

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE
30 MARCH 2016

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Community Safety Committee held in the Hay Room, First Floor, Dewar's Centre, Glover Street, Perth on Wednesday 30 March 2016 at 10.00am.

Present: Councillors D Pover, E Maclachlan, H Anderson, A Cowan (substituting for Councillor C Shiers), D Cuthbert (substituting for Councillor R Brock), A Gaunt (substituting for Councillor L Simpson), J Giacomazzi, G Laing, A MacLellan, A Munro, A Stewart, H Stewart and M Williamson.

In attendance: J Valentine, Depute Chief Executive, Environment (Sustainability, Strategic & Entrepreneurial Development); P Banks, J Irons, C Johnston, M Notman and R Ross (all Housing and Community Care); J Handling (the Environment Service); Chief Superintendent E Smith and Chief Inspector M Pettigrew (both Police Scotland); Area Manager C Grieve, LSO Perth and Kinross Area Division and General Manager S Wood (both Scottish Fire and Rescue Service); N Marchant, Scottish Police Authority Board; C Flynn and L Brown (both Chief Executive's Service).

Apologies for Absence: Councillors R Brock, C Shiers and L Simpson

Councillor Pover, Convener, Presiding

264. WELCOME

The Convener welcomed all those present to the meeting. Apologies for absence were noted as above.

265. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In terms of the Councillors Code of Conduct Councillors Maclachlan and Pover declared a non-financial interest in Art. 269.

266. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minute of the Meeting of the Community Safety Committee of 3 February 2016 (Arts. 63-74) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

267. PERTH AND KINROSS COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP – COMMUNITY SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT GROUP

(i) Minute of Meeting of Community Planning – Community Safety and Environment Group

The minute of meeting of Community Planning Partnership – Community Safety and Environment Group of 13 November 2015 was submitted and noted.

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268. COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

There was submitted a report by the Director (Environment) (16/166), providing an overview of community resilience activity in support of the emergency response to severe weather events in the Perth and Kinross area in December 2015 and January-February 2016.

Resolved:

- (i) The progress with community resilience planning across the Perth and Kinross area, as detailed in Report 16/166, be noted;
- (ii) The community resilience volunteers be commended for their considerable efforts during the storms in December 2015 as well as those in January and February 2016.

269. COMMUNITY PAYBACK ORDERS ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15

The Committee received a joint presentation from R Ross, Team Leader, Safer Communities and J Irons, Community Safety Policy Officer, both Housing and Community Care on the work carried out by the Public Protection and Unpaid Work Teams including details of a number of community projects which had been completed by those undertaking Community Payback Orders.

Thereafter there was submitted a report by the Director (Housing and Community Care) (16/167), providing an update on the operation of Community Payback Orders in Perth and Kinross for the period 2014/15.

Resolved:

- (i) The work undertaken by the Public Protection and Unpaid Work Teams in respect of Community Payback Orders in Perth and Kinross, as detailed in Report 16/167, be noted;
- (ii) The Director (Housing and Community Care) be instructed to bring forward a report regarding the activity and performance of Community Payback Orders in 12 months' time.

270. POLICE AND FIRE REFORM: LOCAL SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENT

**(i) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Quarterly Performance Report
1 October to 31 December 2015**

There was submitted a report by Area Manager C Grieve (Local Senior Officer) (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service) (16/168), providing the Committee with information regarding the performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, against the priorities, performance indicators and targets detailed within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Perth and Kinross for the third quarter (October-December) of 2015-16.

In response to a question from Councillor Pover for more information on the increase in the number of fire casualties reported under Priority 3 the Local Senior Officer advised that this was an unusual occurrence. The 5 casualties in question had been injured within vehicles which had caught fire. He advised that attendance at such calls is time critical.

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Councillor A Stewart requested further information on (1) Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) in sheltered housing complexes or nursing homes and, (2) funding for future Safe Drive Stay Alive events.

In responding the Local Senior Officer reported that 72 UFAS had occurred in either sheltered housing or nursing homes and 33 had been activated as a result of cooking. Letters had been issued to hospitals, care homes and businesses providing advice on how to clear dust from their detection systems. They had also been asked to remove any nearby air fresheners as these could trigger an alarm. The owners and occupiers of premises identified as having a high number of UFAS were contacted and advised of the corrective measures necessary to reduce the number of times the Service are called to attend their premises.

The Local Senior Officer confirmed that funding was in place for the next series of Safe Drive Stay Alive events. These will be held at the North Inch Community Campus.

Resolved:

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service quarterly performance report for Perth and Kinross for the period 1 October to 31 December 2015, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 16/168, be noted.

**(ii) Perth and Kinross Local Policing Area Performance Results
1 April to 31 December 2015**

There was submitted a report by Chief Superintendent E Smith Police Scotland 'D' Division (Tayside) (16/169), providing an update on local policing activity for the Perth and Kinross area for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 December 2015.

Councillor Pover requested an explanation for the fall in reported detection rates for crimes of vandalism and malicious mischief. In responding Chief Superintendent Smith advised the figures as reported were in part due to a series of incidents where vehicles had been targeted with limited opportunity for detection, however, overall detection rates were in keeping with the 5 year average. Police Scotland continued to work in partnership with the Safer Communities Team and the Community Hub to ensure resources are deployed appropriately and to the right locations.

Councillor A Stewart enquired how Police Scotland proposed to address the decline in public confidence in policing across Scotland as reported within the results of the Crime and Justice Survey commissioned by Scottish Government. He also enquired what impact the survey results had had on staff morale.

In responding the Chief Superintendent provided the Committee with some examples of the benefits of having access to the resources of a national police force in Perth and Kinross. This included access to national resources in the search for missing persons and the use of national expertise at major

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sporting events. He reported that Police Scotland will introduce a 24 hour online engagement service commencing in April 2016. The service will assist Police Scotland to measure opinion in local communities. The Chief Superintendent paid tribute to the dedication and professionalism of the officers in Perth and Kinross and across "D" Division (Tayside) who worked extremely hard on a daily basis to protect the local community.

Nicola Marchant of the Scottish Police Authority Board echoed the Chief Superintendent's comments on the professionalism of police officers. Ms Marchant added that matters raised during discussion by the members of the committee were taken back and discussed with the Chief Constable as part of her engagement role with the Community Safety Committee.

In response to a question from Councillor MacLellan the Chief Superintendent confirmed that Police Scotland continued its electronic monitoring of road fund licences.

Resolved:

The Police Scotland local police area performance results for Perth and Kinross for the period 1 April to 31 December 2016, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 16/169, be noted.

271. VALEDICTORY

The Convener paid tribute to Chief Superintendent Eddie Smith of Police Scotland who was due to retire in May 2016. He recounted his 30 years of service to the public with the police force in Scotland and thanked him for the support he had given to the Community Safety Committee during his time as "D" Divisional Commander in Tayside. Thereafter the Chief Superintendent was presented with a civic gift on behalf of the Provost and the Council. Chief Superintendent Smith responded in appropriate terms.

COUNCILLORS COWAN AND CUTHBERT LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS SHOULD BE EXCLUDED DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM(S) IN ORDER TO AVOID THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION WHICH IS EXEMPT IN TERMS OF SCHEDULE 7A TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1973

272. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE – LOCAL SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENT- OPERATIONAL UPDATE FOR PERTH AND KINROSS

Local Senior Officer Grieve had no operational updates to report for Perth and Kinross.

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**273. POLICE SCOTLAND – LOCAL SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENT –
OPERATIONAL UPDATE FOR PERTH AND KINROSS**

Chief Superintendent Smith had no operational updates to report for Perth and Kinross.

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