

**MINUTE**  
**of**  
**CABINET**  
**(POLICE & FIRE)**

**Minute of meeting held at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock on 5 June 2025.**

**Present:**

Councillor Owen O'Donnell (Leader)  
Councillor Caroline Bamforth

Councillor Katie Pragnell  
Councillor Gordon Wallace

Councillor O'Donnell in the Chair

**Attending:**

Steven Quinn, Chief Executive; Louise Pringle, Director of Business Operations and Partnerships; Stephen Bell, Community Safety Manager; and John Burke, Committee Services Officer.

**Also Attending:**

Chief Superintendent Emma Croft; Chief Inspector Gillian Faulds, (Area Commander), Police Scotland; and Group Commander Alan Coughtrie, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

**Apology:**

Councillors Andrew Anderson and Danny Devlin.

**LEADER'S REMARKS**

**1217.** The Leader remarked upon Chief Superintendent Emma Croft attending her first meeting of the Cabinet (Police & Fire). He paid tribute to the work of Chief Superintendent Lynn Ratcliff and welcomed Chief Superintendent Croft.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**1218.** There were no declarations of interest intimated.

**POLICE SCOTLAND – PERFORMANCE REPORT - QUARTER 4 - 2024-25**

**1219.** The Cabinet considered a report by the Divisional Commander, Police Scotland, providing details of the performance of the police over the fourth quarter of 2024-25. The report also provided statistical information in relation to various categories of crimes and offences committed during the reported period together with comparative statistics for the corresponding period in 2023-24.

The report provided a summary of police performance against the five local policing priorities contained in the East Renfrewshire Policing Plan 2023-26, with the information summarised.

The report also contained examples of the work being done in East Renfrewshire by officers of Police Scotland on all of the areas of focus covered.

There followed a question and answer session in the course of which Chief Superintendent Croft and Chief Inspector Faulds responded to a number of questions and provided clarification on a range of operational issues within East Renfrewshire and the crime statistics recorded in the report. In particular, on indecent online communications and the inappropriate use of AI, the nature of hate crimes taking place in East Renfrewshire, issues around resourcing in response to new legislation, anti-social behaviour and the upgrading of CCTV in some areas, and the welcome reduction in housebreaking and the drivers behind that reduction.

The Cabinet noted the report.

**SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE (SFRS) PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2024-25**

**1220.** The Cabinet considered a report by the Group Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS), providing details of the performance of SFRS in East Renfrewshire during the fourth quarter of 2024-25 against the key priorities in their local plan.

Introducing the report, Group Commander Coughtrie referred to the new layout of the report. He indicated that this was a work in progress and invited members to provide feedback on what works well for them and on other things they may wish to see added or changed.

Group Commander Coughtrie then reported on the performance of SFRS on performance over quarter 4, summarising the information provided in the report.

There followed a question and answer session in the course of which Group Commander Coughtrie responded to members questions on the new reporting format, the upcoming Fire Skills course and success of other diversionary activities within the Council area, the use of smoke hoods in fire incidents, and the assessment and readiness of response in terms of vehicles and facilities containing lithium ion batteries.

Thereafter the Cabinet agreed to note the report.