

Minute of Meeting Police and Fire & Rescue Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 21 August 2018	15:00	Corporate Meeting Room 1, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present

Councillors Hood, McGurk, McNaughtan, Nicolson and Strang.

Chair

Councillor McGurk, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

M Crearie, Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services; C Grainger, Planning and Performance Manager (Chief Executive's); O Reid, Head of Communities & Public Protection and C Dalrymple, Communities and Regulatory Manager (both Communities, Housing and Planning Services); R Devine, Senior Committee Services Officer and K O'Neill, Assistant Democratic Services Officer (both Finance & Resources).

Also in Attendance

G Crossan, Divisional Commander; S Carle, Chief Superintendent, Head of Road Policing and S Wright, Superintendent (all Police Scotland); and G Binning, Local Senior Officer and M Gallacher, Group Manager (both Scottish Fire and Rescue Service).

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

1 Police Scotland - Scrutiny Report

There was submitted a report by the Chief Superintendent, Police Scotland, relative to service performance and activities in the Renfrewshire area.

The report summarised the key performance indicators and provided statistics for the period 1 April to June 2018, relating to the specific key objectives detailed in the Renfrewshire Local Policing Plan 2017/21, together with comparative data. The report also provided in an infographics format local updates in relation to the Police Scotland priorities of violence and anti-social behaviour; public protection; major crime & terrorism; acquisitive crime and road safety & road crime. An update was also provided on progress made on a number of local high profile cases.

DECIDED: That the information be noted.

2 Scottish Fire & Rescue Service - Scrutiny Report

There was submitted a report by the Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) relative to SFRS performance and activities in the Renfrewshire area during the reporting period Quarter 1 – 2018/2019. It was further advised that future reports would be on a quarterly basis, be presented in an infographics format and align with the local Fire and Rescue Plan.

The report provided a summary across a range of performance indicators. Over the period there had been an increase in the number of accidental dwelling fires from 42 in the same period in 2017/18 to 51 in the current reporting period; the total number of all non-fatal fire casualties had increased from 9 to 14; the total number of incidents involving deliberate fire raising had decreased from 213 to 200 during the comparative periods; the total number of fires in non-domestic premises had increased from 14 to 21 in the current reporting period; the number of unwanted fire alarm signal incidents had increased from 204 to 207; the total number of non-fatal road traffic collisions attended by the Service had decreased from 24 to 16. The appendix to the report provided an analysis of performance and activities.

The report also detailed a number of priorities and interventions, specifically highlighting the Local Area Liaison Officer's attendance at the daily tasking meeting within Renfrewshire Safety Hub; the Community Action Team (CAT) engagement with a number of key partners to promote fire safety; information/awareness events that had been conducted by the CAT to support the work of the SFRS Spring/Summer Thematic Action Plan which included talks on deliberate fires; a Fireskills event held for pupils from two local secondary schools; and the number of Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) carried out in Renfrewshire during the reporting period.

A commitment was made to work in partnership with Community Planning partners in the public, private and voluntary sectors for a safer Scotland, strengthened working added value to communities which was critical to the success of the strategy.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the report be noted; and
- (b) That it be noted that infographic reports would be submitted to future meetings

of the Sub Committee.

3 Reforming the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service - An Audit Scotland Update

There was submitted a report by the Director of Communities, Housing & Planning Services relative to an update report by Audit Scotland on reforming the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service.

The report stated that Audit Scotland had published its report, 'The Scottish Fire & Rescue Service', during May 2015, which provided an overview of the proposed merger of the eight former fire and rescue services to form a single Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

An update report by Audit Scotland on reforming the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service had been published in May 2018. The update report assessed progress made by the Service, since 2015, on creating a single national organisation and the ongoing process of integration and transformation and advised that slow but steady progress was being made. The report had concluded that the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service continued to deliver emergency and prevention services while progressing a complex and ambitious programme of reform.

DECIDED: That the content of the Audit Scotland report "Reforming the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service" – an Audit Scotland Update be noted.

4 Commemoration of Firefighter - 7 October 2018

The Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire & Rescue Services advised that arrangements were in place to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the death of Edmund Burt a serving Firefighter who had lost his life while attending a fire at R & W Paper Mill, Napier Street, Linwood on 7 October 1968.

The commemorative service would be held in Tweedie Halls, Linwood on Sunday 7 October 2018 at 2.00pm. A stone memorial plinth would be put in place on the ground as near as possible to where the firefighter had fallen. Details of those invited to attend were provided and it was noted that civic hospitality would be provided by the Council.

The Local Senior Office, Scottish Fire & Rescue advised that similar arrangements would be made to commemorate James Mair, a firefighter who had lost his life while attending a fire at Ferguslie Fireclay Works, Paisley in 1899.

DECIDED: That the information provided be noted.

5 Local Incidents and Events - Update

The Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service provided a summary of Partnership involvement at the recent Johnstone Fire Engine Rally held on 11 August 2018.

The Chief Superintendent made a presentation relative to the County Grand Lodge Parade held in Johnstone on 30 June 2018. Details of the numbers attending the

event, aims and objectives of the multi-agency team established, planning and operational arrangements made and the strategy deployed were provided.

The Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service and the Chief Superintendent made reference to the close partnership working undertaken by their respective organisations which had resulted in an arrest and charges being made in respect of wilful fire raising.

DECIDED: That the information provided be noted.

6 Road Policing Unit

The Chief Superintendent, Head of Road Policing for Police Scotland gave a presentation relative to the Police Scotland Road Policing Unit (RPU).

The role, responsibility and aims and objections of the Unit were outlined. The Sub-Committee was also informed of the proposal to re-locate the RPU from 'K' division to Glasgow. Data analysis had indicated there would be no detrimental impact on response times. It was the consensus that the proposed relocation of the RPU to the Helen Street complex would result in more gains than losses but that the situation should be monitored.

DECIDED: That the presentation be noted.