

LOCAL POLICE & FIRE SCRUTINY PANEL – 2 FEBRUARY 2023

Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Panel

Thursday 2 February 2022 at 3pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Brennan, Clocherty, Crowther, Daisley, McGuire, Moran, Quinn, 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), Ms A Sinclair (for Head of Legal & Democratic Services), Ms L Carrick, Ms D Sweeney and Ms K MacVey (Legal & Democratic Services) and Service Manager Communications, Tourism and Health & Safety.

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

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

Prior to the commencement of business, the Convener referred to the recent death of Edinburgh Fireman, Barry Martin and he asked Area Commander McCarrey that the Panel's condolences be conveyed to colleagues. He also welcomed Chief Inspector D Kane, Police Scotland, the newly appointed Local Commander.

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

74 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 74

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Law.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

75 Police Scotland Performance Report 75

There was submitted a report on the performance and activities of Police Scotland during the reporting period 1 April 2022 to 30 November 2022. During the course of discussion on this item it was noted that 121 missing person reports were recorded in Inverclyde during the reporting period. It was noted that almost 77% of missing persons were traced within 24 hours, with 95% being traced within four days. Chief Superintendent Waddell advised Members that consideration was being given to introducing the "Respect Project" to Inverclyde, which has been successful in other areas in reducing the numbers of missing people. Chief Inspector Kane informed Members that an enhanced roll out of the Naloxone programme commenced this week following the successful pilot last year. It was noted that all operational officers and officers of the ranks of Constable, Sergeant and Inspector in Renfrewshire and Inverclyde will be equipped and trained in the coming months.

LOCAL POLICE & FIRE SCRUTINY PANEL – 2 FEBRUARY 2023

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

76 Presentation by Police Scotland on Road Policing 76

The Panel heard a presentation by Temporary Chief Inspector L Napier highlighting the work of Police Scotland's West Command Roads Policing Unit and how it contributes to the Inverclyde Community. Thereafter Temporary Chief Inspector Napier answered a number of questions from Members.

Councillor Daisley left the meeting during consideration of this item of business.

Decided: that the information contained in presentation be noted.

77 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Performance Report 77

There was submitted a report on the performance and activities of the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service during the reporting period 1 October 2022 to 31 December 2022.

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

78 Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel Update Report 78

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.

Decided: that the updates on the following matters be noted (a) The Scottish Police Authority Board, (b) Criminal Justice Committee, (c) Scottish Police Authority Corporate Strategy 2023-26 Initial Consultation, (d) Local Police Plans 2023-2026 Consultation (e) Local Police Plans - A Framework for Scrutiny, (f) The Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Board, (g) Fire & Rescue Incident Statistics 2021-22, (h) FBU Strike Ballot and (i) Scottish Budget 2023-24.

GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD – 8 FEBRUARY 2023

General Purposes Board

Wednesday 8 February 2023 at 3pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Cassidy, Crowther, Curley, Moran, McCluskey, Quinn and Reynolds.

Chair: Councillor Moran presided.

In attendance: Mr D Keenan (for Head of Legal & Democratic Services), Ms F Denver and Ms E Peacock (Legal & Democratic Services) and Mr C Brown (Civic Enforcement Officer, Public Protection).

In attendance also: Sergeant I Robertson (Police Scotland).

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

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

79 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 79

An apology for absence was intimated by Councillor Wilson.

No declarations of interest were intimated, but a certain connection was intimated for the purposes of transparency as follows:
Agenda Item 6 (Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver Licence) – Councillor Curley

80 Taxi Fares Review 2022/23 80

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services requesting the Board to consider the annual review of the taxi fare scales for the purposes of public advertisement as the first formal stage of the statutory process and following consultation with all Taxi Operators, including the Operators Liaison Group and other members of the trade.

Mr Keenan advised that this item would be considered at a further meeting of the Board to permit senior officer attendance.

Decided: that (a) consideration of the annual review of the taxi fare scales at a further meeting of the Board be noted, and (b) the further meeting be arranged by the Head of Legal & Democratic Service in consultation with the Chair.

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 paragraph 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

81 Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence 81

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services on an application for the grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence which was granted, all as detailed in

GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD – 8 FEBRUARY 2023

the Appendix.

- | | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|
| 82 | Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver’s Licence | 82 |
| | There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services on an application for the grant of a Taxi Driver’s Licence which was refused, all as detailed in the Appendix. | |
| 83 | Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver’s Licence | 83 |
| | There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services on an application for the grant of a Taxi Driver’s Licence which was refused, all as detailed in the Appendix. Councillor Curley declared a connection in this item, all as detailed in the Appendix. | |
| 84 | Application for Grant of a Taxi Licence | 84 |
| | There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services on an application for the grant of a Taxi Licence which was continued, all as detailed in the Appendix. | |
| | Following consideration of these items of business, the Board returned to public session. | |
| 85 | Update Regarding HMRC Tax Conditionality | 85 |
| | There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services advising of changes to the HMRC timetable for the implementation of HMRC tax conditionality obligations in relation to certain types of civic licence applications, including taxi/private hire drivers, taxi/private hire operators, taxi/private hire booking offices and licences to deal in scrap metal. | |
| | Decided: that it be noted that the implementation of the tax conditionality obligations upon licensing bodies, including the Council, will now take effect on 1 October 2023. | |
| 86 | Report by the Independent Working Group on Public Processions in Scotland | 86 |
| | There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services appending the Scottish Government’s ‘Report of the Short Life Working Group on Processions in Scotland’ for noting. | |
| | Decided: that the contents and outcome of the Scottish Government’s ‘Report of the Short Life Working Group on Processions in Scotland’, as summarised at paragraphs 3.5, 3.6 and 3.7 of the report, be noted. | |