

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 19 August 2015 at 2.00pm.

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

In attendance: J Walker, Executive Director (Housing and Community Care); J Gilruth, Depute Director, Housing and Community Care, P Banks, J Irons, C Johnston, M Notman and N Rodgeron (all Housing and Community Care); J Handling (The Environment Service); Superintendent S Mertes and Chief Inspector I Scott (both Police Scotland); Local Senior Officer C Grieve and Group Manager R Middlemiss, (both Scottish Fire and Rescue Service); J Beresford, (Scottish Police Authority); G Fraser, (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Fire Services); C Flynn and L Brown (both Chief Executive's Service).

Apology for Absence: Councillor A Munro.

Councillor Pover, Convener, Presiding.

The Convener led discussion on Arts 504-508 and 511-514, and the Vice Convener led discussion on Arts.509-510.

504. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Convener welcomed Graham Fraser from HMIFS and John Beresford of the Scottish Policy Authority to the meeting. An apology for absence was noted as above.

505. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

506. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of meeting of the Community Safety Committee of 20 May 2015 (Arts. 324-332) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

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**507. PERTH AND KINROSS COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP –
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT GROUP**

**(i) Minute of Meeting of Community Safety and Environment Group
of 20 March 2015**

The minute of meeting of the Community Safety and Environment Group of 20 March 2015 was submitted and noted.

**(ii) Update Report from the Community Safety and Environment
Group on 19 June 2015**

There was submitted and noted a briefing report by the Depute Director (Housing and Community Care) (15/325) providing a summary of recent business considered by the Community Planning – Community Safety and Environment Group on 19 June 2015.

508. COMMUNITY JUSTICE (SCOTLAND) BILL

The Committee received a presentation from the Depute Director of Housing and Community Care on the Community Justice (Scotland) Bill which outlined some of the challenges involved in setting up a Criminal Justice Partnership in the area, the proposed role of Community Justice Scotland and future funding arrangements.

509. SUPPORT SERVICES FOR WOMEN AT RISK OF OFFENDING

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (15/326) providing an update on the work of the Perth and Kinross One-stop Women's Learning Service (OWLS) and outlining some preliminary indications of success for the project and future developments.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 15/326, be noted.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) be instructed to bring forward a further report to the Community Safety Committee in 12 months' time.

**510. CIVIL CONTINGENCIES QUARTERLY UPDATE FOR THE PERIOD 1
APRIL TO 30 JUNE 2015**

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (15/327) providing an update for the period 1 April to 30 June 2015 on civil contingencies including information on local resilience partnerships and what is in place to deal with significant events.

Resolved:

- (i) The progress made on issues relating to civil contingencies in Perth and Kinross for the period 1 April to 30 June 2015 be noted.

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- (ii) The Depute Director (Environment) be requested to bring forward a report to the next meeting of the Committee detailing any cross-agency issues relating to the recent flood events in Perthshire in July 2015.

**511. POLICE SCOTLAND AND SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE:
LOCAL SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENT**

(i) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Local Service Delivery – First Quarter Performance Report

There was submitted a report by Area Manager Colin Grieve, Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS), (15/328) providing an update on the activity of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) in local service delivery within the Local Fire and Rescue Service Plan for Perth and Kinross for the period 1 April to 30 June 2015.

On behalf of the Committee Councillor Pover thanked the SFRS for its efforts during the initial emergency response to the extensive flooding incidents in Alyth and Bankfoot on 17 July 2015. Thanks were also conveyed to the SFRS and to Council staff for the support given to those affected in the aftermath of the flooding as communities continued to rebuild and recover from its impact.

Councillor Pover requested further information on: (1) the extent of all the flooding incidents which had occurred in Perth and Kinross on 17 July 2015, (2) how the emergency response command and control had been coordinated and, (3) if this had been influenced in a negative or positive way, as a result of the transition to a single national service.

Local Senior Officer C Grieve reported that the Service had responded to around 20 flooding incidents across Tayside on 17 July 2015, the majority of which had been in Perth and Kinross. 17 fire appliances and a number of specialist resources had been committed to tackling the flooding incidents. Resources from other parts of the country including Fife, Falkirk and Stirling had also been called to provide support. Personnel had also been placed on stand-by from further north. The deployment of resources from across the country with no reduction in the service provided to communities had demonstrated the benefits of a single national fire service.

In responding to a question from Councillor MacLellan on the national review of specialist appliances and fire crews, the Local Senior Officer reported that the Service is working to a national delivery plan. Perth is a transport hub and as a result its resources might be utilised more.

In response to questions from Councillor Wilson and Councillor H Stewart on joint Home Safety Visits (HSV), the Local Senior Officer reported that the HSVs are targeted at people identified as potentially being at increased risk of unintentional injury at home.

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Councillor Anderson requested an explanation for the 6% decrease reported in the overall percentage of operational personnel who currently demonstrated competence in all risk critical core skills. In responding the Local Senior Officer reported that an action plan was being prepared to address this and gave an assurance that crew members on fire appliances were competent.

Resolved:

The performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service against the priorities contained in the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Perth and Kinross for the period 1 April to 30 June 2015, as detailed in Appendix 1 to report 15/328, be noted.

COUNCILLOR SIMPSON LEFT THE MEETING DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM.

**(ii) Police Scotland - Perth and Kinross Local Policing Area
Performance Results – 1 April to 30 June 2015**

There was submitted a report by Chief Superintendent E Smith, Police Scotland 'D' Division (Tayside) (15/329) providing an update on the performance results for the Perth and Kinross policing area for the period 1 April to 30 June 2015 in relation to Crime Groupings 1 to 4.

In responding to questions from Councillor Pover and Councillor Giacomazzi on road safety, road casualties and drink/drug detections, Chief Inspector Scott reported that some of the increase in drink/drug detections could be attributed to recent changes in drink drive legislation. Superintendent Mentès added that Operation Zenith had contributed to the reduction in casualties on Perth and Kinross roads. The initiative had run throughout the summer to raise the awareness of all road users to motorcycle safety. The introduction of average speed cameras on the A9 had also had a positive effect.

In responding to a question from Councillor A Stewart for an update on T in the Park, Chief Inspector Scott advised that crimes were still under investigation and it was not possible to provide the Committee with accurate figures at this time. Statistical information would be provided in the next quarterly report to Committee. Councillor A Stewart expressed his disappointment that details of the policing of the event were not yet available for public discussion by Committee at the meeting.

Councillor H Stewart and Councillor H Anderson requested further details on the increase in violent crime in Perth city centre and serious assaults in Perth Prison. In responding the Chief Inspector expressed his disappointment at the increase in violent crime and gave an assurance that Police Scotland will continue to adopt a robust approach to tackling offenders and violence of any kind. Additional dedicated patrols had been conducted throughout the year through initiatives such as Centre Safe and the national Campaign Against Violence days. Police Scotland had met with staff from

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Perth Prison to discuss the increase in the number of serious assaults, however, there appeared to be no particular pattern to these. A best practice approach and more regular meetings with Prison staff had now been introduced.

Resolved:

The local policing area performance results for Perth and Kinross for the period 1 April to 30 June 2015, as detailed in the Appendix to Report 15/329, be noted.

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

512. COMMUNITY PAYBACK ORDERS – A PERSONAL REFLECTION

The Committee received and noted a presentation by Nicola Rodgerson, Service Manager, Housing and Community Care, detailing the personal reflections of a recipient of the Perth and Kinross One-Stop Women's Learning Service which was not to be made publically available.

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

The Committee received and noted a verbal report by Local Senior Officer Munro and Group Manager Middlemiss of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service on operational matters of interest in the Perth and Kinross area which were not to be made publically available.

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

The Committee received and noted a verbal report from Superintendent Mentis and Chief Inspector Scott, Police Scotland, "D" Division, Tayside, on operational matters of interest in the Perth and Kinross area which were not to be made publically available.

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