

## LOCAL POLICE AND FIRE SCRUTINY PANEL - 6 JUNE 2024

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### Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel

**Thursday 6 June 2024 at 3pm**

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

**Chair:** Councillor Wilson presided.

**In attendance:**

Tony McEwan	Head of Culture, Communities & Educational Resources (for Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development)
Hugh Scott	Service Manager Community Learning & Development, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport
Martin McNab	Public Protection Manager
Roisin Dillon	Trading Standards and Enforcement Team Leader
Anne Sinclair	Legal Services Manager (for Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services)
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Colin MacDonald	Senior Committee Officer
PJ Coulter	Corporate Communications Officer (Media Relations)

**In attendance also:**

Gordon McCreadie	Chief Superintendent, Local Police Commander, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Division, Police Scotland
David Doherty	Chief Inspector, Area Commander, Inverclyde Division, Police Scotland
John Harris	Partnership Superintendent, Police Scotland
David McCarrey	Area Commander, Service Delivery, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde
Rod Anderson	Group Commander, Prevention & Protection, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Brennan, Curley, McGuire, Quinn and Reynolds attending remotely.

Prior to the commencement of business, the Convener welcomed the representatives from Police Scotland and Scottish Fire & Rescue Service to the meeting.

The Convener acknowledged the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the D-Day landings which took place on 6 June 1944 and paid tribute to the men and women involved in the military operation during the Second World War.

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

- 298 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 298**
- Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Daisley with Councillor Curley substituting and Councillor Law.
- No declarations of interest were intimated.
- 299 Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Performance Report 299**
- There was submitted a report on the performance and activities of Scottish Fire & Rescue Service during the reporting period 1 January 2024 to 31 March 2024. Group Commander Anderson referred to the increase in deliberate fire setting incidents in the reporting period. He stated that the partnership working with Police Scotland and Inverclyde Council is continuing to attempt to reduce these. It was noted that there was a reduction in the number of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals incidents attended by the service in Inverclyde with a 68% reduction in the year-on-year indicator and a 25% reduction in the three-year average. It was reported that UFAS incidents accounted for 33% of all false alarm calls and 13% of all incidents attended by the service in Inverclyde. Group Commander Anderson advised that most UFAS incidents in the reporting period occurred within hospitals and nursing homes.
- Decided:** that the information contained in the report be noted
- 300 Mr David McCarrey 300**
- The Convener referred to the forthcoming retiral of Area Commander McCarrey and conveyed his appreciation and thanks on behalf of the Panel on his last meeting. The Convener wished Mr Carrey well in his retirement and the future.
- 301 Police Scotland Performance Report 301**
- Prior to reporting on this item, Chief Superintendent McCreadie conveyed his appreciation and thanks to Mr McCarrey and wished him well for the future. He also conveyed his thanks and appreciation to Damien Kane, former Local Commander of the area who has recently taken up a new post within Police Scotland. Chief Superintendent McCreadie then introduced Chief Inspector David Doherty, the newly appointed Local Commander and Partnership Superintendent, John Harris.
- There was submitted a report on the performance and activities of Police Scotland during the reporting period 1 April 2023 to 29 February 2024. During the course of discussion of this item Chief Superintendent McCreadie made reference to the increase in deliberate fire setting incidents in the area. He stated to the Panel that partnership working will continue to educate and engage with the community to prevent and detect wilful fires. It was noted that there has been an increase in the reporting of sexual crimes in Inverclyde in the reporting period, an increase of 11.8% on the previous year. Chief Superintendent McCreadie advised that the 27% of crimes recorded in Inverclyde were non-recent in nature. It was reported that 6 confirmed drug deaths occurred in Inverclyde during the reporting period. It was noted that Police in Inverclyde continue to work alongside a range of partners to tackle drug harms with initiatives which include the delivery of educational inputs to schools by local officers and continued proactivity relating to the supply and distribution of illicit drugs within Inverclyde's communities.
- Decided:** that the information contained in the report be noted.

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**302 Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel Update Report****302**

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:**

(1) that the updates on the following matters be noted (a) The Scottish Police Authority Board, (b) County Lines Intensification Week, (c) Road Safety Summit, (d) Mental Health Distress and Policing (e) Draft Budget 24-25, (f) Draft Annual Police Plan 24-25, (g) Police Scotland – That Guy Campaign, (h) Demonstration of the ‘Journey of a call’, (i) Inverclyde Fire Skills Course, (j) Scottish Fire and Rescue Consultation – Shaping our Future Service: Your Say, and (k) Greenock Fire and Rescue Heritage Museum Recognition; and  
(2) that the proposed response to the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service national consultation on the future service be approved.

**303 Public Space CCTV Update****303**

There was submitted a report by the Director, Environment & Regeneration providing an update on the Public Space CCTV System.

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