

Police and Fire and Rescue Committee  
21 November 2016

**IRVINE, 21 November 2016** - At a Meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 2.00 p.m.

**Present**

Catherine McMillan, Marie Burns and Grace McLean.

**In Attendance**

A. Fraser, Head of Democratic Services and D. McCaw, Committee Services Officer (Chief Executive's Service).

**Also In Attendance**

Chief Inspectors T. Ross and B. Shaw (Police Scotland); J. Scott, Local Senior Officer and Group Manager K. Hankinson (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service).

**Chair**

Councillor McMillan, Vice-Chair in the Chair.

**Apologies for Absence**

John Easdale, Peter McNamara and Irene Oldfather.

**1. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Standing Order 10 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

**2. Minutes**

The accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 15 August 2016 was confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

**3. Performance Reports**

**3.1 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service**

Submitted report by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) on progress against the North Ayrshire's Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2014-17 and which provided other key Fire and Rescue updates. A copy of the North Ayrshire Performance report from 1 April 2016 to 30 September 2016 was set out at the Appendix to the report.

Section 2.1 of the report provided an analysis of operational activity for the period 1 April to 30 September 2016, which identified a 14% increase in activity levels across the local authority area compared with the corresponding activity period in the previous year. Performance during the year showed that one indicator is on target, 3 indicators are currently adrift of the three-year average targets and 2 indicators have not achieved their respective targets.

The report also provided updates in respect of the publication of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Strategic Plan 2016-19, the wholetime recruitment campaign and the incident statistics for 2015-16.

Members asked a question, and received further information, on measures to address the high number of unwanted fire alarm signals attributed to schools.

Local Senior Officer Scott further indicated that confirmation of the timescales for the introduction of the next Local Fire and Rescue Plan for North Ayrshire would be confirmed to a later Committee.

The Committee agreed to note (a) the content of the performance summary and associated report for the period 1 April 2016 to 30 September 2016; (b) the update in respect of the publication of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Strategic Plan 2016-19; (c) the update in respect of the SFRS wholetime recruitment campaign; and (d) the publication of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Services incident statistics for 2015-16.

### **3.2 Police Scotland**

Submitted report by Police Scotland on performance in relation to the North Ayrshire Local Police Plan for the period from 1 April 2016 to 30 September 2016. Appendix 1 to the report provided detailed information on performance against the Plan's priorities and associated objectives, and gave information on complaints against the Police.

Members asked a question, and received further information, on the 4 traffic accidents which had taken place at Towerlands Road in Irvine, all within a 7-8 day period.

Chief Inspector Ross undertook to bring to the attention of the Divisional Road Safety Group the road traffic incidents at Towerlands Road, Irvine.

The Committee agreed to note the performance information set out in the report.

## **4. Police Scotland**

### **4.1 North Ayrshire Local Police Plan (LLP)**

Submitted report by Police Scotland on a process of review and consultation to inform the preparation of the next Local Policing Plan.

The Plan will cover the period 2017-2020 and will continue to be closely aligned with Community Planning priorities. The Community Planning Partnership (CPP) is in the process of developing its new Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and this will present an opportunity for close co-operation as the 2 Plans are developed. In addition, a variety of locally relevant data sources will be taken into consideration as detailed in Section 2.

The current Plan will remain valid until 31 March 2017 and the replacement Plan will be presented to the Committee for approval prior to commencement date.

Members asked questions, and received further information, on the following:-

- any specific policing issues arising from the Locality Planning meetings; and
- officer feedback on the locality approach which has been mostly positive.

The Committee agreed to endorse the approach to the preparation of the North Ayrshire Local Police Plan for 2017-2020 as detailed in the report.

### **4.2 Update on National/Local Policing Matters**

Submitted report by Police Scotland on relevant local and national policing matters which fall outwith the local Policing Plan progress update as detailed in section 1 of the report.

Members asked a question, and received further information on whether strip searching of young people was something that was undertaken within North Ayrshire.

The Committee agreed to note the information contained within the report.

### **4.3 Multi Agency Risk and Concern Hub**

Submitted report by Police Scotland on the commencement of a Multi-Agency Risk and Concerns Hub in Ayrshire Division on 1 September 2016.

Agreement was reached early this year to co-locate Police Scotland and North Ayrshire Health and Social Care practitioners in the Hub within Kilmarnock Police Station in order to create the Multi Agency Risk and Concerns Hub which has expanded on the successful practice of the existing MADART protocol for dealing with Domestic Abuse concerns. Intended outcomes are that children receive more appropriate and proportionate responses to police concerns and that the right children are referred at the right time in a joined up way to the Children's Reporter. The co-location of staff from different agencies allows for more effective screening and assessment of recorded concerns.

The Committee agreed to (a) note the information contained within the report; and (b) receive a further report on the operation of the Hub, including the Annual Report, at the conclusion of the first year of operation in September 2017.

## **5. Scottish Fire and Rescue Service**

### **5.1 Positive Steps with Partners Project Update**

Submitted report by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) on the commencement of the 'Positive Steps with Partners' Project.

The joint initiative with the Ayrshire Community Trust (TACT) commenced on 1 June 2016 providing support to unemployed North Ayrshire residents with identified barriers to employment. The project offers participants the opportunity to develop practical work experience and gain accredited qualifications to promote a route back into employment. A total of 9 volunteers have successfully completed an eight week training programme and are now working alongside SFRS Community Action Team.

Members asked questions, and received further information, on the following:-

- mindfulness training and how it assists with confidence and interview training; and
- clarification on the SVQ level 4 in Customer Service gained as part of the training programme.

Group Manager Hankinson undertook to provide further information to Members on the SVQ Level 4 accreditation in Customer Service.

The Committee agreed to note the information contained within the report.

The Meeting ended at 3.05 p.m.