicators. A copy of the performance report was provided as Appendix 1 to the report.

Chief Superintendent Thomson advised that context was omitted in error from Appendix 1 and that a replacement version would be circulated following the meeting.

On the invitation of the Chair, Chief Superintendent Thomson suggested that representatives of Police Scotland's Planning Team be invited to the next meeting of the Committee to give an update on progress and new processes in respect of the relocation of Aberdeen Police Control Room and Service Centre.

In response, Councillor Ross moved that the Planning Team also give an update any difficulties encountered with Scottish Fire and Rescue Service's relocation of Control Room to Dundee. This was unanimously agreed by the Committee.

Chief Superintendent Thomson, in response to a query from the Committee regarding the way that crimes are recorded, agreed to submit a report on the Scottish Crime Recording Standard to a future meeting of this Committee.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) note the performance of Police Scotland in respect of the Local Policing Plan 2014-17, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (ii) note 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;
- (iii) note that a report on the Scottish Crime Recording Standard would be brought to a future meeting of the Committee; and
- (iv) invite representatives of Police Scotland's Planning Team to the next meeting of the Committee to give an update on:-
 - (a) progress and new processes in respect of the relocation of Aberdeen Police Control Room and Service Centre; and
 - (b) any difficulties encountered with Scottish Fire and Rescue Service's relocation of Control Room to Dundee.

11. THEMATIC REPORT – POLICE SCOTLAND, NORTH EAST DIVISION: SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME

A report was submitted by Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Divisional Police Commander (Police Scotland (North East Division)) providing the Committee with information on Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) and the procedures developed by North East Division to reduce the risk of harm caused by Serious and Organised Crime Groups (SOCGs), in particular drugs, to communities.

The Committee joined Councillor Allan in commending the ongoing work of Police Scotland on SOC and SOCGs in Moray.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to note the information on Serious and Organised Crime, as detailed in Sections 4 and 5 of the report.

12. MOBILE PHONE OFFENCES AND DRIVING/RIDING WHILST DISTRACTED

A report was submitted and noted by Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Divisional Police Commander (Police Scotland (North East Division)) providing the Committee with information in relation to mobile phone offences and driving/riding whilst distracted.

13. POLICE RECRUITMENT – CHALLENGES FACED IN THE NORTH EAST

A report was submitted and noted by Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Divisional Police Commander (Police Scotland (North East Division)) providing the Committee with information on police recruitment and challenges faced in the North East.

14. QUESTION TIME

Councillor McDonald queried whether a report could be submitted to a future report on cyber-crime/bullying. In response, Chief Superintendent Thomson, Divisional Police Commander (Police Scotland (North East Division)) confirmed that a thematics report on the matter would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

Councillor Ross, referring to age and condition of police vehicles, queried what the status of the Moray and Grampian fleets was in comparison to the rest of Scotland. In response, Chief Superintendent Thomson advised that he did not have the information to hand but would circulate a report on the matter by email to the current members of the Committee.

Councillor Warren sought clarification on the process for a Police Officer who was issued a citation for court on a scheduled rest day. In response, Chief Inspector Mackie (Police Scotland (North East Division)) advised that the Officer's rest day would be re-rostered to allow the Officer to attend court without losing their rest day.

15. TRIBUTE AND THANKS

Given that this is likely to be the last meeting of the Committee prior to the Local Government Elections in May 2017, the Chair paid tribute to the Members of the Committee and officers from the Council, Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Services for their support and wished everyone well for the future.

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

The Committee was provided with an informative oral update on the Police Scotland (North East Division) operational matters from Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Divisional Police Commander (Police Scotland (North East Division)).

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to note the informative operational update from Police Scotland (North East Division).