

**MORAY COUNCIL****MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE POLICE AND FIRE AND  
RESCUE SERVICES COMMITTEE****THURSDAY 24 AUGUST 2017****COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ELGIN****PRESENT**

Councillors W Wilson (Chair), J Allan (Depute), G Cowie, P Coy, L Creswell, J Divers, S Morrison, A Patience and R Shepherd.

**ALSO PRESENT**

Councillor L Laing.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Chief Superintendent C Thomson; Chief Inspector S Mackie; Superintendent L Jones; Chief Inspector M Miller; and Detective Superintendent A Dowall (all Police Scotland); Mr D Rout, Local Senior Officer, Aberdeenshire and Moray and Mr D Meldrum, Group Manager, Elgin City Fire Station (both Scottish Fire and Rescue Services); the Head of Development Services and Mrs C Howie, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the Committee.

**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 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.

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

12

14

### **3. MINUTE OF THE POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES COMMITTEE DATED 1 JUNE 2017**

The minute of the meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee dated 1 June 2017 was submitted and approved subject to typographical errors being amended.

Under reference to Item 7 Mr Rout advised that the consultation period for the HM Inspection report did not close until September and therefore the report to Committee would now be presented in November.

### **4. WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

The Committee noted the following written question submitted by Councillor R McLean and the response thereto:

I was recently contacted by a ward resident who, after many years living in France considered it normal practice to inform local police that his home would be empty before going on holiday.

Earlier this year the gentleman attended Elgin police station but was told that the police do not currently maintain any sort of 'absence from home' register and are unable to perform even the most basic of checks on a property when the owner is away.

I would like to know if the police feel there is any possibility that such a service could be implemented for Moray residents.

#### **RESPONSE**

Acquisitive Crime is a priority in North East Division and considerable work has been undertaken to reduce the number of break ins to properties.

Housebreakings in Moray are down by over 12% with detections up by over 3% when compared with the five year average. Through Operation Magpie we have very much focussed on prevention work, targeting recidivist offenders, carrying out crime prevention surveys, focussed crime patrols and ensuring we have a robust governance structure to maximise detections.

Through our work with Community Councils, Neighbourhood Watch and Farm Watch we support communities to engage in basic crime prevention themselves and report suspicious activity.

We are always open to ideas to prevent crime. Given the limited information in this suggestion we would be content to meet with the ward resident and discuss his proposal.

## **5. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE DRAFT MORAY LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN 2017-20**

Under reference to paragraph 7 of the Minute of this Committee dated 1 June 2017 a report by Mr D Rout, Local Senior Officer, Aberdeenshire & Moray, Scottish Fire and Rescue Services presented the Draft Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2017-20 to the Committee.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- i) endorse and note the Draft Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Moray 2017-20;
- ii) participate in the formal consultation process for the Draft Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Moray 2017-20; and
- iii) note the final Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Moray will be presented to a future Committee for approval.

## **6. MORAY LOCAL POLICING PLAN 2017-20**

Under reference to paragraph 9 of the Minute of this Committee dated 1 June 2017 a report by Chief Superintendent C Thomson, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland presented the Committee with the Moray Local Policing Plan 2017-20 for approval.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to approve the Moray Local Policing Plan 2017-20, attached as Appendix 1 to the Report.

## **7. POLICE PERFORMANCE**

Under reference to paragraph 9 of the Minute of this Committee dated 1 June 2017 a report by Chief Superintendent C Thomson, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland informed the Committee of the performance of Police in respect of the Local Policing Plan 2017-20 and other key indicators.

In referring to appendix 1 of the report the Chair sought clarification on the resources available to support the 5 new Probationary Constables who are due to start work in communities across Moray.

In response Chief Superintendent Thomson advised the North East Division has double the amount of probationers as any other Division and the training is challenging.

With the agreement of Committee, Chief Superintendent Thomson undertook to bring a thematic report on the Probationers training to a future Committee.

Thereafter the Committee agreed to note:

- i) performance outlined in the reports;

- ii) that the Local Commander will continue to report to the Committee quarterly on performance measures against service objectives as articulated in the 2017-20 Local Policing Plan; and
- iii) a thematic report on the training programme for police officers would be presented to a future Committee.

#### **8. POLICE SCOTLAND, NORTH EAST DIVISION: GROUP 2 (SEXUAL) CRIME**

A report by Chief Superintendent C Thomson, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland informed Committee of Group 2 (Sexual) Crime in North East Division with particular focus on Moray.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the report.

#### **9. POLICE SCOTLAND, NORTH EAST DIVISION: SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICERS**

Under reference to paragraph 9 of the Minute of this Committee dated 1 June 2017 a report by Chief Superintendent C Thomson, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland informed Committee of the work of School Liaison Officers (SLOs) in North East Division with particular focus on Moray.

During discussion of the report, at the suggestion of Chief Superintendent Thomson, Committee agreed an annual report on the role of SLOs would provide a more holistic overview.

Thereafter the Committee agreed:

- (i) to note the report;
- (ii) that updates on the number of Road Safety Education Inputs (in the Road Safety and Road Crime section) and Educational Inputs (in the Serious Organised Crime section) be removed from future Police Performance Reports; and
- (iii) that updates on the role of SLOs are to be provided annually to give a more detailed holistic overview.

#### **10. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE – OPERATIONAL UPDATE**

The Committee was provided with an informative verbal update with regard to the Fire and Rescue Operations by Mr D Meldrum, Group Manager, Elgin City Fire Station.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the informative operational update from Mr Meldrum.

## **11. FIRE AND RESCUE PERFORMANCE**

Under reference to paragraph 3 of the Minute of this Committee dated 26 March 2014 a report by the Local Senior Officer, Aberdeenshire & Moray, Scottish Fire and Rescue Services informed Committee of the performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service locally in respect of the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the performance outlined in the report applicable to quarterly performance for 1 April 2017 to 30 June 2017.

## **12. QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions raised.

## **13. TRIBUTE**

Prior to moving to the confidential session the Committee joined the Chair in paying tribute to Chief Inspector Stewart Mackie as this was his final Committee prior to moving to a Roads policing role in Police Scotland.

## **14. POLICE OPERATIONAL UPDATE [PARA 14]**

The Committee was advised by Chief Superintendent C Thomson, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland that he had no confidential update with regard to Police Operations on this occasion.

He then introduced Chief Inspector Maggie Miller who is taking over the role vacated by Chief Inspector Mackie.

Thereafter Committee joined the Chair in welcoming Chief Inspector Miller to the Committee.