

**POLICE AND FIRE & RESCUE REFORM  
FUTURE SCRUTINY ARRANGEMENTS**

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**1.0 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 An update on the progress that has been made to date with regard to the Police and Fire & Rescue Reform agenda, in preparation for the introduction of the new Police Service for Scotland which goes live on 1 April 2013, was tabled at the Council meeting held on 22 November 2012.
- 1.2 It was agreed that a further report, setting out proposals for future governance and local scrutiny arrangements, be prepared for a future Council meeting.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are asked to;

- 2.1 Consider and approve the proposed future governance and local scrutiny arrangements detailed at section 3.2

**3.0 DETAIL**

**3.1 Background**

- 3.1.1 The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 came into force on 1 October 2012, the purpose of which is to create a single police service and a single fire and rescue service.
- 3.1.2 In preparation for go live on 1 April 2013 the Argyll and Bute Pathfinder has been meeting on a regular basis to discuss the arrangements that require to be put in place at a local level to comply with the new legislative requirements, and have also been engaging at a national level as part of the Local Scrutiny and Engagement Implementation Network (LSEIN). The LSEIN meets on a quarterly basis in Edinburgh and provides local authorities, and Police and Fire and Rescue Services with the opportunity to meet with and learn from other Pathfinder/Network leads, in terms of developing and implementing local scrutiny frameworks.

### **3.2 Argyll and Bute Pathfinder – Proposed Local Scrutiny and Engagement Arrangements**

Arising from discussions held with the Argyll and Bute Pathfinder leads, and the current review of community planning and development of the Argyll and Bute Community Plan, it is proposed that the following arrangements will be put in place;

a) Approval of Local Police and Fire And Rescue Plans

As part of the new legislative arrangements, both Police and Fire and Rescue Services are required to prepare local plans, in consultation with the local authority, which set out their key priorities and objectives in carrying out their duties within the local authority area. The Plans will be put to Council for its approval. In addition, they will be reviewed by the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Management Committee prior to consideration by the Council.

b) Scrutiny of Local Police and Fire and Rescue Plans by Elected Members

It is proposed that performance against the Plans will be scrutinised by the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee, with any issues being reported to the full Council.

c) Scrutiny of Local Police and Fire and Rescue Plans at Community Planning Level

As part of the development of the new Argyll and Bute Community Plan, a set of key outcomes for the area will be established, and there will be clear links/actions to show the contribution that each of the Community Planning partners will make in achieving these outcomes, including the key priorities derived from the Local Police and Fire & Rescue Plans.

Performance against the key outcomes from the new Community Plan will be scrutinised by the CPP Management Committee.

The Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee also have a remit to review performance when viewed against policy objectives arising from the Community Planning Partnership.

## **4.0 SUMMARY**

4.1 Following the update report to Council on 22 November 2012 in regard to Police and Fire Reform, this report sets out the proposed future local scrutiny and engagement arrangements for Argyll and Bute, and invites members to consider and approve the proposals.

## **5.0 IMPLICATIONS**

5.1. Policy – none

- 5.2. Finance – none
- 5.3. Legal - none
- 5.4. Equal Opportunities - none
- 5.5. HR – none
- 5.6 Risk - none
- 5.7 Customer Service – none

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**Douglas Hendry  
Executive Director – Customer Services**

For more information please contact;  
Laura Cameron  
Executive Support Officer  
Customer Services  
Tel: 01546 604325