

SE14. Performance Report: Scottish Fire & Rescue Service

The committee considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Housing Services which provided an update on the local performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, for the period 1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016. Fiona Campbell provided an overview of the report.

The committee discussed the youth engagement activities which the service was involved in including football events at Bowhouse and asked if these would continue. Eddie Ritchie stated that there had been an average of 40 to 60 young people attending the football events which were being taken forward into another ward area.

Members sought an update on the level of incidents requiring a response and approaches to tackling this. Gary Laing advised that there was often a spike in incidents during quarter one due to the combination of lighter nights and the school holidays. This trend was seen nationally. A Community Safety Hub had been established at Falkirk Fire Station which included ICT provision which could be used by community planning partners. There was focussed partnership working with Police Scotland to target deliberate fire setting which was often tied with anti social behaviour. Collaboratively effective interventions were developed. Martin Rioch informed the committee that at present the maximum number of retained fire officers had been recruited.

The committee discussed the Biker Down Initiative. Eddie Ritchie stated that most motorbikes were now away for winter. From around the middle of February the service would offer information to riders which included basic life saving skills which were appropriate for group riders. More information on this would be included in the next report to committee.

Gary Laing advised that the development of the local plan would be put back until December 2017. Members endorsed this approach noting that with the Local Government elections in May 2017 this approach would allow the new Council time to settle in.

Decision

The committee noted the performance report.