

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

**Minute of Meeting held at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock, on 21 September 2017.**

**Present:**

Councillor Colm Merrick (Chair)  
Councillor Caroline Bamforth

Councillor Tony Buchanan  
Councillor Barbara Grant

Councillor Merrick in the Chair

**Attending:**

Lorraine McMillan, Chief Executive; Jim Sneddon, Head of Democratic and Partnership Services; Claire Reid, Interim Community Safety Manager; and Paul O'Neil, Committee Services Officer.

**Also Attending:**

Chief Superintendent Brian McNulty and Chief Inspector Angela Carty, Police Scotland; and Local Senior Officer David Proctor, and Group Manager Colin Martin, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

**Apologies:**

Councillors Danny Devlin; Paul O'Kane (Vice Chair); Alan Lafferty; and Stewart Miller.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**POLICE SCOTLAND – PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF FINANCIAL YEAR 2017/18**

**146.** The Cabinet considered a report by the Divisional Commander, Police Scotland providing details of the performance of the police in East Renfrewshire over the first quarter of 2017/18. A statistical report giving a breakdown of various categories of crimes and offences committed during the reported period was appended to the report.

Chief Superintendent McNulty began by explaining the local management arrangements of the police where he was the Divisional Commander for the Greater Glasgow Division and

Chief Inspector Carty was the Area Commander for East Renfrewshire supported by Deputy Area Commander Inspector John McQuilter and Constable Jacqueline Petrie who was the Local Authority Liaison Officer.

Whilst commenting on the launch of the East Renfrewshire Police Scotland Youth Volunteers group on 28 August 2017, which was noted as a fantastic initiative, Chief Superintendent McInulty referred to the work that had been undertaken in the preparation of the Local Policing Plan 2017-20 in partnership with the Council and the Local Outcome Improvement Plans. Concluding his remarks, he invited Chief Inspector Carty to provide further details on the performance report.

Chief Inspector Carty reported that tackling violence, disorder and anti-social behaviour continued to be a challenge. She highlighted a recent operation targeting youths coming into East Renfrewshire to known hotspots with officers had taking alcohol from them. She also highlighted that the detection rate for common assault, domestic incidents and hate crime had increased whereas the detection rate for serious assault had fallen when compared to the corresponding period the previous year.

Whilst noting that the number of crimes of domestic abuse had fallen when compared to the corresponding period the previous year, Chief Inspector Carty reported that whilst theft by housebreaking continued to be a concern the number of incidents had fallen from 60 in 2016/17 to 46 in the corresponding period in the current year. She indicated that overall the road safety figures were positive although there were 3 casualties recorded in the first quarter of 2017/18. Reference was also made to the public consultation 'Your View Counts' which continued to direct the way the police operated in East Renfrewshire and the measures being taken to tackle serious crime. It was noted that drug supply was highlighted as one of the top 5 concerns of residents in East Renfrewshire. To date there had been 9 detections for supply of controlled drugs in East Renfrewshire whilst this was slightly lower than the corresponding period in 2016, the police continued to deploy local officers along with specialist teams to detect those responsible.

There followed a short question and answer session in the course of which Chief Superintendent McInulty and Chief Inspector Carty responded to a number of questions and provided clarification on a range of operational issues within East Renfrewshire. In particular, clarification was provided on the difference between common and serious assaults, the reasons why the number of detections for drugs supply had decreased and why the detection rates for serious assaults had decreased significantly compared to the corresponding period in the previous year. Other issues that were discussed included the problems associated with parents parking their cars in and around schools in the mornings and afternoons and anti-social behaviour and the measures being taken to tackle these problems.

The Cabinet noted the terms of the report.

## **POLICE SCOTLAND – EAST RENFREWSHIRE LOCAL POLICING PLAN 2017-20**

**147.** The Cabinet considered a report by the Divisional Commander, on the East Renfrewshire Local Policing Plan 2017-20.

Whilst referring to the provisions of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 which set out the policing principles for Police Scotland and the requirement to produce a Local Policing Plan, Chief Inspector Carty explained that the Plan set out how Police Scotland would work to achieve this through the setting of local priorities shaped in consultation with community planning partners, communities and the most current data available to the police.

Having noted that the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 required each Community Planning Partnership to produce Local Outcome Improvement Plans with the focus on the delivery of shared outcomes at a local level, Chief Inspector Carty stated that these shared outcomes would be reflected in the Local Policing Plan 2017-20 and would outline the commitment of Police Scotland to adopt a collaborative approach with communities, partners and stakeholders. Details of the national, and local priorities together with the outcomes in the Local Outcome Improvement Plan were outlined in the report.

There followed a short question and answer session in the course of which Chief Superintendent McNulty and Chief Inspector Carty responded to a number of questions in relation to achieving the priorities identified in the plan, particular reference being made to the threat posed by cyber-crime and the advantages of having a Local Police Liaison Officer embedded in the Council.

The Cabinet agreed to **recommend to the Council** that the Police Scotland Local Policing Plan for East Renfrewshire 2017-20 be approved.

### **SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE – PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2017/18**

**148.** The Cabinet considered a report by the Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS), providing details of the performance of the SFRS in East Renfrewshire during the first quarter of 2017/18. An analysis of the incidents in each of the Council's former 6 wards during the reported period was appended to the report.

Local Senior Officer Proctor began by explaining that since the last meeting Group Manager Stephen Wright had transferred to a post in the Glasgow area and that he had been replaced by Group Manager Colin Martin. He invited Group Manager Martin to provide further details on the report.

Group Manager Martin provided a summary of the key performance indicators of the service during the reported period in the course of which he highlighted that overall the performance was positive. He summarised the key performance indicators which were noted as accidental dwelling fires; all non-fatal fire casualties; deliberate fire raising; non-domestic buildings; unwanted fire alarm signals; and road traffic collisions.

Whilst noting that the performance of each of the indicators in the first quarter of 2017/18 had been measured against the figures reported for the corresponding period in 2016/17, Group Manager Martin reported that the total number of accidental dwelling fires had decreased from 16 to 14; the total number of all non-fatal fire casualties had shown a slight increase of 1; the total number of incidents involving deliberate fire raising had increased from 4 to 7; that the total number of unwanted fire alarm signal incidents had increased from 59 to 77 and that the total number of road traffic collision incidents attended by SFRS which resulted in non-fatal casualties had decreased from 7 to 5 in the current reported period. Furthermore, there were no fatalities to report.

Group Manager Martin also reported on a range of partnership and community engagement activities undertaken by SFRS during the course of the first quarter of 2017/18 which included attendance at the weekly meetings of the Greater Results in Partnership (GRIP); and providing support to the Health and Social Care Partnership in relation to fire safety awareness training. He also highlighted that in addition, the Community Action Team and Retired Employee Association (REA) volunteers had conducted 38 Home Fire Safety Visits for East Renfrewshire Telecare.

Furthermore, it was noted that a total of 354 Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) had been carried out in East Renfrewshire during the reported period, 47 of which were as a result of high risk referrals from East Renfrewshire community planning partners and 62 of which were as a result of Post-Domestic Incident Responses (PDIR). Group Manager Martin explained that the SFRS conducted a PDIR at all domestic dwelling incidents (including fire alarm actuations and special services). Arising from such incidents, he advised that fire safety advice and support was provided and where required SFRS provided and fitted 10 year battery powered smoke detectors.

There followed a short question and answer session in the course of which Local Senior Officer Proctor responded to and provided clarification on a number of questions about operational issues. In particular, he acknowledged that due to the growing elderly population in East Renfrewshire this would place additional pressures on the SFRS to ensure elderly residents were kept safe in their homes especially those who were considered vulnerable. He also commented on the dangers associated with attending false alarms under 'blue light' journeys and that the SFRS had entered into discussions with the Council's Director of Education with a view to tackling this problem in schools.

The Cabinet noted the terms of the report.

#### **SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE – EAST RENFREWSHIRE LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN REVIEW 2014-17**

**149.** The Cabinet considered a report by the Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS), providing details of the review of the East Renfrewshire Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2014-17.

The report provided details of the number of incidents the SFRS had attended during the period 2012-2017, gave an overview of the performance against key performance indicators in the Local Fire Plan 2014-2017 and an explanation of the performance achieved by SFRS against each of the key performance indicators.

Local Senior Officer Proctor explained that in reviewing the progress against the priorities within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for East Renfrewshire 2014-17, one aspect that had been highlighted was that whilst operational demand in the longer term had been reducing a review of activity during the current fiscal year had indicated fluctuations in operational demand. He referred to the statistics in the report and the performance against targets in the course of which he highlighted that the service was attending more serious road traffic collisions. Concluding his remarks, he indicated that the 6 priorities detailed in the report would be taken forward in the new Local Fire and Rescue Plan for East Renfrewshire.

There followed a short question and answer session in the course of which Local Senior Officer Proctor explained that whilst the SFRS always encouraged the installation of sprinklers in buildings and that both the Scottish Parliament and Westminster had been lobbied on the matter, he emphasised that ultimately it would be a political decision as to whether they should be installed in all buildings. Concluding his remarks, he indicated that given the financial pressures the building industry was facing the installation of sprinklers was not considered as a priority.

The Cabinet noted the terms of the report.

**SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE – DRAFT EAST RENFREWSHIRE LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN 2017**

**150.** The Cabinet considered a report by the Local Senior Officer, providing details of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) draft Local Fire and Rescue Plan for East Renfrewshire.

Whilst noting that the plan had been developed to support the delivery of agreed local outcomes for East Renfrewshire's communities in conjunction with the national priorities contained within the SFRS Strategic Plan 2016-19, the report explained that the ambition of the plan was to work in partnership to improve community safety, enhance the wellbeing of those living or resorting to East Renfrewshire whilst tackling issues of social inequality. In addition, the plan would set out the priorities of SFRS in order to support this ambition.

Local Senior Officer Proctor explained that the draft Plan was at present the subject of a public consultation exercise and that a number of events would be arranged to publicise the plan, He explained that the document would reflect the outcomes in the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan in the course of which he made reference to the local priorities detailed in the draft Plan. These were noted as Domestic Fire Safety; Unintentional Harm and Injury; Deliberate Fire Setting; Non-Domestic Fire Safety; Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals; and Operational Resilience and Preparedness. Concluding his remarks, he advised that the consultation exercise would end on 4 December 2017 and the finalised plan would be submitted to the Cabinet for approval.

The Cabinet noted the position.

CHAIR

