

MORAY COUNCIL

Minute of Meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee

Thursday, 23 August 2018

Council Chambers, Council Office, High Street, Elgin, IV30 1BX

PRESENT

Councillor James Allan, Councillor Theresa Coull, Councillor Paula Coy, Councillor John Divers, Councillor Donald Gatt, Councillor Louise Laing, Councillor Graham Leadbitter, Councillor Ron Shepherd

APOLOGIES

Councillor Tim Eagle

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr John Morgan, Group Manager, Moray Area, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; Mr Ian Findlay, Area Manager, Aberdeenshire and Moray, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Police Scotland; Chief Inspector Maggie Miller, Police Scotland; Mr Jim Grant, Head of Development Services and Mrs Caroline Howie, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the Meeting.

1 Declaration of Group Decisions and Members 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, that 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	Paragraph No. of Schedule 7A
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3 Minute of Meeting dated 24 May 2018

The Minute of the meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee dated 24 May 2018 was submitted and approved.

4 Police Operational Update

At the request of Chief Superintendent Thomson the Committee agreed to the Police Operational Update being given as part of the Police Performance Report.

5 Police Performance

Under reference to paragraph 13 of the Minute of the Meeting of 1 June 2017 a report by Chief Superintendent Thomson informed Committee of the performance of Police in respect of the Local Policing Plan 2017-20 and other key indicators.

In response to clarification being sought on inappropriate parking Chief Superintendent Thomson advised if there are road safety issues they need to be addressed however ongoing parking issues would be better dealt with through local policing teams.

Discussion took place on visits to licensed premises and the possibility of the information being broken down to give a better understanding of the reasons for visits, whether these be routine or because they had been called to the premises.

In response Chief Superintendent Thomson advised the visits were made to drive down alcohol related issues and he was of the opinion this was successful. He undertook to explore possibilities and present proposal to a future meeting.

The Chair was of the opinion that Committee would be interested to see information on the Police work plan in relation to domestic abuse.

Chief Superintendent Thomson undertook to bring a thematic report on domestic abuse to the next meeting of the Committee.

Thereafter the Committee agreed to note:

- i. the verbal update on Police Operational matters;
- 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. that a thematic report on Domestic Abuse will be presented to the next meeting.

6 Thematic Report - Moray Police Service Youth Volunteers

A report by Chief Superintendent Thomson informed Committee of Police Scotland Youth Volunteers (PSYV) within Moray.

Discussion took place on the work the PSYV have been involved in and thereafter the Committee joined Councillor Leadbitter in commending the Moray Police Service Youth Volunteers for their work as stewards during the recent Food and Drink event in Elgin and agreed to note the information provided in relation to the Police Scotland Youth Volunteers, particularly within Moray.

7 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Operational Update

A verbal update on the work of the Scottish Police and Fire Rescue Service in Moray was provided by Mr Ian Findlay.

Councillor Leadbitter sought clarification on the challenges of providing welfare to officers during the recent spate of wild fires.

In response Mr Findlay advised there are welfare vehicles and welfare officers in attendance at incidents to ensure the welfare of fire crews. He took the opportunity to thank local businesses and individuals who provided assistance during the recent wild fires.

Thereafter Committee agreed to note the verbal update from Mr Findlay.

8 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Thematic Report - Unintentional Harm and Home Safety

A report by Area Manager Findlay provided Committee with information on Unintentional Harm and Home Safety both in relation to past performance and how it is intended to deliver against this priority in the future.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the information provided in the report in relation to Unintentional Harm and Home Safety.

9 Question Time ***

Councillor Divers sought clarification on what youth work is currently being undertaken in the fire service and the possibility of Committee visiting the fire station at Gordonstoun School to see the good work they carry out.

In response the Local Senior Officer of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) advised the Gordonstoun fire station was becoming more involved in operational incidents. The SFRS is increasing the portfolio of work undertaken e.g. by including Home Fire Safety visits and giving community safety advice at events. He further advised he would request a copy of the training schedule be provided to Committee to allow a visit to watch the training being undertaken.

In further response John Morgan, Group Manager, Moray Area, SFRS advised that going forward, Fire Skills, a venture working closely with youth members, was being considered and in particular how this may be funded.

10 Police Operational Update [Para 14]

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the informative verbal operational update from Police Scotland.