

# Minute of Meeting



## Police and Fire and Rescue Board

Date	Time	Venue
Monday 7 November 2022	11.00 am	Virtual Meeting by MS Teams

### Present:

Councillor McKenzie (Chair)
Councillor Alexander
Councillor Curran
Councillor McEwan
Councillor Smail

### Also Present:

Councillor Pottinger
----------------------

### In Attendance:

Midlothian Council	Derek Oliver, Chief Officer Place
	Alan Turpie, Legal & Governance Manager
	Mike Broadway, Democratic Services Officer
Police Scotland	Chief Inspector James Robertson
	Superintendent Arron Clinkscales
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	Hilary Sangster, Area Commander
	Andrew Adams, Station Commander
	Mark Landels, Group Commander

## 1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

---

The Chair, Councillor McKenzie welcomed everyone to this virtual meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Board.

Apologies David Girrity (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service) and Catriona Paton (Police Scotland).

## 2. Order of Business

---

The Clerk advised that Item 5.1 - SFRS Midlothian Scrutiny Performance Report Q2 2022/23 had been circulated separately from the main agenda pack and that there was an additional item of business that would be dealt with at the end of the agenda as Item 5.3 - Protectorate Services – Chief Officer Place to report. Otherwise the order of business was as set out in the Agenda Pack previously circulated.

## 3. Declarations of interest

---

No declarations of interest were intimated at this stage of the proceedings.

## 4. Minute of Previous Meeting

---

The Minutes of Meeting held on 29 August 2022 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

Before moving onto the Public Reports, the Chair, Councillor McKenzie thanked on behalf of the Board, the Council staff, and colleagues from Police Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service for all their hard work over what had been a very busy Bonfire Night weekend.

## 5. Public Reports

---

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.1	<b>SFRS Midlothian Scrutiny Performance Report Quarter 2 2022-23</b>	<b>Scottish Fire and Rescue Service</b>
<b>Outline of report and summary of discussion</b>		
<p>The performance report provided information on the prevention, protection and operational response activities within the Midlothian for Quarter 2 of 2022-23 (1st July – 30th September 2022) including information on the year to date</p> <p>The Scottish Government provided an overarching vision for public services. This vision supported by 16 National Outcomes, which demonstrate commitment to creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable growth. The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) can make a significant contribution to improving these outcomes for Midlothian by contributing to the Community Planning arrangements across the area.</p> <p>Hilary Sangster in introducing the report highlighted that the Strategic Plan, the Draft of which had been reported on at the May Board meeting (paragraph 5.2</p>		

refers), had now be approved, and that this would in turn lead to a review of the Midlothian Local Plan, which would include input from local stakeholders.

Mark Landel then took the Board through the performance information presented in the report making particular reference to the performance summary and how the priorities using the 6 key indicators were being met. He thereafter responded to questions from Board Members concerning a lack of smoke detectors in domestic dwellings where fires has occurred and whether these were private tenancies or Council owned, and also what follow up actions were taken. Although a detailed breakdown of property ownership wasn't currently available, it was something the Service would look at providing. Hilary Sangster did however reassure Members that ultimately no domestic property that they visited would be left without some form of protection. Derek Oliver also commented on the position relating to Council properties having the interlinked alarms and ensuring that these were all up to the new standard. With regards to false alarms these related mainly to commercial properties most of which could be avoid through better communication with the Service and where being addressed through engagement with, and education of, the parties involved.

Thereafter, the Board briefly discussed the issue of the public sale of firework following events over the course of the weekend. Derek Oliver advised that consultation were being undertaken on this issue by Scottish Government but acknowledged that following events elsewhere over the weekend more probably need to be done.

#### Decision

The Board noted the content of the report

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.2	<b>Police Scotland Midlothian Quarter 2 Scrutiny Report 2022/23</b>	<b>Police Scotland</b>
<b>Outline of report and summary of discussion</b>		
<p>Chief Inspector James Robertson in introducing the report drew particular attention to the Executive Summary (page 13 of the Agenda Document Pack), highlighting managing vulnerable people in the community; domestic related incidents; and the 'Your Police' online survey which provided an opportunity to input into the next Local Policing Plan 2023-26.</p> <p>Chief Inspector Robertson then went on to provide an update on each separate category as detailed within the report -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Missing Persons.</li><li>• Domestic Abuse.</li><li>• Hate Crime</li><li>• Sexual Crimes.</li><li>• Drugs Supply, Production and Cultivation.</li><li>• Crimes of Violence.</li></ul>		

- Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour.
- Dishonesty.
- Housebreaking.
- Road Safety
- Tackling Serious Organised Crime.
- Midlothian Community Action Team (MCAT)

He highlighting some of the main challenges and also some of the good partnership working in Midlothian, before responding to questions and comments raised by Members of the Board regarding the potential impacts of the Cost of Living Crisis, particularly in relation to shoplifting and how such incidents were dealt with; the roll out and future use of bodycams for officers; and drink/drug driving detection rates.

#### Decision

The Board noted the contents of the Report.

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
<b>5.3</b>	<b>Protectorate Services</b>	<b>Chief Officer Place</b>
<b>Outline of report and summary of discussion</b>		
<p>At the invitation of the Chair, Councillor McKenzie, Derek Oliver address the Board on those Protective Services functions such as Environmental Health and Trading Standards, Licensing and Emergency Planning, which overlapped activities carried out by the Police, and Fire and Rescue Services, highlighting some of the work which had been undertaken during the course of the past year.</p> <p>The Board, in considering the report, discussed the work undertaken by MCAT, the regulation of firework, irresponsible use of off road motorbikes and monitoring of tagged offenders.</p>		
<b>Decision</b>		
The Board noted the Report.		

## 6. Private Reports

---

No private items for discussion

## 7. Date of Next Meeting

---

The next meeting would be held on Monday 13 February 2023 at 11.00am

The meeting terminated at 12.18 pm.