

MORAY COUNCIL

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

THURSDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2018

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ELGIN

PRESENT

Councillors J Allan (Chair); G Cowie; P Coy; L Creswell; and M Macrae.

ALSO PRESENT

Councillor G Alexander (ex-officio).

APOLOGIES

Apologies were intimated on behalf of Councillors R Shepherd (Depute Chair); J Divers; L Laing; and A Patience.

IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Superintendent C Thomson and Inspector N Morrison, both Police Scotland; Mr I Findlay, Local Senior Officer and Mr D Meldrum 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.

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

11

14

3. MINUTE OF THE POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES COMMITTEE DATED 23 NOVEMBER 2017

The minute of the meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee dated 23 November 2017 was submitted for approval.

Under reference to paragraph 8 of the Minute of 23 November 2017 the Chair advised it should state six-monthly reporting and not quarterly reporting on performance measures.

The Clerk undertook to review the webcast and update the minute if required.

4. WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Committee noted that no written questions had been submitted.

5. POLICE OPERATIONAL UPDATE

A verbal update on Police Operations was provided by Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the operational update provided by Chief Superintendent Thomson.

6. WELCOME

The Committee joined the Chair in welcoming Mr Ian Findlay, Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Services, to this his first meeting of the Committee.

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

Under reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting dated 23 November 2017 a report by Mr Ian Findlay, Local Senior Officer, Aberdeenshire and 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 2017-20.

Mr Findlay advised a public consultation was underway on the future of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and was currently available online at the Fire Scotland website. Mr Findlay encouraged all to participate in the consultation which closes on 14 May 2018.

Thereafter Mr Findlay offered to arrange an engagement session for Elected Members to look at proposals being put forward.

As no one was otherwise minded Mr Findlay undertook to arrange an engagement session at Elgin fire Station.

Following discussion the Committee agreed to note the performance outlined in the report applicable to the annual performance for 1 April to 31 December 2017.

8. THEMATIC REPORT – HUMAN TRAFFICKING

A report by Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland informed the Committee in relation to Human Trafficking in general and in Moray in particular.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the information provided in relation to Human Trafficking in general and in Moray in particular.

9. THEMATIC REPORT – ROAD POLICING

A report by Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland informed the Committee in relation to the role and core functions of the Road Policing Unit in North East Division.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the information provided in relation to Road Policing in the North East Division.

10. QUESTION TIME

Councillor Alexander sought clarification on whether there was any effect on policing due to currently having no Chief Constable in Scotland.

In response Chief Superintendent Thomson advised the evidence showed crime had decreased and detection of crime had increased. He further advised he had autonomy to ensure work was ongoing and was of the opinion it would be beneficial if the media focussed on the good work of the police rather than the current vacant post of Chief Constable.

11. POLICE OPERATIONAL UPDATE [PARA 14]

Following advice from Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson the Committee noted there was no requirement for a confidential operational update from Police Scotland on this occasion.