

LOCAL POLICE & FIRE SCRUTINY PANEL – 17 NOVEMBER 2022

Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Panel

Thursday 17 November 2022 at 3pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Brennan, Clocherty, Crowther, McGuire, Cassidy (for Moran), Reynolds and Wilson.

Chair: Councillor Wilson presided.

In attendance: Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources, Mr R Scullion (Culture, Communities and Educational Resources), Mr M McNab and Ms R Dillon (Public Protection), Mr D Keenan (for Head of Legal & Democratic Services), Ms L Carrick, Mr C MacDonald and Ms K MacVey (Legal & Democratic Services) and Mr PJ Coulter (for Service Manager Communications, Tourism and Health & Safety).

In attendance also: Superintendent L Waddell, Chief Inspector P Cameron and Ms T Winter (Police Scotland) and Area Commander D McCarrey and Group Commander Mark Gallacher (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service).

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Brennan, McGuire and Reynolds attending by video-conference.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Panel.

544 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

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Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Moran, with Councillor Cassidy substituting, and Councillors Daisley, Law and Quinn.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

545 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Performance Report

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There was submitted a report on the performance and activities of the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service during the reporting period 1 July 2022 to 30 September 2022.

Prior to reporting on this item, Area Commander McCarrey conveyed appreciation and thanks to Chief Inspector Cameron on his last Panel meeting and, on behalf of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, wished him well.

Group Commander Gallacher thanked Inverclyde Council and colleagues at Police Scotland, acknowledging the positive working relationships leading up to and including Bonfire Night, which passed without incident.

Group Commander Gallacher noted that, due to a rise in the cost of living, it is anticipated that the public may look at alternative ways to heat and light their homes. He advised that work is currently being undertaken to raise awareness and to provide information to partner agencies and the community to promote public safety.

Councillor Crowther asked if the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service provided advice to schools on water safety during the winter. Group Commander Gallacher advised that winter safety leaflets will be circulated to schools.

Decided: that the information contained in the report be noted.

546 Police Scotland Performance Report**546**

Prior to discussion of this item, the Convener welcomed to the meeting Ms L Waddell, the newly appointed Chief Superintendent. The Convener also conveyed his appreciation and thanks on behalf of the Scrutiny Panel and previous Convenor Councillor McVey to Chief Inspector Cameron on his last meeting. The Convener wished Chief Inspector Cameron well for the future.

There was submitted a report on the performance and activities of Police Scotland during the reporting period 1 April 2022 to 31 August 2022. During the course of discussion on this item Chief Inspector Cameron advised that Exclusion Zones have been introduced in Inverclyde which aim to keep repeat shoplifting offenders away from certain areas. Chief Inspector Cameron also advised Members that all Community Police Officers in Inverclyde have completed their Naloxone training and are equipped with Naloxone kits. He added that training will be rolled out to CID and Response Officers.

Decided: that the information contained in the report be noted.

547 Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel Update Report**547**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on current and emerging issues relating to Police Scotland and Scottish Fire & Rescue Services.

Councillor Reynolds left the meeting during consideration of this item.

Decided: that the current and emerging issues relating to Police and Fire & Rescue matters be noted.

It was agreed in terms of Section 50 (A) (4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs, 8, 9 and 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 7 (A) of the Act.

548 Public Space CCTV Contract**548**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration providing an update on ongoing issues around the Public Space (CCTV) contract.

Decided: that the current position regarding the Public Space CCTV contract be noted, and that a further update will be provided.