

MINUTE
of
CABINET
(POLICE AND FIRE)

Minute of Meeting held at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock on 20 March 2014.

Present:

Councillor Jim Fletcher (Leader)
Councillor Danny Devlin
Councillor Barbara Grant

Councillor Ian McAlpine
Councillor Mary Montague

Councillor Fletcher, Leader, in the Chair

Attending:

Lorraine McMillan, Chief Executive; Caroline Innes, Deputy Chief Executive; Jim Sneddon, Head of Democratic and Partnership Services; and Paul O'Neil, Committee Services Officer.

Also Attending:

Chief Superintendent Andy Bates and Chief Inspector Campbell Crawford, Police Scotland and Local Senior Officer, Paul Tanzilli, and Group Manager, Stephen McCaffrey, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

Apologies:

Councillors Tony Buchanan (Deputy Leader); Elaine Green; Alan Lafferty; Gordon Wallace; and Vincent Waters.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

958. There were no declarations of interest intimated.

POLICE SCOTLAND - PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF FINANCIAL YEAR 2013/14

959. The Cabinet considered a report by the Divisional Commander, Police Scotland, providing details of the performance of the Police in East Renfrewshire over the third quarter of the financial year 2013/14. 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 Bates invited Chief Inspector Crawford to provide further details about the performance information contained in the report.

Chief Inspector Crawford stated that following on from an exceptional year in 2012/13 where crime across East Renfrewshire had been at a record low, there had been a further reduction in the overall crime and incidents within East Renfrewshire for the third quarter of the 2013/14 financial year. He provided a summary of the performance information highlighting that Sergeant Susan Gillon, who was the Local Authority Liaison Officer had been promoted to temporary Inspector and that her replacement would be Sergeant Jim Boyle. He also advised that the 9 month figures for all assaults in East Renfrewshire showed a 20% reduction in the number of assaults from 309 last year to 247 (i.e. 62 fewer victims). Other performance information of note was a 17 % drop in the number of calls the Police had received from the public in respect of anti-social behaviour. This had gone down from 3056 in the previous year to 2548 in the current year. There had also been an 8.4% increase in the detection rate of domestic abuse incidents which had risen from 68.6% to 77%.

Whilst noting that there had been a positive response to the annual community consultation, Chief Inspector Crawford reported on a number of initiatives and events undertaken during the course of the reported period. In particular, he referred to the 'Winter Initiative' action plan run during the course of December 2013 where the Police had worked closely with community wardens and CCTV operators. During this initiative, it was noted that 3 cluster areas had been identified and officers were tasked with working with high visibility foot patrols within the busy retail areas from Mondays to Sundays during business hours of operation. This had contributed to the fact no robberies were carried out in East Renfrewshire during this period.

There following a short question and answer session in the course of which Chief Superintendent Bates and Chief Inspector Crawford provided clarification on a number of operational issues within East Renfrewshire.

The Cabinet noted the terms of the report.

POLICE SCOTLAND – LOCAL POLICE PLAN 2014-17

960. The Cabinet considered a report by the Divisional Commander, Police Scotland seeking approval of the Local Policing Plan 2014-17 for East Renfrewshire.

The report explained that the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 required the Local Police Commander to prepare and submit a Local Policing Plan to the Council for approval, and that the plan should be reviewed once every 3 years. It was noted that last year's Local Police Plan, the first for Police Scotland, was an interim plan covering the period 2013/14. The new plan now superseded the interim plan and covered the 3-year period 2014/17.

Chief Superintendent Bates emphasised that local people were at the heart of everything Police Scotland did and that the plan, which had been developed following consultation with the public and other key partners, set out the policing priorities that had been identified as the issues that caused most concern to local communities. The plan also set out what Police Scotland was doing to tackle these issues and how it would continue to address them in the years ahead. The 4 priorities were noted as Priority 1 – Tackling Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour; Priority 2 – Protecting People; Priority 3 – Increasing Public Confidence and Local Engagement; and Priority 4 – Tackling Serious Crime and Responding to Major Events. Details of the local policing arrangements within East Renfrewshire were also outlined in the report together with information about the local scrutiny and engagement arrangements.

The report concluded by indicating that the plan would help ensure that local policing in East Renfrewshire continued to be aligned to the Community Planning arrangements and the Single Outcome Agreement and demonstrated the ongoing commitment by Police Scotland to deliver policing services that served the needs of local communities.

The Cabinet agreed to **recommend to the Council** that the Local Policing Plan 2014-17 be approved.

SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE – PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF FINANCIAL YEAR 2013/14 AND LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN FOR EAST RENFREWSHIRE 2014-17

961. The Cabinet considered a report by the Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS), providing details of the performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in East Renfrewshire over the third quarter of the financial year 2013/14. The report also sought approval of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for East Renfrewshire 2014-17. Appended to the report were copies of an analysis of the incidents in each of the Council's six wards for the third quarter of the financial year 2013/14 and the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for East Renfrewshire 2014-17.

Local Senior Officer Tanzilli provided a summary of the activity analysis by reference to some of the key performance indicators in the report. These included amongst other things that no fatal or non-fatal fire casualties had been recorded during the period; although there had been 21 accidental dwelling fires representing a slight increase from the last quarter. In addition, two non-domestic fires had occurred both of which were recorded as accidental.

Whilst noting that for the majority of the key performance indicators there had been an overall reduction in activity from the previous quarter, Local Senior Officer Tanzilli stated that there had been an increase in activity in relation to deliberate vehicle fires. As a result, an appropriate engagement action plan had been implemented to target the issue. He also highlighted that the SFRS continued to be represented at the weekly Greater Results in Partnership (GRIP) meetings. In addition, a programme of seasonal Thematic Action Plans (TAPs) had been developed. He was responsible for developing and implementing an effective seasonal multi-agency action plan to ensure that community safety engagement resources were delivered within East Renfrewshire in a targeted approach during the defined TAP period.

Local Senior Officer Tanzilli also highlighted a range of community engagement activities that had been undertaken during the course of the reported period. In particular, it was noted that 294 Home Fire Safety Visits had been delivered to residents in East Renfrewshire. It was noted that a smoke alarm had been fitted to 130 properties and that 49 of these were recorded as being at high risk from fire. Other activities included the organisation of 6 Cooksafe events and a Cut it Out Road Safety presentation delivered to 108 pupils at Mearns Castle High School. He also reported on the successful Telecare linked smoke detection initiative delivered in partnership with the Council.

The report also explained that the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 required the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to prepare and submit a Local Fire and Rescue Plan to the Council for approval, and that the plan should be reviewed once every 3 years. Local Senior Officer Tanzilli explained that the draft Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2014-17 had been issued for consultation in December 2013 and that the consultation period had ended on 14 February 2014. He stated that as part of consultation process, he had met with Council officers to discuss the contents of the Plan and receive any comments for consideration. He

stated that the final draft was now submitted for approval in the course of which he highlighted that the Plan would map out the strategic direction of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service delivery over the coming 3 years and provide firm direction for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to build on the positive outcomes achieved thus far.

There followed a short question and answer session in the course of which Local Senior Officer Tanzilli provided clarification on a number of operational issues within East Renfrewshire.

The Cabinet agreed:-

- (a) to **recommend to the Council** that the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for East Renfrewshire 2014-17 be approved; and
- (b) that the report be otherwise noted.

CHAIR