

**SCRUTINY OF LOCAL POLICE AND FIRE PLANS**

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**1.0 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 At the Performance Review and Scrutiny (PRS) Committee held on 21 February 2013 a report was tabled providing details of the Collaborative Statement of Good Scrutiny and Engagement, which has been produced by the Scottish Government team leading on the Police and Fire Reform agenda, in consultation with key strategic partners, including COSLA, SOLACE, the Improvement Service, the Scottish Police Authority, and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Board.
- 1.2 Arising from discussion on this item it was agreed that a report on how the PRS Committee might scrutinise the local Police and Fire Plans be brought to the next meeting.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee are asked to;

- 2.1 Consider the proposed approach for scrutiny of the Local Police and Fire Plans

**3.0 DETAIL**

Scrutiny at Community Planning Level

- 3.1 At present the key priorities in respect of Police and Fire Services are scrutinised via the Community Planning Scorecard by the Management Committee. As part of the development of the new Argyll and Bute Community Plan and SOA, in line with Scottish Government Guidance, a set of short and long term outcomes are being identified, as well as priority action areas. The draft SOA has been submitted to the Scottish Government and a period of consultation is currently underway. The Council will consider the draft final SOA at the 27 June council meeting as part of this development process. The final plan will illustrate clearly the links/actions to show the contribution that each of the Community Planning partners will make in delivering the outcomes identified, including the key priorities derived from the Local Police and Fire and Rescue Plans. It is proposed that performance against the key outcomes from the new Community Plan will be scrutinised by the CPP Management Committee.

### Scrutiny by Elected Members

- 3.2 Performance against the Local Police and Fire Plans will also be scrutinised by elected members at the PRS Committee, as previously discussed. It is proposed that this will be undertaken in the form of a quarterly performance report, similar to those currently produced for presentation of the Council and departmental performance (template attached at **Appendix 1**). These reports will provide details of the key successes and challenges within the relevant reporting period, and any key improvement actions which have been identified to address those challenges. To complement the report, a scorecard will also be produced which illustrates the key actions/priorities from the Local Police and Fire and Rescue Plans and the contribution that these make to delivering the relevant community planning outcomes.
- 3.3 Where there are particular areas of interest, or further scrutiny required, the accountable officer will be asked to bring a more in depth report to the PRS committee for discussion.
- 3.3 If it is agreed to proceed with this approach, arrangements will be put in place to develop a scorecard for scrutiny of the local police and fire plans, which will be presented to the next meeting of the PRS, alongside the quarterly performance report that will provide a summary of the key successes for the period, as well as details of any issues and how these will be addressed. The Local Area Commander for Police, and Fire and Rescue, or their appropriate representatives, would be invited to attend and present this detail to the PRS.

## **4.0 SUMMARY**

- 4.1 This report sets out proposals on how the PRS might wish to scrutinise the local police and fire plans, which are in line with the current process for presentation of the Council and departmental performance reports and associated scorecards.

## **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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