

MORAY COUNCIL

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

THURSDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2017

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ELGIN

PRESENT

Councillors J Allan (Depute Chair); G Cowie; P Coy; J Divers, L Laing; and R Shepherd.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors W Wilson (Chair); L Creswell; and A Patience.

IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Superintendent C Thomson; and Chief Inspector M Miller (both 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) and Mrs C Howie, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the Committee.

1. WELCOME

Committee joined the Chair in welcoming Chief Inspector Maggie Miller, Area Command, Police Scotland, to this her first meeting of the 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 Member's interests in respect of any item on the agenda.

**3. MINUTE OF THE POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES
COMMITTEE DATED 24 AUGUST 2017**

The minute of the meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee dated 24 August 2017 was submitted and approved.

4. WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Committee noted that no written questions had been submitted.

5. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE MORAY LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN 2017-20

A report by David Rout, Local Senior Officer, Aberdeenshire & Moray presented the Committee with the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2017-20.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to approve the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2017-20 and the priorities contained within.

6. HER MAJESTY'S FIRE SERVICE INSPECTORATE IN SCOTLAND LOCAL AREA INSPECTION REPORT FOR MORAY

A report by David Rout, Local Senior Officer, Aberdeenshire & Moray informed the Committee of the recently published Her Majesty's Fire Service Inspectorate (HMFSI) in Scotland local area inspection report for Moray.

In response to a query from Councillor Divers, Mr Rout advised there were no areas of concern from the report. He further advised that HMFSI would check compliance in 6 months and undertook to provide an update thereafter.

Thereafter the Committee agreed to:

- i) note the information outlined in the report applicable to the HMFSI local area inspection of Moray;
- ii) the Local Senior Officer presenting a local area action plan at a future meeting of this Committee; and
- iii) the Local Senior Officer presenting an update in six months, following the review inspection to be carried out by the Inspectorate.

7. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE MORAY PERFORMANCE REPORT APRIL – SEPTEMBER 2017

A report by David Rout, Local Senior Officer, Aberdeenshire & Moray informed the Committee of the performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service 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 annual performance for 1 April 2017 to 30 September 2017.

8. 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 2017-20 and other key indicators.

During discussion it was agreed to change the reporting on performance measures from quarterly to six-monthly.

Thereafter following further consideration the Committee agreed to note:

- i) the performance outlined in the reports; and
- ii) that the Local Commander will continue to report to the Committee on performance measures against service objectives as articulated in the 2017-20 Local Policing Plan on a six-monthly basis.

9. THEMATIC REPORT – TRAINING FOR POLICE OFFICERS

A report by Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland provided information to Committee in relation to the training of Police Officers in North East Division.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the information provided in the Report in relation to the training of Police Offices in North East Division.

10. QUESTION TIME

In response to a question from Councillor Divers, Mr Rout confirmed that in line with existing partnership arrangements with Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS) at Fraserburgh and Tomintoul approval has been given to introduce an emergency response ambulance into Elgin Community Fire Station. This was an outcome of an approach made to the Local Senior Officer by the Head of Service for Grampian of SAS.

The Chair, on behalf of Councillor Creswell, sought clarification on the effect the budget decision on VAT for services have on being able to divert the funding to resources needed by the Fire Service in terms of recruitment of more staff.

In response Mr Rout advised the funding issue was a matter for the Government and the Service, but as Senior Local Officer he would welcome any funding that may come in. He further advised that in terms of recruitment the Moray Area is currently at full establishment.

In response to a query from Councillor Coy, Mr Rout undertook to provide accurate figures for referrals of home fire safety visits for vulnerable persons outwith the meeting. He advised the Moray Area had seen significant increase in such referrals through local Partnership working.

The Chair, on behalf of Councillor Creswell, sought clarification on whether more frequent attendance by the Police at Forres Community Council or the Joint Community Council meetings would be possible.

In response Chief Superintendent Thomson advised he would be appreciative of Councillor Creswell meeting with the Local Area Commander to discuss outwith the meeting.

11. TRIBUTE

In noting that this would be the last meeting of the Committee prior to Mr Rout, Local Senior Officer, Aberdeenshire and Moray, Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (SFRS), retiring from his post with the SFRS in February, the Committee joined the Chair in wishing him a long and happy retirement.

In response Mr Rout advised it had been a privilege to serve as the Local Senior Officer and he took the opportunity to thank and applaud the commitment and enthusiasm of the staff in Moray and thanked those involved in the collaborative working during his time in post.