

LOCAL POLICE & FIRE SCRUTINY PANEL – 23 MARCH 2023

Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel

Thursday 23 March 2023 at 3pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Brennan, Clocherty, Crowther, Daisley, McGuire, Moran, Quinn, Reynolds and Wilson.

Chair: Councillor Wilson presided.

In attendance:

Tony McEwan	Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources (for Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development)
Hugh Scott	Service Manager Community Learning & Development, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport
Roisin Dillon	Trading Standards and Enforcement Team Leader
Jim Kerr	Solicitor (for Head of Legal & Democratic Services)
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Pauline Ramsay	Health and Safety Team Leader
Allan MacDonald	ICT & Customer Service Manager
George Barbour	Service Manager, Communication, Tourism and Health & Safety

In attendance also:

Laura Waddell	Chief Superintendent, Local Police Commander, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Division, Police Scotland
Damien Kane	Chief Inspector, Area Commander – Inverclyde, Police Scotland
Derek Laird	Detective Sergeant, Cybercrime Harm Prevention Partnerships, Prevention and Community Wellbeing, Police Scotland
Mary Wilson	Police Sergeant, Cybercrime Harm Prevention Partnerships, Prevention and Community Wellbeing, Police Scotland
David McCarrey	Area Commander, Service Delivery, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde
Paul Storrie	Area Group Commander Prevention and Protection, East Renfrewshire and Inverclyde, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service

This 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 welcomed the representatives from Police Scotland and Scottish Fire & Rescue Service to the meeting.

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

195 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

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No apologies for absence or declarations of interest were intimated.

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- 196 Presentation on Cybercrime 196**
- The Panel heard a presentation by Detective Sergeant D Laird and Sergeant M Wilson highlighting the work of Police Scotland’s Cybercrime Harm Prevention Team. Thereafter Detective Sergeant Laird and Sergeant Wilson answered a number of questions from Members.
- Decided:** that the information contained in the presentation be noted.
- 197 Scottish Fire & Rescue Service – Time for Change – Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals 197**
- There was submitted a report from Scottish Fire and Rescue Service providing an overview of the New Response Model which comes into force on 1 July 2023 and detailing the future response of the Fire Service to unwanted fire alarm signals in commercial premises and workplace premises following the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service public consultation in 2021.
- Decided:** that the information contained in the report be noted.
- 198 Presentation on Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) 198**
- The Panel heard a presentation by Group Commander P Storrie, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service highlighting the changes that will come into force on 1 July 2023 and detailing the future response of the Fire Service to unwanted fire alarm signals in commercial premises and workplace premises. Thereafter Group Commander Storrie and Area Commander McCarrey answered a number of questions from Members. It was noted that Inverclyde Council’s Health and Safety Team have convened a working group to discuss the implications and to ensure compliance, considering the changes coming into force.
- Decided:** that the information contained in the presentation be noted.
- 199 Police Scotland Performance Report 199**
- There was submitted a report on the performance and activities of Police Scotland during the reporting period 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022. During the course of discussion on this item, Chief Inspector Kane referred to the continued rise in drug related deaths in Inverclyde during the reporting period, noting that there have been 21 deaths. Chief Inspector Kane gave assurances that officers are working closely with partners to reduce the number of drug related deaths in Inverclyde.
- There followed discussion on the Naloxone programme. Chief Inspector Kane informed Members that an enhanced roll out of the programme to Constables, Sergeants, Inspectors and First Response Officers had commenced locally. It was noted that a Police Scotland spotlight report on the Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy would be submitted to a future meeting. At the conclusion of discussion of this item of business the Panel conveyed its thanks to the emergency response services in relation to a number of recent incidents which have occurred locally.
- Decided:** that the information contained in the report be noted.
- 200 Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel Update Report 200**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development (1) providing an update on current and emerging issues relating to Police Scotland and Scottish Fire & Rescue Services and (2) appending the Inverclyde Local Policing Plan 2023-26 by Police Scotland for approval by the Panel

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before submission to the Scottish Police Authority.

Decided:

- (1) that the updates on the following matters be noted (a) Scottish Police Authority (SPA) Corporate Strategy 2023-26 Consultation, (b) Local Police Plans 2023-26 Consultation, (c) Local Police Plans – A Framework for Scrutiny, (d) Police Scotland Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy Engagement; and (e) Fire Brigades Union Strike Action;
- (2) that the responses to the consultations on the draft Scottish Police Authority corporate strategy and the draft Local Policing Plan be noted; and
- (3) that the Local Policing Plan be approved.