

FALKIRK COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of FALKIRK COUNCIL held in the MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, FALKIRK on WEDNESDAY 12 MARCH 2014 at 9.30 AM.

COUNCILLORS:

David Alexander	Linda Gow	Rosie Murray
David Balfour	Gordon Hughes	Malcolm Nicol
Stephen Bird	Steven Jackson	Alan Nimmo
Allyson Black	Charles MacDonald	Martin Oliver
Jim Blackwood	Brian McCabe	Baillie Joan Paterson
Baillie William Buchanan	John McLuckie	Depute Provost John
Steven Carleschi	John McNally	Patrick
Colin Chalmers	Adrian Mahoney	Provost Pat Reid
Thomas Coleman	Craig Martin	Ann Ritchie
Dennis Goldie	Dr Craig R Martin	Sandy Turner
Gerry Goldie	Cecil Meiklejohn	

OFFICERS:

Karen Algie, Head of Human Resources and Customer First
Margaret Anderson, Director of Social Work Services
Robin Baird, Waste Strategy Co-ordinator
Fiona Campbell, Head of Policy, Technology and Improvement
John Flannigan, Depute Chief Finance Officer
Nigel Fletcher, Joint Acting Director of Education Services
Arlene Fraser, Committee Services Officer
Rhona Geisler, Director of Development Services
Rose Mary Glackin, Chief Governance Officer
Gary Greenhorn, Joint Acting Director of Education Services
Colin Moodie, Depute Chief Governance Officer
Brian Pirie, Democratic Services Manager
Mary Pitcaithly, Chief Executive

ALSO Maureen Campbell, Chief Executive, Falkirk Community Trust
ATTENDING:

FC87. PROVOST'S REMARKS

Provost Reid stated that, in accordance with Council's decision of 11 December 2013 (item FC67) to consider options for the audio recording of its meetings, the Group Leaders had agreed to engage an external provider, Tapestry AV, to make a recording of the meeting for evaluation purposes.

FC88. SEDERUNT

The sederunt was taken by way of a roll call. An apology was intimated on behalf of Councillor Spears.

FC89. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made at this point in the meeting.

FC90. MINUTES AND INFORMATION BULLETIN

(a) Special meeting of Falkirk Council held on 9 December 2013.

Decision

The minute of the special meeting held on 9 December 2013 was agreed as a correct record.

(b) Meeting of Falkirk Council held on 11 December 2013.

Decision

The minute of the meeting held on 11 December 2013 was agreed as a correct record, subject to the following amendments;-

- Item FC74; final sentence; to read “Councillors Alexander and Spears rejoined the meeting during consideration of the previous item.”
- Appendix 1; Question 4; Answer to the original question – insert additional paragraph as follows:- “The portfolio holder responded that in regard to the second part of the question efforts would be made to ensure that the young adults would not miss out.”
- Appendix 1; Question 4; supplementary answer to read:- “The portfolio holder said that formal invitations had not been issued to any political party.”

(c) Special meeting of Falkirk Council held on 12 February 2014 at 9.30 am.

Decision

The minute of the special meeting held on 12 February 2014 was agreed as a correct record.

- (d) Special meeting of Falkirk Council held on 12 February 2014 at 7.00 pm.

Decision

The minute of the special meeting held on 12 February 2014 was agreed as a correct record, subject to the following amendment at paragraph 4 on P44:-
“In moving the following amendment in place of the motion, Councillor Oliver stated his dissatisfaction that the business had been scheduled to follow the Falkirk Community Trust business plan and the Council’s budget. The amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Meiklejohn, was that:-“.

- (e) Volume of Minutes – Volume 4 2013/2014.

Decision

The Volume of Minutes – Volume 4 2013/14 was noted.

- (f) Information Bulletin – Volume 4 2013/2014.

Decision

The Information Bulletin – Volume 4 2013/2014 was noted.

FC91. QUESTIONS

In terms of Standing Order 32.1, 6 written questions had been submitted to the Leader of the Council and/or the portfolio holders. All were answered at the meeting. The answers are recorded at Appendix 1.

Provost Reid; Baillie Paterson and Councillors Dennis Goldie, Gow and Nicol each declared a non financial interest in item FC92 as Directors of Falkirk Community Trust, but did not consider that this required them to recuse themselves from consideration of the item, having had regard to the objective test in the Code of Conduct and the relevant specific exclusion contained in the Code.

FC92. FALKIRK COMMUNITY STADIUM LTD

Council considered a report by the Chief Executive setting out proposals for the winding up of Falkirk Community Stadium Limited (FCSL).

FCSL had been established, in a joint venture between Falkirk Council and Falkirk Football and Athletic Club (FFAC), in 2003 to construct and operate Falkirk Community Stadium. Following a demerger in 2009, FFAC took responsibility for all football related areas of the Stadium including the West and North Stands, and the Council as the single shareholder (and consequently the owner) of FCSL, took responsibility for all existing commercial activities and for the development of the entire site excluding stands.

The formal demerger in 2009 was affected in the most tax efficient manner given the circumstances prevailing at the time. Since then, the context within which FCSL operates has evolved; not least through establishment of the Helix project which has acquired a national and international profile and generated interest in adjacent development sites, the Tax Incremental Funding initiative which has the potential to support development in this key gateway location and the creation of Falkirk Community Trust. These developments have presented an opportunity to review the FCSL delivery model. The report set out a proposal to restructure the existing share capital; remove outstanding debt owed by FCSL to the Council and transfer assets from FCSL to the Council and Falkirk Community Trust. Following this FCSL would be wound up.

The report set out the financial, legal and HR implications of the proposal.

Councillor C Martin, seconded by Councillor Mahoney, moved that Council agrees:-

- (1) in principle to the proposals contained in the report and, in particular, paragraph 4 of the report;
- (2) subject to all necessary approvals and consents being agreed by the stakeholders involved, in particular Falkirk Community Trust, to authorise the Chief Executive or her nominee to take forward work required to implement the proposals; and
- (3) to instruct the Chief Executive to report back to a future meeting of Council for final approval of the detailed proposal noting that, in the event that the work referred to in paragraph (2) above would result in any significant changes being made to the proposals, such changes will be specifically drawn to the attention of Members.

As an amendment, Councillor Meiklejohn, seconded by Councillor Jackson, moved, in substitution for the motion, that Council:-

- (1) does not agree the proposals in principle, and agrees to continue this item to the next scheduled meeting of Council as there is insufficient detail for members to take an informed decision; and
- (2) instructs the Chief Executive to bring forward a detailed report on the proposal which should include, in particular, implications of the financial and legal aspects of the proposal, and confirmation that consultation has been carried out with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator.

In terms of Standing Order 22.4(i), a vote was taken by roll call, there being 31 members present with voting as undernoted:-

For the motion (17) – Provost Reid; Depute Provost Patrick; Baillies Buchanan and Paterson; Councillors Black, Blackwood, D Goldie, G Goldie, Gow, MacDonald, McLuckie, Mahoney, Martin, Dr C R Martin, Murray, Nicol and Nimmo.

For the amendment (14) – Councillors Alexander, Balfour, Bird, Carleschi, Chalmers, Coleman, Hughes, Jackson, McCabe, McNally, Meiklejohn, Oliver, Ritchie and Turner.

Decision

Council agreed the motion.

FC93. EXECUTION OF DEEDS

Council considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer detailing those deeds that had been signed by her since the last meeting.

Decision

Council noted the report.

FC94. MOTION

Members' Conduct

Notice of the following motion had been intimated by Councillor Dennis Goldie:-

“Council affirms the following principles:-

- All Council employees are entitled to a safe working environment free from harassment and bullying and where everyone is treated with dignity and respect.
- This should apply whether the source of the bullying or harassment is another employee or a Councillor.
- Employees should have access to means of having a complaint of harassment or bullying by a Councillor dealt with in an effective way.

Council agrees that while the current Dignity at Work Policy applies to Councillors, in reality it does not make adequate provision for the action to be taken where a Councillor is found to have engaged in bullying or harassing behaviour or provide the necessary support for a manager asked to investigate the actions of a Councillor.

Council accordingly agrees that the Dignity at Work Policy should be reconsidered with a view to incorporating the following changes:-

- (1) All complaints of bullying or harassment of an employee by a Councillor must be investigated by the Chief Officer of the Service of the employee making the complaint.
- (2) Where the outcome of the investigation is that bullying or harassing behaviour has taken place the outcome will be reported to Council.
- (3) Council will consider the appropriate action to be taken against the Councillor and, in particular whether a referral should be made to the Standards Commission.

Council requests the Chief Governance Officer and the Head of Human Resources to report to the next scheduled meeting of the Council with proposals for changes to the Policy to give effect to these changes.”

With the consent of the Provost, Councillor Dennis Goldie, seconded by Baillie Paterson, moved the terms of the motion, with the final paragraph extended as follows:-

“....recognising that discussions with trade unions (and, if necessary, the JCC) will need to take place and that the report may include proposals or advice to Council on alternative mechanisms to address the issue identified in this motion”. It was also accepted that this work may not be completed by the next scheduled meeting of Council and that the report would be made to a further meeting of Council.”

As an amendment, Councillor Meiklejohn, seconded by Councillor Jackson, moved, in substitution for the motion, that Council:-

- “(1) recognises that the Dignity at Work Policy October 2010 offers protections to staff; and
- (2) furthermore agrees that the Standards Commission’s primary role is to ensure the National Code of Conduct for elected members is implemented. Any political breaches of the Code should be reported and investigated by the Commission and they should be the sole body responsible for penalties.”

In terms of Standing Order 22.4(i), a vote was taken by roll call, there being 31 members present with voting as undernoted:-

For the motion (17) – Provost Reid; Depute Provost Patrick; Baillies Buchanan and Paterson; Councillors Black, Blackwood, D Goldie, G Goldie, Gow, MacDonald, McLuckie, Mahoney, Martin, Dr C R Martin, Murray, Nicol and Nimmo.

For the amendment (14) – Councillors Alexander, Balfour, Bird, Carleschi, Chalmers, Coleman, Hughes, Jackson, McCabe, McNally, Meiklejohn, Oliver, Ritchie and Turner.

Decision

Council agreed the adjusted motion.

Councillor Dennis Goldie left the meeting following consideration of the previous item.

FC95. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

Council agreed, in terms of s.50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the following item of business on the ground that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the said Act.

FC96. PARKING ENFORCEMENT

Council considered a report by the Director of Development Services on a potential legal challenge to the Chief Constable of Police Scotland's decision to withdraw traffic warden provision and outlining the current position.

The Executive had considered a report on 19 November 2013 (ref EX92) advising of the Chief Constable's decision, following a review of traffic warden provision, to withdraw the service from 28 February 2014. The report also set out options available to the Council in regard to its on street enforcement powers.

Subsequent to the meeting of the Executive, the Local Commander confirmed that Police Scotland could provide a traffic warden service for the area should Falkirk Council meet the yearly costs of £48,000.

Having considered advice on the process followed by the Chief Constable in making his decision and having consulted with the Leader of the Council and relevant portfolio holders, the Chief Executive authorised participation in a legal challenge, with Scottish Borders and Stirling Councils, to seek a judicial review of the decision. The legal challenge did not proceed following an undertaking from the Chief Constable that he would maintain the current level of parking enforcement in the area for at least a further 2 months to allow for further discussion.

While the preferred outcome for the Council would be for Police Scotland to maintain its current level of parking enforcement without a cost to the Council, authorisation was sought, in the event that this proved to be not achievable, to negotiate a service level agreement with the Local Commander for a local service funded by the Council.

Decision

Council agreed to:-

- (1) note the decision to join Scottish Borders and Stirling Councils in the legal challenge to the Chief Constable;**
- (2) maintain its stance in the forthcoming discussions with Police Scotland; and**
- (3) authorise the Director of Development Services, in consultation with the relevant portfolio holders, to agree a Service Level Agreement with the Local Commander.**

FALKIRK COUNCIL

QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 32

Standing Order 32 enables Councillors to put questions to the Leader of the Council or the relevant portfolio holder on matters transacted at a meeting of the Executive or the Education Executive during the preceding cycle. The table below details the questions asked and answered at the meeting.

ORDER QUESTION TAKEN	COMMITTEE / MINUTE REFERENCE	TITLE OF REPORT AND QUESTION	ANSWER	SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION	ANSWER
1	EXECUTIVE – 14 January 2014 REF EX103	Local Government Finance Settlement 2014/15 Why has the portfolio holder not reported back to Council on the changes occurring at COSLA? Councillor Cecil Meiklejohn	The Leader of the Council advised that most of the items discussed at COSLA were in private and therefore he was unable to report back. He was also not aware of any previous Leader reporting back on COSLA matters.	How did Councillor Martin vote at the Leader's meeting on the distribution formula and the freezing of it?	The Leader of the Council advised that at the last meeting in February 2014, a motion was put forward and he had voted in favour of the motion as did 20 other Leaders. He confirmed that he did have the terms of the motion, but required guidance from officers before circulating as this was a private item, as were 90% of COSLA papers.

ORDER QUESTION TAKEN	COMMITTEE / MINUTE REFERENCE	TITLE OF REPORT AND QUESTION	ANSWER	SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION	ANSWER
					The Chief Executive advised that it would be acceptable to share the terms of the motion with Group Leaders but that it should not be read out at this time.
2	REF EX103	<p>Local Government Finance Settlement 2014/15</p> <p>What is the position that Falkirk Council occupies in the league table of the 29 Scottish mainland local authorities for the 2014/15 settlement figures as a % change from the previous finance year, and how has this influenced the Administration's budget strategy?</p> <p>Councillor Cecil Meiklejohn</p>	<p>The Leader of the Council advised that in terms of movement between 2013/14 and 2014/15, Falkirk Council received the 9th largest movement for mainland Scotland authorities.</p> <p>Given that the final grant settlement for 2014/15 was not known until several weeks ago, the budget strategy had been influenced by the estimated grant settlement as per the Council's medium term financial strategy.</p>	20 Leaders out of 32 voted for the motion. Why did Councillor Martin vote the way he did and disadvantage Falkirk Council by £2.3m?	The Leader of the Council advised that he had voted to enhance Falkirk Council and not to disadvantage it, and that once Councillor Meiklejohn saw the wording of the motion, she would see why.

ORDER QUESTION TAKEN	COMMITTEE / MINUTE REFERENCE	TITLE OF REPORT AND QUESTION	ANSWER	SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION	ANSWER
			The settlement had been better than anticipated as a result of the decrease in Council Tax Reduction Scheme funding not being as severe as anticipated and this had been incorporated within the final budget proposals presented to Council in February.		
3	REF EX106	<p>Fairer Falkirk Underspend Proposals</p> <p>What Falkirk Council staff, or voluntary groups who work with the Council, have, or will be, contacted by the private contractors who have been, and will be, appointed to carry out the Fairer Falkirk survey at a cost of £35,000?</p> <p>Councillor Cecil Meiklejohn</p>	<p>The Leader of the Council advised that Falkirk Council staff and voluntary groups working with Falkirk Council who would be or had been contacted by those appointed to undertake the survey ranged from the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Falkirk Council One Stop Shops • Criminal Justice Services • Learning Disabilities Team • Falkirk Alcohol and Drug 	Why are we spending £35,000 if we are asking our own staff to identify individuals and voluntary organisations, we already have information. Would Councillor Martin not agree that £35,000 would be better spent on frontline services?	<p>The Leader of the Council advised that if the Council was doing as Councillor Meiklejohn suggests, it would be missing those individuals who are not engaging.</p> <p>The Council needed to know who and where these individuals were as they are the most vulnerable in our society.</p>

ORDER QUESTION TAKEN	COMMITTEE / MINUTE REFERENCE	TITLE OF REPORT AND QUESTION	ANSWER	SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION	ANSWER
			<p>Partnership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signpost Recovery • Citizens Advice Bureaux • Smartliving – Link Living Young Persons Project • Falkirk’s Mental Health Association (FDAMH) • Falkirk Homelessness Project • Barnardos Falkirk Axis Service • Black and Ethnic Minority Advice Services • The Scottish Throughcare and Aftercare Forum • Action in Mind <p>Other organisations may also be involved.</p> <p>The purpose of engaging with these organisations would be to enable the researchers to reach the relevant target audience to participate in the research. This participation would involve a mix of in-depth</p>		<p>He stated that he would consider it a success if the process found one person who had not previously participated in welfare reform.</p>

ORDER QUESTION TAKEN	COMMITTEE / MINUTE REFERENCE	TITLE OF REPORT AND QUESTION	ANSWER	SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION	ANSWER
			interviews and mini group discussions with individuals who are affected or are likely to be affected by the Welfare Reform changes.		
4	REF EX111	<p>Contract for the Provision of Dry Recyclate Segregation and Resale Service</p> <p>What is the capacity of the current storage facility for dry recyclate?</p> <p>Councillor Stephen Bird</p>	<p>The portfolio holder for Environment advised that as it stands currently, the facility has the capacity to store nearly 1500 tonnes of material as per the existing waste management licence.</p> <p>Based on current volumes going through the site, this would equate to roughly 14 days of storage capacity, but after 7 days the Council would need to explore contingency measures.</p> <p>The tough new measures imposed on ORAN would benefit the people of Grangemouth.</p>	The Roughmute site has been identified as the backup. However, at the Executive it was agreed that Roughmute was not to be used so what is Plan B?	The portfolio holder for Environment responded that a report would be submitted to the April Executive which would list possible Plan Bs.

ORDER QUESTION TAKEN	COMMITTEE / MINUTE REFERENCE	TITLE OF REPORT AND QUESTION	ANSWER	SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION	ANSWER
5	REF EX111	Contract for the Provision of Dry Recyclate Segregation and Resale Service When will the meetings on contingency measures commence? Councillor Stephen Bird	The portfolio holder for Environment advised that meetings had already taken place and a report would be submitted to the Executive meeting in April.	The fact that meetings have already taken place indicates the seriousness of the issue. Is it possible for quarterly update reports to be submitted to the Executive?	The portfolio holder for Environment responded that he received monthly updates and that ORAN are visited unannounced on a weekly basis. He did not see any reason why all members could not receive these monthly update reports.
6	EXECUTIVE – 14 January 2014 REF EX 120	New Waste Collection System – Implementation What effort has so far been made to engage the communities impacted by phase 1 of this implementation plan? Councillor Stephen Bird	The portfolio holder for Environment advised that there had been no engagement with communities so far, but that there was a list of actions to be undertaken. Having undergone a process with focus groups, Falkirk Council now has the correct message to go out to the public, and would letter every household and knock on every door.	Given that the pilot area includes some of the best and most engaged community councils in the area is an opportunity being missed to engage meaningfully with people who take their community duties seriously? Should we have be having a conversation with them first showing them they have a wider role to	The portfolio holder for Environment responded that a number of focus groups had been set up and these had involved a wide spectrum of the local and national community. He acknowledged the role of community councils and confirmed that there

ORDER QUESTION TAKEN	COMMITTEE / MINUTE REFERENCE	TITLE OF REPORT AND QUESTION	ANSWER	SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION	ANSWER
			The portfolio holder stated that it was also planned to go to the community council meetings and he gave his undertaking that every resident would be made aware of the changes.	play?	<p>would be an opportunity to engage with them during the process. Feedback would be taken on board and used to further tailor the message as needed.</p> <p>Prior to any correspondence being issued to residents, there would be engagement with all members included in the pilot area. They will also receive a comprehensive information pack containing all the information to be issued to householders.</p> <p>He advised that due to timescales, he didn't think it would be possible to approach community councils</p>

ORDER QUESTION TAKEN	COMMITTEE / MINUTE REFERENCE	TITLE OF REPORT AND QUESTION	ANSWER	SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION	ANSWER
					<p>prior to materials being issued.</p> <p>The portfolio holder agreed to discuss the potential for engagement with community councils with Councillor Bird outwith the meeting.</p>

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2014/15
Meeting: FALKIRK COUNCIL
Date: 14 May 2014
Author: CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Code of Practice for Treasury Management requires that an Annual Strategy Report be prepared and submitted to Executive for consideration prior to being recommended to Council for approval. This strategy outlines the framework for the expected treasury activities for 2014/15.
- 1.2 This report was previously presented to the Executive Committee on 18 March 2014 where it was agreed that it should be referred to Council for approval.

2. ECONOMIC AND INTEREST RATE OUTLOOK

- 2.1 The Eurozone crisis eased considerably in 2013 and in December 2013 Ireland exited from its three year bailout programme. Whilst the Eurozone has left recession, growth is predicted to be weak and this will impact on the UK as the Eurozone is the UK's biggest trading partner. A number of Eurozone countries with high debt to GDP ratios, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Ireland and Cyprus, remain vulnerable to any downturn in economic growth.
- 2.2 The USA has returned to robust growth, despite the fiscal cliff issues. Confidence has markedly improved and the housing market has turned a corner. Growth can be expected to be reasonable looking forward. In terms of the Chinese economy, there are concerns that growth could be on a downward trend.
- 2.3 Until 2013, the economic recovery in the UK since 2008 had been the worst and slowest recovery in recent history. However, growth strongly rebounded in 2013, across the three main sectors – services, manufacturing and construction. The Bank of England has therefore upgraded the growth forecast for 2014 from 1.7% to 2.8% whilst 2015 remains unchanged at 2.3%.
- 2.4 Whilst the UK growth in 2013 is positive, significant issues remain and there is a long way to go before economic conditions normalise. There needs to be a significant rebalancing of the economy away from consumer spending to construction, manufacturing, business investment and exporting in order for the recovery to become more firmly established. This is particularly important as wage inflation continues to remain significantly below CPI inflation so disposable income and living standards remain under pressure.

- 2.5 It was noted in the Treasury Management Interim Review report for 2013/14 that it was expected that the Bank Rate would remain low at c0.5% until possibly as far out as June 2016. It was also noted that a change in the interest rate was being linked to unemployment rates falling to or below 7%, which wasn't anticipated until 2015. In January 2014 it was reported that the unemployment rate had dropped to 7.1%, prompting some to speculate that interest rates may rise earlier than originally thought. However, Mark Carney, the Governor of the Bank of England, has subsequently distanced the link between interest rates and unemployment levels. The remaining issues in the economy, not least wage inflation and reduced disposable income mean that it is unlikely that there will be a rush to increase interest rates.
- 2.6 In the longer term, it is expected that gilt yields and therefore PWLB rates will rise, as shown in the table at paragraph 2.7, details of which have been provided by Capita Asset Services, the Council's Treasury advisers.

2.7

Annual Average %	Bank Rate	MONEY RATES		PWLB RATES			
		3 Months	1Yr	5Yr	10Yr	25Yr	50Yr
2013/14	0.5	0.5	0.8	2.6	3.7	4.4	4.3
2014/15	0.5	0.5	0.8	2.7	3.8	4.6	4.6
2015/16	0.6	0.8	1.3	3.0	4.0	4.9	4.9
2016/17	1.25	1.4	2.0	3.3	4.4	5.1	5.2

3. DEBT OUTSTANDING AT 01/04/14

- 3.1 The Council's estimated debt position at 01/04/14 is:

	<u>£m</u>	<u>% of Total Debt</u>
LONGER TERM FUNDING		
- Maturing loans in 2014/15	-	-
- Loans with Maturity > 1 year	<u>181.6</u>	88.3%
	181.6	
SHORT TERM FUNDING	<u>24.0</u>	11.7%
TOTAL ESTIMATED DEBT	<u>205.6</u>	100.0%

- 3.2 As noted in our Interim Review of the 2013/14 Treasury Strategy, the Council has been in an under-borrowed position for some time i.e. cash balances have been used to fund capital expenditure in place of borrowing. This has been beneficial as the loans fund interest rate has remained low as a result. Due to increasing interest rates, it is proposed to translate some of this under-borrowing into long term loans on a gradual and managed basis.

4. LONGER TERM BORROWING REQUIREMENT 2014/15

4.1 The expected longer term borrowing requirement for 2014/15 is £51.6m, as set out below:

	<u>£m</u>
Capital Programme (net of capital receipts)	43.0
Service Payments	(13.4)
Replacement of Short-Term Borrowing	<u>22.0</u>
TOTAL LONGER TERM BORROWING REQUIREMENT	<u>51.6</u>

4.2 In addition to the above, TIF projects to the net value of £0.7m have been included in the 2014/15 capital programme with these funded from non-domestic rate income.

4.3 The replacement of short term borrowing shown in the table above refers to £22.0m of short term debt that matures in 2014/15. These loans may be replaced on a short term or long term basis depending on cash flow requirements, prevailing interest rates and as per 3.2 above, the proposal to gradually reduce our under-borrowed position.

4.4 It should be noted that there is potential for Market Loans up to the value of £26m to be repaid during the year should any of the lenders invoke a rate change clause as per their individual contracts. Given the current level of interest rates, the risk of early repayment of any of the loans is assessed as low.

4.5 The Council's main source for longer term funding remains the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) from which it can access all of its borrowing requirement or alternatively funding can be accessed through the London Money Market.

5. BORROWING STRATEGY

5.1 There remains uncertainty over the timing of future interest rate increases but it is anticipated that the trends in both short term and longer term interest rates, as outlined in para 2.7, are considered to be the most probable outcome.

5.2 The longer term borrowing requirement is c£51.6m. The next few years indicate a significant interest rate differential in favour of short term rates, however, the complete range of borrowing periods will be reviewed as we need to borrow.

6. INVESTMENT STRATEGY

6.1 The regulatory framework provides greater autonomy for local authorities but makes clear that the onus is on local authorities to act prudently with regard to their investment and treasury management activities. The primary objectives of the Council's investment strategy is first and foremost to ensure timeous and full repayment of principal and interest, then securing adequate liquidity of funds invested and finally optimising investment returns consistent with those counterparty risks.

- 6.2 In order to assess counterparty risk prior to investing, the Council will make use of credit rating information for specific institutions as published by the three credit rating agencies, Fitch, Moody's and Standard and Poors. Further, the Council's officers recognise that ratings should not be the sole determinant of the quality of an institution and that it is important to continually assess and monitor the financial sector on both a micro and macro basis and in relation to the economic and political environments in which institutions operate. The lending criteria for 2014/15 has been reviewed to ensure it is robust enough to enable the Council to manage its investments effectively.
- 6.3 It is estimated that the Council will have on average £5m of surplus funds available for investment from time to time during 2014/15. The source of surplus funds is expected to arise largely from availability of internal balances held by Council accounts.
- 6.4 The Local Government Investments (Scotland) Regulations 2010 requires Council approval of all the types of investments, known as "Permitted Investments", to be used and set limits, where appropriate, for the amount and period that can be held in each type of investment.
- 6.5 The Permitted Investments which may be used in the forthcoming year are:
- CASH TYPE INSTRUMENTS
 - Deposits with other local authorities
 - Deposits with UK Government including Deposits with the Debt Management Account Facility (DMADF), treasury bills and gilts
 - Instant Access or On-Notice deposit accounts with financial institutions (banks and building societies)
 - Term deposits with financial institutions (banks and building societies)
 - Money Market Funds
 - OTHER INVESTMENTS
 - Investment Properties (none currently held by the Council)
 - Shareholdings in a local authority company (refer Appendix 1)
 - Loans to third parties, including soft loans (refer Appendix 3)
 - Loans to a local authority company (none currently held by the Council)
 - Non-local authority shareholdings (none currently held by the Council)
- 6.6 The Investment Regulations also require the investment position of the Common Good fund(s) to be made explicit. Surplus funds are invested in the Council's loans fund on which interest is earned. There is also a property asset (Kilns House) which attracts a rental yield.
- 6.7 Details, as appropriate, of the risks, mitigating controls and limits associated with each of the Permitted Investments are attached at Appendix 1.
- 6.8 For permitted cash type investments, the Council maintains a counterparty list in compliance with the relevant counterparty selection criteria. Appropriate extracts from the Council's Treasury Management Practices (TMPs) are attached for Members' information at Appendix 2.

- 6.9 The Regulations make clear that the Council must not borrow more, or in advance of its capital financing requirement as determined under the Prudential Code purely to profit from the investment of the extra sums borrowed. It is confirmed that the Council has no plans to borrow in advance of need in the forthcoming financial year.

7. TREASURY INDICATORS

- 7.1 The Code requires that a number of treasury indicators are incorporated within this Strategy Report. The purpose of the indicators is to contain the activity of the treasury function within certain limits, thereby managing risk and reducing the impact of an adverse movement in interest rates.
- 7.2 The Council is asked to approve the undernoted Treasury indicators:

	2014/15 Upper	2015/16 Upper	2016/17 Upper
1) INTEREST RATE EXPOSURE			
Limits on fixed interest rates based on net debt	100%	100%	100%
Limits on variable interest rates based on net debt	40%	40%	40%

2) MATURITY STRUCTURE ON FIXED INTEREST RATE BORROWING 2014/15		
	LOWER	UPPER
	%	%
Under 12 months	0	25
12 months – 2 years	0	25
2 years – 5 years	0	50
5 years – 10 years	0	75
10 years – 20 years	0	75
20 years – 30 years	0	75
30 years – 40 years	0	75
40 years – 50 years	0	75
3) MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL SUMS INVESTED > 364 DAYS		
The Council does not envisage having sums available for investment for periods longer than 364 days.		

8. TREASURY MANAGEMENT ADVISERS

8.1 The Council has appointed Capita Asset Services as its treasury management advisers. The contract is subject to regular review and comprises:

- Technical support on treasury and capital finance issues
- Economic and interest rate analysis
- Advice on debt rescheduling
- Borrowing and investment advice on interest rates, timing and financial instruments
- Credit ratings/market information service accessing the three main credit rating agencies

8.2 It is important to recognise under the terms of the revised Code, that regardless of the input from Capita, the final decision on treasury matters always rests with the Council.

9. MEMBER AND OFFICER TRAINING

9.1 There is a requirement under the Treasury Management Practices (TMPs), that all staff involved in the treasury management function are fully equipped to undertake the duties and responsibilities allocated to them. This is achieved by in-house training supplemented by staff attending training courses/seminars organised by the Council's Treasury Advisers or other institutions in the field of Treasury Management or CIPFA (Scotland) Treasury Management Forum.

9.2 Consistent with the requirements of the Investment Regulations and the increased Member consideration of treasury management issues the Chief Finance Officer has to ensure that those tasked with such responsibilities have access to training relevant to their needs and responsibilities. This training is scheduled to take place on 28 April 2014.

10. CONCLUSION

10.1 It is largely accepted that interest rates will rise but there is still uncertainty over the timing and extent of such rises. The prospects for both short term and longer term interest rates will clearly be influenced by future inflationary expectations and the pace of the economic recovery. A mid-year review of the treasury management function will be submitted to Members in November as required by the Regulations.

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 That Council:

- i) adopts the Borrowing Strategy for 2014/15 as set out in Section 5 of this report**
- ii) adopts the Investment Strategy for 2014/15 and approves the list of “Permitted Investments” as set out in Section 6 of this report**
- iii) approves the Treasury Indicators as set out in Section 7 of this report**

Chief Finance Officer

Date: 26 March 2014

Contact Officer: Carole McGhee/Amanda Templeman

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL

APPENDIX 1

FALKIRK COUNCIL PERMITTED INVESTMENTS, ASSOCIATED CONTROLS AND LIMITS

Type of Investment	Treasury Risks	Mitigating Controls	Council Limits
(a) Deposits with other local authorities or public bodies (very low risk)	<p>These are considered quasi UK Government debt and as such counterparty risk is very low and there is no risk to value. Liquidity may present a problem as deposits can only be broken with the agreement of the counterparty and penalties can apply.</p> <p>Deposits with other non local authority bodies will be restricted to the overall credit rating criteria.</p>	<p>Little mitigating controls required for local authority deposits, as this is a quasi UK Government investment.</p> <p>Non local authority deposits will follow the approved crediting rating criteria.</p>	£5m per LA and maximum 1 year
(b) Deposits with the Debt Management Account Facility (UK Government) (very low risk)	This is a deposit with the UK Government and as such counterparty and liquidity risk is very low and there is no risk to value. Deposits can be between overnight and 6 months.	Little mitigating controls required. As this is a UK Government investment, the monetary limit is unlimited to allow for a safe haven for investments.	£unlimited, maximum 6 months
(c) Money Market Funds (MMFs) (very low risk)	Pooled cash investment vehicle which provides very low counterparty, liquidity and market risk. These will primarily be used as liquidity instruments.	Funds will only be used where the MMFs are Constant Net Asset Value (CNAV) and the fund as a “AAA” rated status from all of Fitch, Moody’s or Standard & Poors.	£5m per fund and on Call
(d) Instant Access or On-Notice deposit accounts with financial institutions (banks and building societies) (low risk depending on credit rating)	These tend to be low risk investments, but will exhibit higher risks than categories (a), (b) and (c) above. There is little risk to value with these types of investments, liquidity is high and investments can be returned at short notice.	<p>The counterparty selection criteria restricts lending only to high quality counterparties, measured primarily by credit ratings from Fitch, Moody’s and Standard & Poors. The selection defaults to the lowest available credit rating to provide additional risk control measures.</p> <p>On day to day investment dealing, use of the selection criteria will be further strengthened by additional market intelligence.</p>	£8m and on Call subject to individual institution criteria

Type of Investment	Treasury Risks	Mitigating Controls	Council Limits
(e) Term deposits with financial institutions (banks and building societies) (low to medium risk depending on period and credit rating)	This tends to be low risk investments, but will exhibit higher risks than categories (a), (b) and (c) above. Whilst there is little risk to value with these types of investments, liquidity is low and term deposits can only be broken with the agreement of the counterparty and penalties may apply.	The counterparty selection criteria restricts lending only to high quality counterparties, measured primarily by credit ratings from Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poors. The selection defaults to the lowest available credit rating to provide additional risk control measures. On day to day investment dealing, use of the selection criteria will be further strengthened by additional market intelligence.	£8m and maximum 3 month subject to individual institution criteria
(f) Investment Properties (The Council does not currently hold, nor does it plan to hold any investment properties)	These are non-service properties which are being held pending disposal or for a longer term rental income stream. These are highly illiquid assets with high risk to value (the potential for property prices to fall or for rental voids)	In larger investment portfolios, some small allocation of property based investment may counterbalance/compliment the wider cash portfolio. Property holding will be re-valued regularly and reported annually with gross and net rental streams.	N/A
(g) Loans to third parties, including soft loans	These are service transactions either at market rates of interest or below market rates (soft loans). These types of transactions may exhibit credit risk and are likely to be highly illiquid.	Each third party loan and each application is supported by the service rationale behind the loan and the likelihood of partial or full default.	Consistent with the particular scheme
(h) Loans to a local authority company (the Council currently has no such loans)	These are service investments either at market rates of interest or below market rates (soft loans). These types of investments may exhibit credit risk and are likely to be highly illiquid.	Each loan to a local authority company and each application is supported by the service rationale behind the loan and the likelihood of partial or full default.	N/A

Type of Investment	Treasury Risks	Mitigating Controls	Council Limits
(i) Shareholdings in a local authority company. (The Council has an investment of £13.190m as at 31/03/13 in Falkirk Community Stadium Ltd represented by a range of assets at Westfield, Falkirk)	These are service investments which may exhibit market risk and are likely to be highly illiquid.	Each equity investment in a local authority company requires Member approval and each application will be supported by the service rationale behind the investment and the likelihood of loss	£15m
(j) Non-local authority shareholdings (The Council currently has no such shareholdings)	These are non-service investments which may exhibit market risk, be only considered for longer term investments and will be likely to be illiquid.	Any non-service equity investment will require separate Member approval and each application will be supported by the service rationale behind the investment and the likelihood of loss.	N/A

The Monitoring of Investment Counterparties – The status of counterparties will be monitored regularly. The Council receives credit rating and market information from Capita Asset Services, from which counterparties are checked promptly. On occasion, ratings may be downgraded when an investment has already been made. The criteria used are such that a minor downgrading should not affect the full receipt of the principal and interest. Any counterparty failing to meet the criteria will be removed from the list immediately by the Chief Finance Officer and, if required, new counterparties which meet the criteria will be added to the list.

CREDIT AND COUNTERPARTY POLICIES

Criteria to be used for creating/managing approved counterparty lists/limits.

- Chief Finance Officer in conjunction with the treasury management advisers, will formulate suitable criteria for assessing and monitoring the credit risk of investment counterparties and shall construct a lending list comprising period, type, sector and specific counterparty limits.
- The rating criteria will use the lowest common denominator method (across Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poors) of selecting counterparties and applying limits. This means that the application of the Council's minimum criteria will apply to the lowest available rating for any institution.
- The Council will also have regard to additional operational market information such as negative rating watches/outflows before selecting the relevant counterparties.
- The Council's approved counterparty list will extend to selected counterparties from the following sectors:

UK Banks

Overseas Banks (but with UK authorisation) Minimum Sovereign rating of AA

Building Societies

UK Local Authorities

UK Government

- The minimum level of credit rating for an approved counterparty per Fitch ratings will be as undernoted, with particular reference to the short term rating but having regard to other ratings.

SHORT TERM	F1	Indicates the strongest capacity for timely payment of financial commitments within a 12 month timeframe
LONG TERM	A	High Credit Quality. A low expectation of credit risk with a strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments
VIABILITY (Fitch)/ Financial Strength (Moody's)	bb-/C-	An assessment of a bank's ability to meet its obligations in the absence of support and its capacity to maintain ongoing operations whilst avoiding failure.
SUPPORT	1/2/3	An assessment of whether a bank would receive outside support if it ran into financial difficulties that it could not cope by itself

- Part nationalised UK banking Groups – Lloyds Bank/Bank of Scotland and Royal Bank of Scotland/Nat West. These banks can be included if they continue to be part nationalised or they meet the ratings above.

- The maximum period for investments will be 3 months unless an alternative period is recorded against a specific counterparty.
- The maximum value for any one investment transaction will be £8 million unless a lesser amount is recorded against a specific counterparty.
- The Council's own banker (Clydesdale) will continue to be used for transactional purposes if the bank falls below the above criteria, although in this case balances will be minimised where possible and maintained in an instantly accessible call account.

Full individual listings of counterparties and their limits are shown at Schedule 1 below.

SCHEDULE 1

APPROVED COUNTERPARTIES AND COUNTERPARTY LIMITS

Investments in the form of Temporary Deposits may be placed with the institutions noted below subject to the limit per institution indicated.

UK BANKS

<u>INSTITUTIONS</u>	<u>LIMIT</u>	<u>MAX PERIOD</u>
Santander UK	£8m	Call
Barclays Bank	£8m	3 Months
Clydesdale Bank	£8m	Call
HSBC	£8m	3 Months
Lloyds Banking Group *		
Lloyds TSB	£8m	3 Months
Bank of Scotland	£8m	3 Months
* A maximum combined monetary limit of	£8m	
Royal Bank of Scotland *		
Royal Bank of Scotland	£8m	3 Months
Nat West	£8m	3 Months
* A maximum combined monetary limit of	£8m	

BUILDING SOCIETIES

Nationwide	£5m	3 Months
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UK LOCAL AUTHORITIES

£5m per LA	1 Year
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UK GOVERNMENT

Unlimited	6 Months
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MONEY MARKET FUNDS

£5m per fund	Call
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THIRD PARTY LOANS

The Investment Regulations require all loans to third parties to be classified as investments.

The (questionable) rationale behind this is to identify monies utilised in this way, which would otherwise be available for general investment and give rise to investment income.

To comply with the Regulations, the following is presented:-

Category and Context	Outstanding	
	No of loans	Value £
(a) Car Loans to Employees Loans advanced to assist employees finance a vehicle needed for their work. Current interest rate is 4.45% per NJC Circular. The scheme closed to new applicants from 1 June 2012 and as such the number of loans and value will continue to decrease until all loans have been repaid.	26	60,097
(b) Home Loans There are a small number of residual loans which were advanced to people purchasing under the right to buy scheme. The interest rate is set by the Scottish Government and is currently 3.13%.	7	23,147.37
(c) Care Home Deferred/Front Funding Payments When a person enters a care home, legislation requires the Council to offer the facility to pay care home fees to avoid a forced house sale. In the case of Deferred Payments, a standard security allows the monies to be recovered in due course. The Council is not allowed to charge interest.	51	761,679
(d) Bike to Work Scheme During the course of 2010/11, the Council launched a "Bike to Work" Scheme to encourage employees to become greener. The scheme provides tax and national insurance savings to employees who obtain bicycles and safety equipment used mainly for cycling to and from work. The scheme provides a loan which is paid over a one year period.	96	30,752
(e) Owner/Occupiers – High Rise Flats Communal repairs for High Rise blocks of flats e.g. lift refurbishment. Owner/occupiers have deferred their share of costs until such time as flat is sold and thereafter Council will be reimbursed. An Admin Fee for the service is also recharged to owner/occupiers.	39	61,217
(f) Private Roads – Support to Residents During the course of 2014/15, the Council may provide up front funding to residents to enable them to upgrade private roads. Loans to residents will be secured over their properties and the interest rate fixed at a level to reflect the cost of making funding available.	N/A	N/A

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION
Meeting: FALKIRK COUNCIL
Date: 14 May 2014
Author: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide information to help inform decisions in relation to integration of health and social care. This report sets out the background to integration, the outcomes that integration is looking to achieve, the scope of integration, the options for a model of governance that requires to be put in place, the work streams needed to deliver integration and the timescales for delivering this.
- 1.2 Integration of health and social care is intended to provide a vehicle to enable local partnerships, comprising Health Boards and Local Authorities, to collectively deliver local outcomes more effectively.
- 1.3 The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 (the Act) was passed at the end of February 2014 and given Royal Assent on 1 April 2014. The Act sets out what integration is intended to achieve, the models of integration for local partnerships, how the scheme requires to be implemented, arrangements for delegated functions and planning. Some importation issues will be resolved by secondary legislation in particular the scope of the local authority and health services which must be included in the Integration Scheme (“the core services”). Although the exact scope of the core services is still to be confirmed, policy statements published by the government during the passage of the Act give a good indication of their scope. Local Partnerships are required to implement integration governance structures and local delivery strategies by April 2015, having had shadow arrangements in place prior to that.

2. OUTCOMES APPROACH

- 2.1 The Scottish Government’s 20:20 Vision is that by 2020 everyone is able to live longer healthier lives at home, or in a homely setting, and that we will have a healthcare system where:
 - We have integrated health and social care.
 - There is a focus on prevention, anticipation and supported self-management.
 - If hospital treatment is required, and cannot be provided in a community setting, day treatment will be the norm.
 - Whatever the setting, care will be provided to the highest standards of quality and safety, with the person at the centre of all decisions.
 - There will be a focus on ensuring that people get back into their home or community environment as soon as appropriate, with minimal risk of re-admission.

- 2.2 The Act removes Community Health Partnerships from statute and provides the basis to create an Integration Authority for each council area which will be the joint and equal responsibility of the health board and the local authority.

National Objectives

- 2.3 The Scottish Government's vision of a successfully integrated system of adult health and social care for Scotland is that it will exhibit the following characteristics:
- Consistency of outcomes across Scotland,
 - A statutory underpinning to assure public confidence;
 - An integrated budget to deliver community health and social care services and also appropriate aspects of acute health activity;
 - Clear accountability for delivering agreed national outcomes;
 - Professional leadership by clinicians and social workers; and
 - It will be simpler rather than complicate existing bodies and structures.
- 2.4 The four key principles that underpin these reforms are:
- Nationally agreed outcomes to apply across adult health and social care;
 - Health Boards and local authorities are to be jointly and equally accountable for the delivery of those outcomes;
 - Integrated resources (budgets and employees) will apply across the spectrum of adult health and social care provision; and
 - Encouraging strong clinical and professional leadership, and the engagement of the third and independent sectors, in the commissioning of adult health and social care services.
- 2.5 The integration planning principles set out in the Act note that the main purpose of integration of services is to improve the wellbeing of service-users. The Act then goes on to note that integration must be taken forward with regard to the following:
- Is integrated from the point of view of service-users,
 - Takes account of the particular needs of different service-users,
 - Takes account of the particular needs of service-users in different parts of the area in which the service is being provided,
 - Takes account of the particular characteristics and circumstances of different service-users,
 - Respects the rights of service-users,
 - Takes account of the dignity of service-users
 - Takes account of the participation by service-users in the community in which service-users live,
 - Protects and improves the safety of service-users,
 - Improves the quality of the service,
 - Is planned and led locally in a way which is engaged with the community including in particular service-users, those who look after service-users and those who are involved in the provision of health or social care,
 - Best anticipates needs and prevents them arising, and

- Makes the best use of the available facilities, people and other resources.
- 2.6 A key part of the process will be the dissolution of the current Community Health Partnership arrangements to be replaced by one of two models of integration:
- A lead agency –either health or local authority; or
 - Delegation to a corporate body

Local Context

- 2.7 Delivering better outcomes within the Falkirk Council area is central to the integration of health and social care. In developing an integrated framework of delivery, consideration must be given both to the impact of change on achieving outcomes and also to improving outcomes. The Health and Social Care Partnership will work ultimately towards the outcomes set out in our local SOA, but will also focus on outcomes established for individual care groups, which will be described within Joint Commissioning Plans, for example the Joint Strategic Commissioning Plan for Services for Older People.
- 2.8 Given this need to focus on local outcomes, it is important that health and social care integration arrangements are focused on our local communities. However the legislation allows local authorities under the geography of one Health Board to come together to develop a joint integration model. We understand that Stirling and Clackmannshire Councils are considering this joint option. This clearly makes sense for them given their joint arrangements for social care. However it is not proposed that we join those arrangements and it is suggested that, for us, the focus of planning for health and social care integration should be the Falkirk Council area. This will allow us to focus on the needs of the people in our area by improving the services we have and within a local policy context.
- 2.9 In addition, a key component of delivering integrated services is to establish and implement a locality planning model. This will facilitate engagement with communities and local practitioners, across all sectors, to help the Partnership understand and develop the key priorities within each locality area, and deliver locality level outcomes.

3. SCOPE OF INTEGRATION

- 3.1 As the legislation evolved, the scope of the core services that must be included in integrated arrangements became clearer. Policy statements referred to at 1.3 make it very clear that all of adult social care and some complementary services require to be included and a significant amount of health care services would have to be included.
- 3.2 Local Authority and Health Board Officers have considered the functions that should be included within the core scope of integration, in terms of making sense of strategic and operational accountability and management. Functions were assessed with consideration to the following criteria:

Customer	Staff	Organisation
Would an integrated service create 'one door' approach Ability for the service user to accept and accommodate any change Level of disruption Ease of access Ability to deliver a positive impact on individuals health & wellbeing	Level of change Impact of change	Areas of activity where the greatest opportunity exists for service redesign, to focus on prevention. Minimal disruption to staff. Impact and ease of financial merging. Promotion of integration and reduction of fragmentation. Alignment to Community Planning and Single Outcome Agreements. Ability to retain democratic accountability.

- 3.3 It must be noted that some overarching strategies are not exclusively the responsibility of the health and social care partnership (HSCP). This highlights an imperative to establish the HSCP in the context of local community planning and public protection arrangements. Formal linkages with local other key planning and delivery structures will ensure bridges with wider agendas for example criminal justice, public protection, poverty and regeneration.
- 3.4 Appendix 1 provides a table showing functions identified as being in core scope and functions potentially in scope, which require further discussion and/or planning. It should be noted that the scope is extensive and includes services such as GPs, prescribing, all adult social care, community hospitals etc.

Key Issues Regarding Scope

- 3.5 Accepting the scope of the services required to be included within integration arrangements, there are a number of issues that will require to be acknowledged and addressed during the shadow period of the new arrangements.
- 3.6 In respect of universal services, which provide service across all age groups and not just adults, for example GP, Dental, Community Pharmacy and Optometrist Services, the Act states that the totality of the functions must be included within the integrated delivery framework.
- 3.7 The nationally set, locally administered General Practitioners' contract means limited ability to influence core service delivery, although there is some ability to influence added value via budgets currently in place for enhanced services.
- 3.8 Health Boards currently operate primary care prescribing via a prescribing allocation. Within an integrated framework, liability for any overspend in the allocation may become the responsibility of the HSCP.

- 3.9 A number of specialist services are currently provided on a Forth Valley basis. Within HSCP arrangements, a host Partnership may be identified to manage such a service on behalf of all partners. The alternative would be disaggregation of services, which may make little sense due to the specialist nature and therefore limited size of provision.
- 3.10 The inclusion of Acute Services requires further discussion. Although integral to the patient pathway, there is a possibility that inclusion may consume a disproportionate amount of attention and detract from wider community and primary provision. Clinical governance arrangements also add challenge with regard to operational management versus strategic influence. It may be beneficial to take a phased approach to inclusion of Acute Services.
- 3.11 In order to adopt a whole systems approach, the HSCP must be established within the context of the Community Planning Partnership. The HSCP will work towards the delivery of the SOA. The HSCP will also have reliance on the effective delivery of specific functions outwith the scope of integration, for example, aspects of Acute Services and Housing/Landlord functions. The HSCP should be able to influence long-term change and direction of these services, as an integral component of the CPP structure.

4. INTEGRATION MODEL

- 4.1 The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014, makes clear that there are two possible Integration models. The models are:
- Lead Agency: Either Health Board or Local Authority would take full strategic and operational accountability for all functions within the scope of integration: or
 - Body Corporate: Delegation by Local Authority and Health Board of all functions within scope of integration, to a new entity governed by a Joint Board and accountable for overseeing the provision of functions.
- 4.2 In an earlier draft of the Bill it had been suggested that there might be an additional way of cross delegation. This has been ruled out in the final passing of the Bill even though it did have some merits which were being explored locally.
- 4.3 Appendix 2 provides an appraisal for each of the prescribed models. The fundamental consideration in selecting the most appropriate model, relates to which model will achieve the outcomes we will require to achieve for the citizens of Falkirk. Members might want to consider issues such as the potential change in accountability and transfer of function that is acceptable to them. The prescribed scope of integration relates to all functions associated with the adult care pathway.
- 4.4 Adopting the Lead Agency model with the Local Authority as lead would result in all Health Board functions within scope being transferred to the Local Authority. This may or may not include the transfer of staff. The governance of this structure would include a Joint Monitoring Committee and would include Health Board representation.

- 4.5 Conversely, if the Lead Agency model is adopted, with the Health Board as lead, all Social Work functions relating to adult care would be transferred to the Health Board. Again, the governance of this structure would be overseen by a Joint Monitoring Committee, which would include Elected Member representation. It is envisaged that both the NHS and the Council would be equally represented on a Joint Monitoring Committee with 3/4 representatives respectively.
- 4.6 Adopting the Body Corporate model would result in all functions within the scope of integration being overseen and delivered by a new joint separate legal entity. The entity would be an Integration Joint Board, which would include representation from 3 or 4 Health Board Members and 3 or 4 Elected Members. A Chief Officer would require to be recruited, potentially along with a senior finance officer. The Chief Officer would have strategic and operational responsibilities and would report to the Integration Joint Board and it is anticipated directly to the Chief Executives of the Council and the Health Board. In this model, services and staff would not necessarily be transferred to the body but delivered from the constituent authorities. It is important however to be clear that these services would be managed by and accountable to the Body Corporate, with the detail of this defined in the Integration Scheme.
- 4.7 Each model presents its own challenges and opportunities. Given the range and scope of services to be included, it is suggested that the Body Corporate allows a greater focus on achieving improved outcomes, gives least disruption to the majority of employees and allows a more planned approach to operational integration. It is recognised that the final decision on a model can only be taken once the detail of governance, decision making, budgets etc. is known. Therefore it is proposed that Members agree in principle at this time to developing a scheme based on a Body Corporate model with final approval once the proposed scheme has been drafted.
- 4.8 NHS Forth Valley has recently considered a report on health and social care integration and has indicated a preference in principle for the Body Corporate.

5. PROCESS AND TIMESCALE

- 5.1 The Scottish Government require local Partnerships to develop HSCP governance structures and have in place shadow arrangements during the course of 2014, with a view to full implementation from 1 April 2015. Partnerships are required to develop a Scheme of Integration, which will require formal Ministerial approval prior to full implementation. This Scheme of Integration requires to set out how governance, finance including shadow budgets, planning etc arrangements for health and social care integration. An indicative timetable and work streams for the development of the Scheme is attached as Appendix 3.
- 5.2 In order to support integration the Government has indicated it will allocate monies to each Health Board to help local partnerships progress. It is suggested that this funding might be approx. £350,000 for NHS Forth Valley, therefore c£170,000 for the Falkirk Council area – to be used eg to appoint a project change manager who will co-ordinate work streams such as finance, governance etc. with a view to a draft scheme being presented to Members in October and therefore shadow arrangements being in place thereafter.

- 5.3 It is understood that there are delays in allocating this money. As this work undertaken by the post identified needs to be progressed now, it is proposed that we move to fill the posts required to support this transitional work on the basis that the transitional funding will be made available at some point. In the first instance this will involve appointing a project/programme manager
- 5.4 In order to oversee the work required to put in place a Body Corporate it is proposed that the existing structures e.g. the Partnership Board and Joint Management Group act as the shadow bodies, clearly reporting progress etc. to the Council and NHS Board at regular intervals.
- 5.5 In addition to developing a Scheme of Integration, the Act requires consultation and engagement with communities. It requires a Strategic Planning Group to be established comprising a range of organisations, individuals and sectors. It is as important to engage with employees, as well as service users, through this change. Discussions will also have to be held with Trade Unions. This engagement will have to be managed and start prior to the shadow arrangements being established.
- 5.6 The main purpose of the engagement is to ensure the integrated arrangements have a clear focus on delivering the principles within the Act and, importantly, local outcomes for service delivery. The Strategic Delivery Plan must ensure the functions and services that come under the scope of integration actually are focused on improving outcomes but must also outline clearly areas for further operational integration.
- 5.7 It is preferable that a model is developed that seeks to embed integrated working by building on existing structures, processes and relationships rather than creating new arrangements. It may also be beneficial to take a phased and tiered approach to the implementation of integration. For example, within the context of the integration framework, the Strategic Delivery Plan could set out a 3-5 year progressive programme towards integration, with an underpinning agenda regarding transformational change.
- 5.8 There will be a requirement to understand and bring together service delivery systems and two cultures. This is a substantial piece of work which must be focussed on achieving the right outcomes for local people as well as meeting the requirements of the Act.

6. OTHER ISSUES

- 6.1 As indicated, health and social care integration is one of the most fundamental changes to the structure of public services in some years. In changing the way we deliver and govern adult health and social care services, we also need to assess the implications for the rest of the Council, in particular the remaining social work services e.g. criminal justice, money advice and children and families services. In addition the Council needs to consider how the role of the Chief Social Work Officer will be delivered.
- 6.2 Members will be aware that there are also decisions on other posts that have been deferred in order that account can be taken of these changes. It is proposed that I present an early report to Council on the impact of these changes on the structure of the Council.

7. CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 Health and social care integration is one of the most wide reaching and fundamental changes in the way public services are delivered since local government re-organisation. While this presents many opportunities it also presents significant challenges, including continuing to improve outcomes for adults requiring health and social care services while changing governance and operational management arrangements.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 **It is recommended that Members:**
- 8.2 **note the provisions and requirements of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Bill;**
- 8.3 **agree that any model and partnership arrangements require to be based on the Falkirk Council area;**
- 8.4 **note the scope of services to be included in the integrated arrangements;**
- 8.5 **agree in principle that Officers work with the Health Board to develop a Scheme of Integration based on the Body Corporate model;**
- 8.6 **note the work plan, timescales and work streams which will require to be established and the proposals for the transitional integration funding and oversight of the transition;**
- 8.7 **posts required to take forward integration are filled as a matter of urgency;**
- 8.8 **note the need to develop a Strategic Delivery Plan and engagement arrangements;**
- 8.9 **agree that a draft Scheme of Integration is presented to Council for approval by Members in October 2014; and**
- 8.10 **agree that a report on the impact of these changes on the remaining Council services is presented to Members in early course.**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Date: 16 April 2014
Ref: ABD0514FC – Health and Social Care Integration
Contact Name: Fiona Campbell

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. The Public Bodies (Joint Working) Scotland) Bill (the Bill) February 2014

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers listed above should telephone Falkirk 01324 506004 and ask for Fiona Campbell.

Function Scoping Exercise

Function	Delivery Categories	Note Ref.	Care Group			
			Mental Health & Addiction	Physical & Learning Disability	Complex Care	Older People
Core Scope						
FUNCTIONS CURRENTLY PROVIDED BY HEALTH						
Specialist Clinics e.g. Memory Clinic	Specialist Community	1.				✓
Complex Care Team	Specialist Community			✓	✓	✓
Community Disability Service (Linked to Sensory Centre)	Specialist Community			✓	✓	✓
Specialist Nursing (inc Tissue Viability/continence)	Specialist Community			✓		✓
Community Mental Health Services (Adults)	Community		✓			
Community Addiction Services	Community		✓			
Community Rehabilitation Services	Community		✓			
Community Learning & Physical Disability Service	Community			✓	✓	✓
Community Hospital Services	Community					✓
Community Nurses (District Nurses)	Community					✓
ReACH (Community rehab)	Community				✓	✓
Community AHP/Physio/Podiatry/OT/SALT	Community	5.	✓	✓	✓	✓
GPs	Primary		✓	✓	✓	✓
GP Counselling	Primary	2.	✓			
GPPS (addiction related prescribing)	Primary		✓			
Community Pharmacy	Primary	3. & 5.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dental Services	Primary	3. & 5.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Optometrists	Primary	3. & 5.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Day Services: Mental Health	Commissioned		✓			
Services Commissioned through Change Fund	Commissioned					✓
FUNCTIONS CURRENTLY PROVIDED BY LOCAL AUTHORITY						
Older People	Internal Assess & Case Manage					✓
Mental Health	Internal Assess & Care Manage		✓			

Learning Disability	Internal Assess & Care Manage			✓		
Physical Disability	Internal Assess & Care Manage			✓		
Sensory Impairment	Internal Assess & Care Manage			✓		
Adult Support & Protection	Internal Assess & Care Manage		✓	✓	✓	✓
Occupational Therapy	Internal Assess & Care Manage	5.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Carers	Internal Assess & Care Manage	5.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reablement	Internal & Commissioned			✓		✓
Care at Home	Internal & Commissioned		✓	✓	✓	✓
Residential Care	Internal & Commissioned					✓
Respite Care	Internal & Commissioned			✓		✓
Day Care/Services: PD, LD, OP, MH	Internal & Commissioned	5.	✓	✓	✓	✓
MECS/Telecare/Telehealth	Internal	5.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Housing with Care/Sheltered Accom. (Supporting People)	Internal & Commissioned			✓		✓
Shopping Service	Internal & Commissioned					✓
Equipment & Adaptations	Internal			✓	✓	✓
Carers – Information/Advice & Support	Internal & Commissioned	5.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Local Area Co-ordination (LD outreach)	Internal			✓		
Mental Health	Commissioned		✓			
Substance Misuse	Commissioned		✓			
Sensory Team	Integrated provision			✓		
Mental Health Team	Integrated provision		✓			
Learning Disability Team	Integrated provision			✓		
JLES	Integrated provision	5.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Day Care/Centre: MH	Integrated provision		✓			
Potentially In Scope (further discussion required)						
FUNCTIONS CURRENTLY PROVIDED BY HEALTH						
Regional Services (Forensic)	Specialist Care					
Inpatient Mental Health Assessment (Adult)	Specialist Care					
IPCU	Specialist Care					
Bellsdyke	Specialist Care					
Lochview	Specialist Care					

Specialist Teams (Eating Disorders/Perinatal/Foresnsic)	Specialist Care					
Dynamic Psycho Therapy	Specialist Care					
IHTT	Specialist Care					
Secondary Care Psychology	Specialist Care					
Mental Health Inpatient Assessment (Older People)	Specialist Care					
Prison Service	Community	6.				
Primary Care Psychology	Community					
Behavioural Psychology	Community					
Health Promotion/Health Improvement Service	Community					
Community Dental Services	Primary	4.				
Primary Care Prescribing	Primary	Para 2.4				
FUNCTIONS CURRENTLY PROVIDED BY LOCAL AUTHORITY						
Adults with Incapacity	Internal Assess & Care Manage					
MHO	Internal Assess & Care Manage					
Emergency Duty Team	Internal & Commissioned					

Reference notes:

1. Memory Clinics are specialist services, delivered by consultants and provided within the community. Clinics run in Falkirk and Stirling/Clacks Partnership areas therefore there would be no need to identify host Partnership and could continue to operate as they are.
2. GP Counselling services are commissioned via GPs to third sector agencies, however the budget is held by the Health Board.
3. Dental, Optometrists and Community Pharmacy deliver services to all age categories. Dentists and Optometrists deliver service through local contract with Health Board. Payment is made on a per capita rate with additional payment for specific services.
4. Community Dental Services provide specific groups e.g. children and people with disabilities with specialist services.
5. Services which are provided across all care categories. Further analysis is required to determine whether provision should be based geographical split or team locality.
6. Prison Services: Consideration is currently being given regarding how best to meet the needs of the aging population within prisons e.g. introduction of MECS. Inclusion of prison services should align with Criminal Justice.

Central Support Functions

Support Function	Local Authority	Health
Performance Management & Quality Assurance	Corporate & Service	Corporate
Workforce Development	Corporate & Service	Corporate
Human Resources	Corporate & Service	Corporate & Service
Finance	Corporate & Service	Corporate & Service
IT	Corporate & Service	Corporate & Service
Legal	Corporate	External Provider (National)
Administration/Business Support	Service	Service
Emergency Planning/Business Continuity	Corporate	Corporate
Health & Safety	Corporate & Service	Corporate
Risk Register	Corporate & Service	Corporate & Service
FOI/Data Protection	Service led, Corporately monitored	Corporate

Pros and Cons of Prescribed Models: Health & Social Care Integration

Body Corporate	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Body Corporate is default position i.e. Ministers will impose this structure if Partnerships are unable to agree. Chief officer will have operational and strategic management responsibility overseen by Chief Executives of Falkirk Council and NHS. Accountability for delivery e.g. HEAT targets would be responsibility of Partnership – how these are achieved would lie with operational delivery. 	
Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuity of employer, terms and conditions etc. if implemented in ways that do not involve potential staff transfer Potential to develop single policy framework Potential to deepen integration at locality level Greater potential to move resources across partnership according to presenting needs and priorities Single management arrangements to oversee the development of the required Joint Strategic Commissioning Plans Localities have clearer line of involvement and accountability Greater future potential to integrate HR; finance; learning & organisational development; property functions etc. Single model lends itself to more effective stakeholder participation Potential for more shared decision making Political involvement retained Less disruption for staff Promotes a “whole systems” approach Generates flexibility regarding financial management, could be joint or aligned Potential for a BC arrangement for Children’s Services – to include education, NHS and Social Services. This would be consistent with early identification / early years policy and would mitigate risk / fracturing of services in relation to child protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only 3 or 4 Elected Members on the Board, which reduces democratic accountability and applies additional pressure to nominated reps. Chief Officer role re management of services unclear – clear definition and parameters required. Ministers can direct that the BC take an additional responsibility for taking on contracts, employees, parents etc. Relationship between BC and Council unclear. Stricter definitions of those services included in Integration – less emphasis on planned whole systems approach. Potential for disconnect between Adult Services included within integration and services outwith scope e.g. services for children and housing. Less clarity about management of services. Accountability for budget deficits. No ability to shift resource to/from services outwith those included within integrated model e.g. from adult care to services for children. Risk of tensions due to variable terms and conditions /employee relations model Proposed Ministerial powers to determine transfer of staff Change effort required to develop single policy framework Requires detailed scheme of delegation and standing orders to vire resources to support service delivery Risk of duplication if functions are not integrated over time Competing tensions around levels of investment prevention, early intervention, and intensive support Discrepancy between management and operations Lack of clarity about responsibility and accountability of Joint Board Need to determine co-ordinated support services from different organisations Lack of control

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of reassurance regarding impact and outcomes desired. How successful will this model be in helping services respond and deliver better services / outcomes? • Diluted governance / effectively introduces another layer
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Body Corporate: HR Challenges and Implications

Chief Officer

- Requirement to appoint a Chief Officer – can only be done formally by the Integration Joint Board (although there are options to appoint someone who would slot into this post with the Boards agreement). The first step however, will be in establishing the Integration Joint Board.
- Chief Officer will oversee the delivery of the integrated services.
- Reporting arrangements are complicated with the Chief Officer being in effect, the operational director of service delivery, reporting to both the Chief Executive of the Council and the Chief Executive of the Health Board.
- Operational delivery methods are for local determination but the operational role of the Chief Officer must be specified in the integration plan.
- An outline job description for this post has been issued by the Scottish Government and can be adapted to meet local operational delivery methods. This will require consideration by the Integration Joint Board prior making an appointment. Partners should also consider this in advance of making any interim appointment arrangements for the shadow year.
- The grade and terms and conditions for the post will require to be agreed. There is an option to determine in advance of appointment that these are linked to those of either the Local Authority or Health; it is advisable not to have a mix of both. Some partnerships have given the applicants the opportunity to choose. Unless there are perceived to be recruitment issues, it may be preferable to determine which grade and conditions will apply in advance of advert.
- The package of terms and conditions will also include access to the relevant pension scheme.
- Continuity of service between health and local authorities is not counted as continuous. Consideration could voluntarily be given to counting it as continuous although this could result in a precedent for other employees (this issue is also being considered nationally).
- It is suggested in the guidance that an appropriate appraisal process is implemented for the Chief Officer. A process acceptable to both partner organisations and the Joint Integration Joint Board will require to be developed. This will include determination of who will be accountable for the conduct and performance of the Chief Officer and how the Chief Executive's will communicate on this matter.

Employee Arrangements

- All staff remain employed by their respective organisations as the Integration Joint Board has no power to employ staff (although this could change in the second draft of the Bill and be subject to Ministers making an Order).
- The role of the Chief Officer in the operational management of employees requires to be clarified. For example, if the Joint Integration Board, on the recommendation of the Chief Officer, agree to a significantly different method of service delivery impacting on employees, the respective roles of the Joint Integration Board, Council and Health Board in reaching a decision on the model for this will require to be determined, particularly given the employees are still employed by the Council and the Health Board.

Other

- The general structural and reporting arrangements require a high level of consideration. For example, the links between the Chief Officer and the current management arrangements within partner organisations. This is likely to require structural review for partners to ensure clear reporting lines are in place.
- The role of the Section 95 (Finance) Officer, Chief Social Work Officer and Medical Directors within Health require to be considered with regard to ensuring they can undertake their respective roles given the operational responsibility of the Chief Officer. For example, it may be that the Chief Social Work Officer, as a statutory role, requires to report to the Joint Integration Board. (Such matters are still being considered nationally).

Lead Agency – Overarching Advantages and Disadvantages	
<i>Advantages</i>	<i>Disadvantages</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthens local democratic accountability for some NHS functions • Introduces binding joint governance across areas of common concern • Accountability lies with the respective Chief Executive for designated areas of activity • Facilitates joint performance framework • Likely to require less organisational change dependent on how it is enacted • Bill provides option for staff transfer to designated lead agency • Potential to develop single employee relations • Services will operate within existing frameworks but separate Finance, HR, systems • Requires a joint plan regardless of delegated • Support services operate within existing structures functions • Continuous link with majority of children's services and housing etc. • Increased transparency and accountability of delivery across whole system may be achievable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Ministerial powers to determine membership of governance body could impair local governance • Potential loss of control over key areas of council budgets at a time of increasing need and reducing resources • Delegation of functions potentially creates less effective system-wide operational risk assessment and management • Increases risk of fragmentation across key public protection functions • Challenges effective locality planning by dividing functions between agencies • Will struggle to deliver improved outcomes without inclusion of key NHS acute services and better integration with, and within, that sector • Loss of greater potential for parallel management structures and less combined approach • Need to understand professional and clinical autonomy within appropriate framework • Tensions due to differing employee relations model & terms and conditions • Less likely to support effective stakeholder participation • Significant budgets with pressures but lack of direct operational management. • Could create a blame culture i.e. expectation of clarity of direction from services e.g. hospital. • Need for health services to meet HEAT targets and therefore issue re accountability of Elected Members to Scottish Government - local priorities vs national targets. • Complex subcontracting arrangements. • Inclusion of GP's, pharmacies and acute services i.e. strategic and operational management of significant budgets, services and staff / sub contraction.

Lead Agency (Local Authority)	
<i>Advantages</i>	<i>Disadvantages</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seems to fit with national direction and the Christie Commission recommendations, encouraging community capacity building, maintaining individuals in their own homes for as long as possible, independent and connected to their natural family and community networks • Holistic approach for the individual in the community • Fits with the role and future strengthened role of the Community Planning Partnerships / potential links to the locality model • Greater role & experience in LA of commissioning / contract monitoring. Potentially closer links between strategy, commissioning and financial systems • Fits well with Public Protection (Child Protection, Adult Protection and the Management of offenders) avoids the risk of fragmentation • Clean model / clear decision making processes • Strong political / democratic involvement • More potential for joint rather than aligned budgets • Ability to move resources to achieve outcomes – ability to have oversight on how all resources are being used i.e. connection with services for children and housing. • Ability to further influence policy e.g. choice and be clear about principles of service delivery. • Potential to influence focus towards local priorities e.g. choice over HEAT targets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difference in size in NHS compared to the LA • Potential to fragment area wide services (those commissioned by the NHS) • Risk of lack of “buy in” of medical profession (acute / GP’s) • Understanding relationship with Acute hospital • Capacity of elected members to take decisions which influence services direction. • Complexity of management influence over clinical services.

Lead Agency (NHS Lead)	
<i>Advantages</i>	<i>Disadvantages</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved links with primary care • Natural link to the locality model • Strength / holistic approach to Tier 2 care needs • NHS a more financially protected environment • Would encourage multiagency "buy In" in public protection • Clean model / clear decision making processes • Would support the understanding of the social work agenda and finance • More potential for joint rather than aligned budgets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical focus on "acute" • Fear of financial management and loss of resource for community service • Impact/ influence of "buy in" from Elected Members • Potentially fragmented public protection • Alignment / role with local communities • Lack of focus on community • Moving from a social care model of service delivery to a health care model • Lack of democratic accountability • Under more influence of Government • Focus on wider area than Falkirk. • Handing over LA services/budgets to HB. • Losing direct accountability and management. • Potential changes to policy of payment, choice etc. • Asset approach more problematic. • Diminishes LA control over local services. • Potential over influence of medical services approach to community provision. • Need to achieve national target, potentially the experience of local outcomes and policies e.g. choice. • Potential fragmentation of link with children's services, o/tenders, housing etc.

Lead Agency: HR Challenges and Implications

Management Arrangements

- Operational service delivery lies with the organisation to which the functions and resources have been delegated.
- There is no requirement for a Chief Officer. Senior officer responsibility for the integrated arrangements is held by the Chief Executive of the lead agency. There will however, be a requirement to establish an Integration Joint Monitoring Committee which will have oversight of the integration arrangements and to which the lead agency will report.
- It is for the lead agency to determine the most appropriate arrangements to deliver the functions; this may result in the Council or Health having to review their management arrangements to suit the integrated service needs. For example, within the Council, depending on the level of integration, options for children's services will require to be considered.

Employee Arrangements

- There is no legislative requirement for staff to transfer through TUPE under the lead agency model.
- The Trade Unions are currently opposed to TUPE transfers for the purposes of integration and considerable work would be required to ensure all issues associated with TUPE were discussed and considered.
- If staff do not transfer, there will be a requirement to put in place formal management arrangements which enable delivery of an integrated service. This may result in secondments, etc.
- If an employee were to refuse a secondment, consideration will require to be given as to what happens given the integration of functions.
- Secondments and similar arrangements were put in place to implement the joint future agenda. This raised issues such as:
 - differences in terms and conditions
 - same operational management arrangements but potentially different professional supervision arrangements (e.g., nurses to obtain professional support from appropriately qualified managers)
 - use of the substantive contractual procedures for discipline, performance capability, etc by the receiving manager, with the final decision in any such cases being taken by the substantive employer rather than the receiving employer
 - pension and continuous service issues if a promoted post became available within the team for which a seconded employee applied

These issues will be similar in an integration model.

- It should be noted that there are potential equal pay risks if secondments are used, especially where pay rates for the same posts are different (e.g., Occupational Therapists). The risk may be enhanced if the secondment is not for a time defined period and/or purpose. One option may be to use secondment as a method to initiate the integration with a view to moving to a TUPE transfer at a later stage once structures and other operational arrangements have been better determined.
- There are very specific employee requirements within a Health context which do not apply within local government, for example, the requirement to have a whole organisation workforce plan, the application of their national employee survey, the implementation of the 20:20 vision, etc. Consideration will require to be given as to how these would apply if health employees were seconded. Whilst those currently seconded for joint future purposes operate within the Council's framework for such issues, this may change given the potential scale of the transfer of functions.

Other

- If Council functions were transferred to health, the role of the Section 95 (Finance) Officer and Chief Social Work Officer would require to be built in to any operating arrangements to ensure compliance with their statutory role.

NB: The same/similar lead agency issues arise to varying degrees, whether it is all or part of the functions which are delegated.

Implementation of Health and Social Care Partnership: High Level Programme Action Plan	By Whom	Start By	Complete By
Strategic Visioning and Planning Sessions with Board, CHP and Stakeholders	NHS/LA		January 2014
Establish Scope of integration– Strategic and Operational	Chief Officers	January 14	February 14
Health and Social Care Bill to receive Royal Assent to become the Health and Social Care Act and Legislation comes into effect			April 2014
Evaluate and Agree Model of integration and timeline	CEO’s	January 14	April 14
Authority to proceed with proposed model, scope and timeline and to establish shadow Health and Social Care Partnership	LA Members & NHS Board		April/May 2014
Establish Working Groups to support development of framework and delivery plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Strategic Planning Group – morph from CHP Sub CommitteeGovernanceFinanceHuman Resource and Organisational Development (<i>Group already established</i>)Consultation, Communications & Engagement (including stakeholder involvement)Clinical GovernancePlanning & Operational – Determine commissioning priorities etc(ICT & Outcomes and Performance – may not initially form independent work stream but representatives will be required to participate)	Chief Officers reporting to Partnership Board via Joint Management Group prior to HSCP shadow arrangements	April 14	Ongoing
Develop Integration Scheme	All Workgroups	May 14	October 14
Integration Scheme for approval by Health Board and Elected Members	Chief Officers		October 14
Develop Strategic Plan	Planning & Operation Group	May 14	December 14
Develop Joint Commissioning Plans for all care groups	Planning & Operation Group	May 14	December 14
Create Shadow Integration Board (BC) or Integration Joint Monitoring Committee (LA)	Governance lead		October 14
(If Body Corporate) Proceed to appoint Chief Officer(previously senior accountable officer)		TBC	TBC
Establish, timetable and commence Shadow Arrangements including integrated reporting frameworks regarding finance and performance management	Governance Group		October 14
Formal consultation period regarding Integration Framework	Communication & Engagement Group	October 14	December 14
Finalise and submit Integration Framework for Ministerial Approval	Chief Officers		March 15
Full Implementation of Integrated Partnership			April 2015

Work Stream General Remit

The Work streams will be co-ordinated by the Change Manager to ensure shared purpose in terms of the overall task. All activity will be reported to the Enhanced JMG. Enhanced JMG will provide work streams with strategic directions.

Governance	Finance	HR/OD	Consultation & Engagement	Clinical Governance	Planning & Operational
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Formation of new partnership structure including purpose, remit, accountability and scheme of delegation, links to existing structure e.g. CPP, riskDetermine transfer of each service and necessary service supportEstablish information/data sharing protocol within partnershipInitiate development of integrated performance management frameworkSupport HR/OD & Finance Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Establish budgets for all services within scope (revenue and capital)Establish costing methodology to determine transfer of resource to new governance arrangementEstablish financial control & monitoring framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Establish HR/OD frameworkEstablish joint recruitment proceduresLiaise with trade unions as appropriateLink with OD and trainingWork with Consultation & Engagement Group to inform communication to staff and public	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Develop communications and engagement strategy for internal and external stakeholderEstablish Strategic Planning Group to initially facilitate partner and public involvementWork with HR/OD group regarding appropriate key messages for staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Clarify and agree clinical governance arrangements, control and monitoringLinks to acute services etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Develop Strategic Plan & Care Group PlansClarify outcomes & service delivery planningLead development Commissioning StrategyEstablish clarity regarding operational activity and implications of new structurePerformance Management

FALKIRK COUNCIL

**Subject: REGULATION OF DISPLAY OF MATERIAL IN RELATION TO
SCOTLAND'S REFERENDUM 2014**
Meeting: FALKIRK COUNCIL
Date: 14 MAY 2014
Author: DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Members agreed at the Council meeting on 3 March 2010 that, in relation to the display of election posters or other election material, the guidelines on display of election campaign publicity materials be amended to prohibit display of such material on any council property, including lighting columns, traffic sign poles and street furniture. This matter was considered, as consent from the Council as landowner to display such materials is required in terms of the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisement) (Scotland) Regulation and The Roads (Scotland) Act, both 1984. The decision was taken by the Council in its capacity as a landowner, not as an organisation which administers elections, and was made on the basis that use of the Council's property for widespread display of posters, boards etc was not appropriate regardless of the content of such materials.
- 1.2 The guidelines were amended in terms of that decision and reissued in February 2011. A copy is attached to this report as an appendix. The guidelines have been issued by the Council's Returning Officer since that date as part of the information pack issued to prospective election candidates and no issues have been raised with the Council to date in relation to this guidance which would merit revisal of its existing terms other than that described below.

2. SCOTLAND'S REFERENDUM

- 2.1 At the time of the decision in relation to the above, the holding of the referendum on Scottish independence was not confirmed and so no reference was made to materials promoting one or other of the possible referendum outcomes, either in the report or the subsequent guidelines.
- 2.2 It is considered appropriate that the guidelines be revised to make clear the approach this Council is taking in relation specifically to materials associated with the referendum and any future referenda that may take place.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members;

- a) determine how such materials referred to in paragraph 2.2 above are to be treated in relation to the relevant guidelines; and
- b) instruct officers to revise the guidelines accordingly

.....
Director of Development Services

Date: 2 May 2014

Contact Officer: Rhona Geisler ext 4949

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

FALKIRK COUNCIL

DISPLAY OF ELECTION POSTERS

In respect all elections, the following guidelines for the display of posters or other election material on street furniture must be observed.

The fixing of bills to any part of the walls, railings, etc, within and surrounding the perimeter of the polling place is **not allowed**.

Bills, posters and advertisements in connection with the election **must not** be displayed on any property without the prior approval of the owner of that property. To affix bills, posters or advertisements to property without the approval of the owner is a contravention of the Town and Country Planning (control of Advertisements) (Scotland) Regulations 1984 which renders any person who so displays advertising material liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £200. **Falkirk Council's policy is to refuse permission to any political party or independent candidate for the display on its properties of any election material. This ban applies particularly to the display of election material on lamp standards and road signs but also includes all Council owned property including roads, footpaths and road verges.** Posters, attached to or otherwise displayed on Council property, are liable to be removed and disposed of. A charge will be levied by Falkirk Council for the removal and disposal of such materials.

In August 2004 Falkirk Council adopted a Commercial Use Policy which specifically prohibited the use of free standing advertising boards on public roads including footways and therefore no advertising boards containing election literature will be permitted on public areas.

Candidates and agents should note that the Council has no locus on trunk roads which are the responsibility of the Scottish Government. The Council has been advised that Transport Scotland has a policy which precludes the placing of election material within the trunk road boundary. This policy has been endorsed by the Scottish Ministers.

For statutory reasons the Returning Officer cannot give advice or approval regarding the display of election material. Enquiries regarding the operation of this guidance should be made to Development Services, Abbotsford House, Bainsford, Falkirk, on 01324 504950. Enquiries with regard to the trunk road network should be made to Bear Scotland on 0800 587 1107.

Director of Development Services

February 2011

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE LOCAL PLAN 2014-2017
Meeting: FALKIRK COUNCIL
Date: 14 MAY 2014
Author: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report will:

- Present the final draft of the local plan for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, covering the period 2014-2017
- Outline some of the key points raised by the recent consultation exercise, on the draft plan and how these have been reflected in the final draft; and
- Remind Members of the scrutiny arrangements we have in place to hold the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to account, for the delivery and performance on the local plan.

1.2 The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service became operational on 1 April 2014, under the terms of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012. The general and specialist functions set out in the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 transferred to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service on 1 April 2013. This places an emphasis on:

- Prevention;
- Protection; and
- Flexible response.

1.3 The local senior officer for both the Falkirk and West Lothian Council areas is Gary Laing.

2. THE LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN 2014 - 2017

2.1 The local fire and rescue plan has been developed within a common national framework. A copy of the final draft plan is attached at Appendix 1. Information has been sourced from the refreshment of the Community Safety Strategic Assessment to help develop the final draft. The proposed priorities are therefore as follows:

- Managing risk and local preparedness;
- Reducing accidental dwelling fires;
- Reducing fire casualties and fatalities;
- Tackling deliberate fire setting;
- Reducing fires in non domestic properties;
- Casualties from non fire emergencies; and
- Tackling unwanted fire alarm signals.

2.2 Each section of priorities also sets out the following:

- Alignment with local priorities and outcomes;
- Alignment with national outcomes and the strategic aims of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service nationally;
- How priorities will be achieved; and
- How value will be added.

2.3 Appendix 2 sets out:

- The local consultation process undertaken on the draft plan, to which 103 responses have been provided, 92% of which came from individuals; and
- A breakdown of the key issues arising from the consultation, including, the clarity of the document, comments on risks, priorities and outcomes.

3. SCRUTINISING THE SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

3.1 The local Fire and Rescue plan sets out:

- Priorities and objectives for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service for the carrying out of its functions within a local authority area;
- The reason for selection priorities and objectives and how they will be delivered;
- Outcomes against which priorities and objectives can be measured, as well as how these will contribute to relevant local outcomes; and
- Any other relevant matters.

3.2 The local senior officer submits a performance report to the Council's Scrutiny Committee every quarter, which sets out the following:

- Performance and progress on the local plan; and
- Any additional information requested by the Committee.

4. CONCLUSIONS

4.1 This report sets out the medium term priorities and outcomes for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service for the next three years and how they relate to our local outcomes. The Service will continue to be monitored through the Council's Scrutiny Committee on a regular basis. The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service continue to be a key partner of the Council and we recognise the contribution it can make to achieving our 20 year vision.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Council:

- 5.1 Approves the local fire and rescue plan for the Falkirk Council area, as attached at Appendix 1; and**
- 5.2 Notes the feedback on key issues outlined at Appendix 2, following the consultation exercise on the draft plan.**

.....
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Date: 10 April 2014

Ref: ABD0514AW – SFRS Local Plan 2014-17

Contact Name: Andrew Wilson

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 1. None**

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers listed above should telephone Falkirk 01324 506046 and ask for Andrew Wilson.



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN FOR THE FALKIRK COUNCIL AREA

2014 - 2017

Draft for Consultation

**Working together
for a safer Scotland**

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6. Reduction in Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies
7. Reduction of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

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Contact Us

Glossary of Terms

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References

Foreword

I am pleased to introduce the new local Fire and Rescue Plan for the Falkirk Council area. As the portfolio holder for public protection, I very much look forward to continue working successfully in partnership with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, so as to secure the best outcomes for our communities.

In reviewing this new 3 year plan, I am pleased to see the continuing commitment being given to local Fire and Rescue Services and the strong emphasis being given to local partnership working. As a Council, keeping our communities safe and protecting citizens are key priorities. We want to ensure that the successful way in which local Fire and Rescue Services have been provided over many years continues.

I recognise that the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service will continue to be a key partner in delivering on our local outcomes, as set out in our Strategic Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement. I note the alignment of the local Fire and Rescue Plan to these, which is welcome. I also welcome the commitment made to continuous improvement for the benefit of local communities.

The service has committed itself to equitable access to services across the Council area, and to pursue an inclusive and consultative approach to developing services into the future. This plan will make a key contribution to Community Safety in the coming years.

The Council supports the objectives and priorities set out in the plan and is committed to working with Fire and Rescue colleagues in securing them. This sense of strong, committed and genuine partnership working will ensure that we secure the local outcomes we desire for our local communities and citizens.

Jim Blackwood

Councillor Jim Blackwood,

Portfolio Holder for Public Protection,

Falkirk Council

Welcome to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (SFRS) Local Fire and Rescue Plan for the Falkirk Council area. This plan is the mechanism through which the aims of the SFRS's Strategic Plan 2013 – 2016 are delivered to meet the agreed needs of the communities of the Falkirk Council area.

The Local Fire and Rescue Plan sets out my priorities and objectives for the SFRS within the Falkirk Council area for 2014 – 2017 and allows Local Authority partners to scrutinise the performance outcomes of those priorities. SFRS will continue to work closely with partners in the Falkirk Council area to ensure we are all “Working together for a safer Scotland” through targeting the risks to our communities at a local level.

The Local Fire and Rescue Plan and its associated action plans are aligned to the Community Planning Partnership structures within the Falkirk Council area. Through partnership working, I aim to deliver continuous improvement in performance and effective service delivery in SFRS's area of operations.

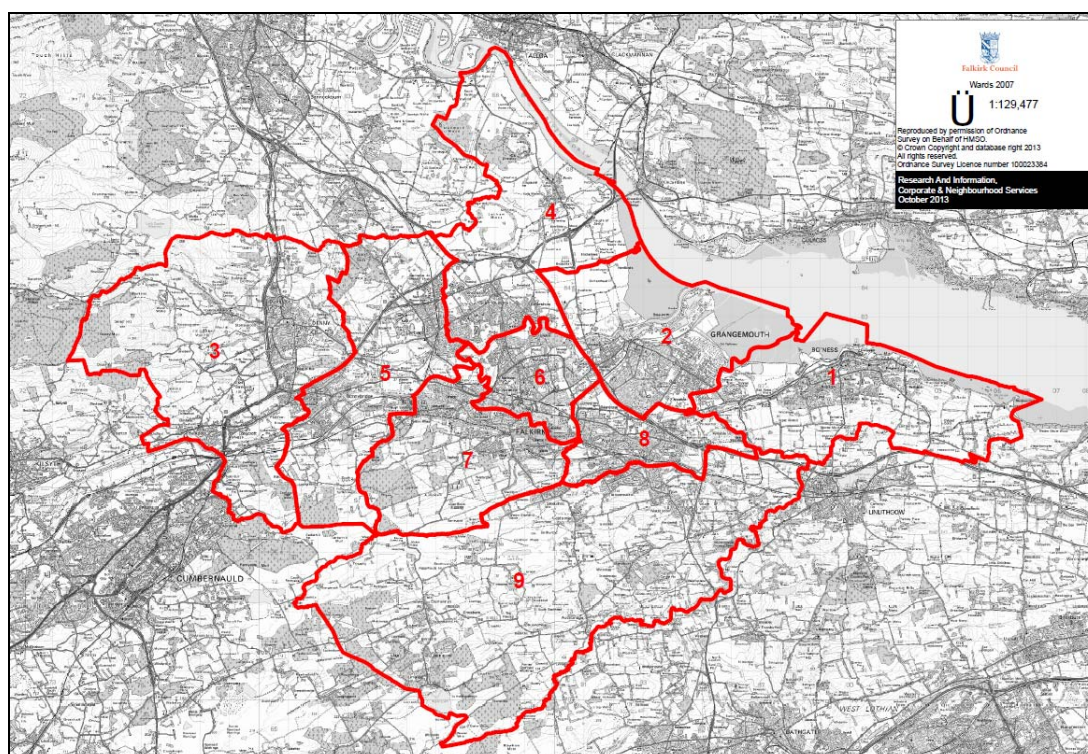
The SFRS will continue to use data analysis techniques to identify risk and to ensure resources are allocated to the point of need within the Falkirk Council communities. While considering the strategic priorities of the SFRS we will develop local solutions to local needs, and ensure equitable access to Fire and Rescue resources. Through our on-going involvement with local community safety groups in the Falkirk Council area, we will continue to develop our understanding of local needs and proactively seek out consultation opportunities with all sections of the community. Using this approach we will ensure that the service we deliver is driven by consultation, in line with public expectations and helps to build strong, safe and resilient communities.

Gary Laing

Gary Laing

Local Senior Officer for Falkirk and West Lothian

Falkirk Council Area Ward Profile



Ward Area	Fire Station Locations
Ward 1: Bo'ness and Blackness	Bo'ness
Ward 2: Grangemouth	Denny
Ward 3: Denny and Banknock	Larbert
Ward 4: Carse, Kinnaird and Tryst	Falkirk
Ward 5: Bonnybridge and Larbert	Slamannan
Ward 6: Falkirk North	
Ward 7: Falkirk South	
Ward 8: Lower Braes	
Ward 9: Upper Braes	

SFRS Resource Based in the Falkirk Council Area

Bo'ness, Falkirk and Larbert Community Fire Stations are staffed by a mixture of Whole-Time firefighters who are located at the station 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and Retained Duty System (RDS) firefighters who provide a 24 hours a day, seven days a week emergency on call response. Two fire appliances are based at each of the aforementioned community fire stations.

In our remaining two Community Fire Stations, Denny and Slamannan. RDS firefighters provide a 24 hours a day, seven days a week emergency on call response. Two fire appliances are based at Denny and one fire appliance is based at Slamannan.

RDS firefighters are employed on a part time basis and provide a vital service to the community in which they live or work. Most of our RDS firefighters are women and men who have primary employment in another field, but in addition to their full time job, they provide the same range of emergency services as their whole-time colleagues.

A team of community safety engagement staff, work throughout the Falkirk Council area to support their station based colleagues in delivering the wide range of preventative, awareness and engagement activities. Coordinating this activity is a Local Authority Liaison Officer (LALO), who is based at Falkirk Fire Station and provides a direct link between Falkirk Council, Community Planning Partners and the Fire and Rescue Service.

Supporting the enforcement of fire safety legislation within buildings, other than domestic premises, is a team of highly trained Fire Safety Enforcement Officers who provide advice on fire safety matters, actively conduct fire safety audits of buildings, consult on building warrant plans and enforce compliance with fire safety legislation.

A management team has responsibility for service delivery and community engagement/enforcement across the Falkirk Council area. These officers are responsible for the effective service delivery across the area.

SFRS resources employed across the Falkirk Council area will aim to work in partnership and collaboration with other community resources to deliver better outcomes for the communities. Sharing of information will be a key enabler in this process and will ensure that duplication of services is reduced and that community focused outcomes are aligned and delivered.

In addition to day-to-day resources within Falkirk Council area, it is a Strategic Aim of SFRS that, as a single service, communities will have access to specialist skills and resources from across Scotland.

We will work with the other emergency services and voluntary groups within the Falkirk Council area that have an interest in emergency response and specialist rescue. This will allow us to identify resources, such as skills and equipment that are available nationally.

Introduction

The Scottish Government provides an overarching vision for public services that focuses on the creation of a more successful country, with opportunities for all through a sustainable increase in economic growth.

This direction is supported by Strategic Objectives to make Scotland a wealthier & fairer, smarter, healthier, safer & stronger and greener place. Through a concordat between the Scottish Government and the Convention for Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA), the Strategic Objectives have been expanded into local Single Outcome Agreements which include indicators and targets that provide the framework for how local authorities and their Community Planning Partners such as the SFRS will deliver services.

The Fire (Scotland) Act 2005, amended by part 2 of The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 provides the statutory basis for the SFRS to deliver a range of core services and functions that means while the service is ready to respond to fire and other emergencies, it also maintains a strong focus on prevention and protection arrangements to ensure the safety of our communities. The associated Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2013 sets the overarching strategic direction for the SFRS in the delivery of its services to the communities of the Falkirk Council area.

The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 requires Local Fire and Rescue plans to contain:

- Priorities and objectives for the SFRS in connection with the carrying out of its duties in the local authority's area.
- The reasons for selecting each of those priorities and objectives
- How SFRS proposes to deliver those priorities and objectives
- In so far as is reasonably practicable, outcomes by reference to which delivery of those priorities and objectives can be measured
- How those priorities and objectives are expected to contribute to the delivery of any other relevant local outcomes which are identified by community planning,
- Such other matters relating to the carrying out of the SFRS's functions in the local authority's area as SFRS thinks fit.

Strategic Assessment

A strategic assessment for the SFRS's activities in Scotland established the type, frequency and impact of incidents that we attend. With this assessment in place, the Local Senior Officer (LSO) for the Falkirk Council area can effectively identify key priority areas for the SFRS to target its resources at a local level.

National Assessment

The Scottish Government within their National Performance Framework have identified 16 National Outcomes they wish to achieve. Through delivery of this Local Fire and Rescue Plan, the SFRS in particular will contribute to the following Outcomes:

- **National Outcome 1:** We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe.
- **National Outcome 4:** Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.
- **National Outcome 6:** We live longer healthier lives.
- **National Outcome 8:** We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- **National Outcome 9:** We live our lives safe from crime disorder and danger.
- **National Outcome 11:** We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
- **National Outcome 12:** We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.
- **National Outcome 14:** We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production.
- **National Outcome 15:** Our people are able to maintain their independence as they get older and are able to access appropriate support when they need it.
- **National Outcome 16:** Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs.

SFRS Strategy

The priorities for the SFRS have been laid out in the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2013 with the following Strategic Aims defined within the SFRS Strategic Plan 2013-2017:

- **Strategic Aim 1:** Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- **Strategic Aim 2:** More equitable access to Fire and Rescue Services.
- **Strategic Aim 3:** Improved outcomes through partnership.
- **Strategic Aim 4:** Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

Equality Assessment

On 30 April 2013, the SFRS published its Equality Outcomes, in compliance with the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012. The SFRS Equality Outcomes are:

- **Outcome 1:** People from all Scotland's community groups feel confident in contacting the Fire and Rescue Service for advice and information on relevant non-emergency issues.
- **Outcome 2:** Disabled, LGBT, BME, older people and people from minority faiths are aware of the services provided by the SFRS, particularly how these can be adapted to meet their own individual needs.
- **Outcome 3:** People from all Scotland's community groups feel safer in their homes and on our roads.
- **Outcome 4:** Establish the SFRS as an employer of choice for people across protected characteristics.
- **Outcome 5:** Provide a positive and healthy workplace culture that welcomes, embraces and develops people from across all protected characteristics.
- **Outcome 6:** People from across all communities are enabled to live lives free from hate crime, harassment and domestic abuse/violence.
- **Outcome 7:** Gypsy travellers and migrant workers are safer, better informed and confident in Scottish Fire and Rescue Service engagement.

Although fire statistics provide actual and historical data relating to fires, the profile of a community is of vital importance in helping us to identify the steps needed to achieve these outcomes and ensure everyone has the opportunity to access our services and reduce their risk from fire and other injuries.

SFRS Values

Our values framework sets out what we believe to be important in supporting how we deliver our services to the communities and support our own staff. At the core of this, is the safety of the communities we serve and we will do our utmost to enhance and support community safety and place a high value on the safety of our firefighters.

The communities of the Falkirk Council area can rightly expect to receive a first class service from the SFRS grounded in our commitment to actively pursue our values in support of better outcomes.



Falkirk Council Area Risk Profile

Understanding the Falkirk Council area and the profile of the community is of vital importance in helping the SFRS to develop this Local Fire and Rescue Plan and identify priorities and objectives to ensure everyone has the opportunity to access our services and reduce their risk from fire.

This Local Fire and Rescue plan has been prepared within the wider context of the Falkirk Community Planning Partnership and sets out the local priorities for delivering local fire service priorities for the Falkirk Council area. Underlying this plan are the key principles of community planning namely; prevention and early intervention; integration of public services around the whole systems approach; transparency, accountability and innovation in our approaches to fire service provision.

The Falkirk Council area covers a geographical area of 298 square kilometres (114 square miles) and is situated in the centre of Scotland. It has a growing population, which, according to the preliminary results of the 2011 Census, is now 156,000, making it the 11th largest Council area in Scotland. The population has grown by 7.4 % or 10,000 since the last Census in 2001.

The Falkirk Council area enjoys a diverse community, which is growing. Much of this growth has been driven by net in-migration, which since 2001 has been measured at approximately 725 per year. People from ethnic backgrounds can be more vulnerable due to feeling isolated within communities because of a number of reasons, including language barriers and cultural differences.

Compared to the rest of Scotland, the population of the Falkirk Council area is currently relatively young, with a high proportion of children living in the area. The educational activities outlined in this Local Fire and Rescue Plan are designed to target young people in the area as part of a preventative strategy.

The Falkirk Council area currently has a slightly smaller percentage of older people when compared to other areas in Scotland. However, following national trends, the population in the area is ageing. Although being older is not a specific risk in its own right, risk is increased when age is combined with other factors, such as living alone, living in poverty and in isolation. Physical and mental health issues associated with ageing can also contribute to an increase in risk.

Community Planning Partners put significant emphasis on reducing health inequalities across the Falkirk Council area and recognise that inequalities can lead to earlier death and poorer health. There is a correlation between health inequalities, such as smoking and alcohol/drugs misuse, and the increased vulnerability to the risks of fire. This Local Fire and Rescue Plan recognises these links and sets out activities that are aimed at reducing these risks.

The Falkirk Council area is important to the Scottish economy with £2.45 billion of Gross Value Added (GVA) being generated in the area in 2010. In addition to being recognised as of strategic importance to the Scottish economy, the petrochemical complex situated at Grangemouth contributes significantly to the GVA of the Falkirk Council area. The Grangemouth complex is also a major source of employment in the area. There can be inherent risks associated with storing and processing petrochemical products and this Local Fire and Rescue Plan takes cognisance of these risks and confirms the commitment of the SFRS to work with partners to mitigate the risks and prepare to deal with adverse safety events.

Regeneration is an important element of the 25-year vision for the future of the Falkirk Council area; this is highlighted by the recent approval of the Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) scheme for the Grangemouth and Falkirk areas. The TIF will have a significant impact on the economic growth and job creation for the Falkirk Council area and it is recognised the potential impact from increased visitors and employment will be a key focus for the SFRS and its partners.

A number of projects have been completed, or are in the process of completion, to regenerate town centres and the supporting infrastructure in the Falkirk Council area. Other examples of regeneration in the area are the Falkirk Wheel, which was built as part of the Millennium project and the soon to be completed Helix project.

While not suffering from the same concentrations of deprivation as experienced in other local authority areas, there are still areas of deprivation in most of the towns in the area. The 2012 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) identified 18 data zones in the Falkirk Council area that fell within the worst 15% in Scotland. Historical data indicates that there will be an increase in fire related activity in areas of deprivation. This Local Fire and Rescue Plan allows the SFRS sufficient flexibility to target our resources in areas of the most need.

Local Operational Assessment

Identified local key priority areas for the Falkirk Council area are monitored through the gathering and analysis of operational activity data.

The Local Fire and Rescue Service activity table below provides a historical overview of the incident types, and the number of incidents, that SFRS attended in the Falkirk Council area.

The Red/Amber/Green (RAG) Trend column provides an indication whether the number of incidents, per incident type, in the year 2012/13 was higher or lower than in the previous year (2011/12).

Local Fire and Rescue Activity data source SFRS, Incident Recording System (IRS)

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	3 year average	Trend
All deliberate primary fires	86	98	70	85	↓
All deliberate other building fires	24	29	26	26	↓
All deliberate secondary fires	617	478	322	472	↓
All accidental dwelling fires	113	101	91	102	↓
All accidental other building fires	58	46	27	44	↓
All fatal fire casualties	2	2	1	2	↓
Non-fatal casualties excl. precautionary checks	24	15	13	17	↓
Non-fatal casualties incl. precautionary checks	26	24	13	21	↓
Special Service Road Traffic Collisions (RTC)	51	46	66	54	↑
Special Service flooding	94	30	22	49	↓
Special Service extrication	20	33	28	27	↓
Special Service 'others'	97	113	89	100	↓
False Alarm: Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)	799	812	821	811	↑
False Alarm: Good intent	444	422	369	412	↓
False Alarm: Malicious	72	65	61	66	↓

Local Assessment

The local assessment addresses issues relevant to Falkirk Council area. Through analysis of local operational assessment, Community Planning Partners priorities and the needs of the community, local improvement and demand reduction plans can be developed to ensure positive outcomes and results are achieved.

The local assessment has been developed taking cognisance of the outcomes of the public consultation on the draft Falkirk Council area Local Fire and Rescue Plan, local data analysis, SFRS Strategic Aims, National Outcomes and the outcomes identified in the Falkirk Council area Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2015.

The key priority areas in the Falkirk council area that are considered in the Local Assessment and those that action plans will be developed for are:

- Priority 1 Local Risk Management and Preparedness
- Priority 2 Reduction of Accidental Dwelling Fires
- Priority 3 Reduction in Fire Fatalities and Casualties
- Priority 4 Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting
- Priority 5 Reduction of Fires in Non-Domestic Property
- Priority 6 Reduction in Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies
- Priority 7 Reduction of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.

The table below depicts the links between the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Falkirk Council area key priorities and the Falkirk Community Planning Partners SOA themes.

	Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Falkirk Council area Priorities						
Falkirk SOA Themes	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Priority 4	Priority 5	Priority 6	Priority 7
1. Economic recovery, growth and employment	√			√	√		√
2. Early years, children and young people	√	√	√	√			
3. Safer, stronger communities and reducing reoffending	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
4. Health Inequalities and Physical Activity		√	√			√	
5. Outcomes for older people	√	√	√		√		
6. Poverty and welfare reform		√	√	√		√	

Priorities, Actions and Outcomes

1. Local Risk Management and Preparedness

The SFRS has a statutory duty to reduce the risks to our communities and to make certain that they receive the best possible service.

The Grangemouth petrochemical industry and the strategically important port of Grangemouth are situated on the Firth of Forth within the Falkirk Council area. The large number of petrochemical sites located within the Grangemouth area, store, process and transport a wide variety of petroleum based products and chemicals for the UK and the International market. This Fire and Rescue Local Plan 2014 -17 recognises the large number of petro-chemical sites with-in the area of Grangemouth which comes with-in the Control of Major Accident & Hazardous (COMAH Regulations 1999 (as amended 2005). The SFRS working in partnership with the Major Incident Control Committee, (MICC) and the Forth Valley Local Resilience Partnership (LRP) allows us to meet our statutory duties under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, and the Contingency Planning (Scotland) Regulations 2005, regards emergency planning arrangements and exercising regimes.

Whilst safety is of primary concern to all stakeholders involved in the storage, production and transportation of petrochemical products, all partners are committed to working together to ensure that industrial and commercial sites operate as safely as possible. Pre-planning and preparedness for adverse safety events is an essential element of safeguarding the community in the Falkirk Council area.

The Fire and Rescue Local Plan recognises the strategic importance of maintaining industry business continuity during periods of inclement weather, in particular the threat of flooding from the Forth estuary. The SFRS in conjunction with the local authority, the Scottish Environmental Agency (SEPA) and the petrochemical industrial partners under the (MICC) review emergency procedures to mitigate the risk of flooding to the areas at risk.

The SFRS monitors existing risks and emerging threats in terms of the natural and built environment, through the Forth Valley LRP Community Risk Register. The Community Risk Register identifies risks that require risk management and mitigation initiatives. Examples of such risks identified in Falkirk Council area are:

- Inclement weather
- Fire or explosion at a gas terminal or involving a gas pipeline.
- Industrial & Environmental pollution
- Local accident involving transport of hazardous chemicals.
- Industrial explosions and major fires

The SFRS is committed to working in partnership with all relevant stakeholders to ensure emergency planning and preparedness arrangements are in place and tested. An element of our partnership working includes empowering and supporting communities to build community resilience and cohesion. Through this work, we will work with communities to harness their resources and expertise. Examples of this work includes; making communities aware of the risks that they face and advising on simple steps that can be taken to improve their own safety

The management of risk within our community means:

- Identifying the risks to the community that fall within the scope of responsibility of the SFRS.
- Undertaking a process to prioritise and mitigate these risks.
- Ensuring appropriate local and national resource capability and trained fire service personnel are in place to address them.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes:

- 6: We live longer healthier lives.
- 8: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime disorder and danger.
- 11: We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
- 12: We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 2: More equitable access to fire and rescue services.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

Falkirk Council Area Priority:

- Falkirk Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2011-2014
http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/services/corporate_neighbourhood/policy_performance_review/corporate_policy/community_safety/PDFs/public_strategic_assessment.pdf
- Falkirk Community Planning Partnership: Single Outcome Agreement 2013 -15, Theme No's 1, 2, 3, & 5 (contributes to, SOA Performance Indicator Ref 1.1).
[Falkirk Community Planning Partnership 'Moving Forward Together' Falkirk Strategic Community Plan 2010-2015](#)
- Falkirk Council, Grangemouth Off Site COMAH Plan.
- East Service Delivery Area Regional Resilience Partnership\Local Resilience Partnership.
- The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (Scotland) Regulations 2005
- [The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and the Contingency Planning \(Scotland\) Regulations 2005](#)

We will achieve it by:

- Ensuring our training, staff development and equipment is fit for purpose to meet our current risk profile and adaptable to changing circumstances.
- Ensure all known risk information is obtained, communicated and tested.
- Working locally with partner organisations and agencies to ensure effective response plans are developed for identified risks.
- Fulfilling our statutory duties in relation to the Civil Contingencies Act 2004

In doing so we will add value by:

- Keeping our staff and members of the public safe should any incident occur.
- Reducing the financial burden and disruption caused to our communities when emergencies occur.
- The wealth and prosperity of our area will increase;
- Proactively helping the wider community by preventing emergencies and planning to mitigate their effects when they occur.

2. Reduction of Accidental Dwelling Fires

Throughout the Falkirk Council area, accidental dwelling fires have occurred within a wide variety of dwelling places. There are direct links to areas of social deprivation and those who are most vulnerable to fire within the community.

Alcohol consumption and/or drugs misuse continues to be identified as a contributory factor in a number of serious injury/fatal fires, due to the effect that they have upon the occupant's ability to react appropriately in a fire situation. In addition, cigarettes and smoking materials remain the primary ignition source in a number of serious injury/fatal fires.

House fires can have a significant negative impact on both individuals and the community, in relation to the human, social and economic cost of fire.

Through our Home Fire Safety Visit Programme, and Community Engagement and Education activities, we aim to reduce the risk and impact of fire and the associated losses.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes:

- 6: We live longer healthier lives.
- 8: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime disorder and danger.
- 11: We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
- 12: We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 2: More equitable access to fire and rescue services.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

Falkirk Council Area Priority:

- Falkirk Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2011-2014.
Falkirk Community Planning Partnership: Contributes to, Single Outcome Agreement 2013-15, Theme No's, 2,3,4,5 & 6 (Performance Indicator Ref 3.6).
- Falkirk Community Planning Partnership 'Moving Forward Together' Falkirk Strategic Community Plan 2010-2015.

We will achieve it by:

- Active participation in Falkirk Community Planning arrangements and adopting a partnership approach to risk reduction.
- Leading the Safety Work-stream of the Falkirk Community Safety Partnership.
- Contributing to the monthly/fortnightly Tasking & Coordinating process.
- Sharing information with Health Care, Social Work and relevant partners to help protect the most vulnerable, young and elderly.
- Developing new partnerships to identify and support at risk groups.
- Identifying opportunities for engagement with all members of our community to promote fire safety and good citizenship.
- Delivery of fire safety related educational programmes and community engagement activities.

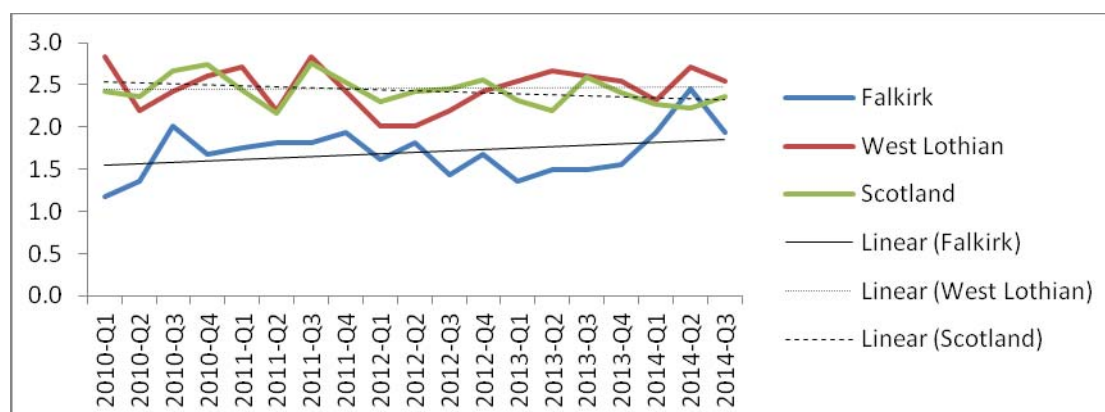
In doing so we will add value by:

- Promoting confident and safe communities where residents feel positive about where they live.
- Protecting our citizens.
- Encouraging our citizens and communities to take responsibilities for their own health and well-being.
- Making our communities safer.
- Reducing the potential financial burden on society through the education of residents.

We aim to reduce Accidental Dwelling Fires in the Falkirk Council area on a year on year basis, that contributes towards the SFRS target of a 10 % reduction, over a three-year rolling period.

Performance

The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to Accidental Dwelling Fires. (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graph depicts the occurrence of Accidental Dwelling Fires per 10,000 population*. For benchmarking purposes comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (West Lothian) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: General Register Office for Scotland (GROS)

3. Reduction in Fire Fatalities and Casualties

Fire casualties tend to occur in accidental dwelling fires. Evidence suggests that where occupants of a dwelling misuse alcohol and/or drugs or are elderly or infirm, there is an increased likelihood of becoming a fire casualty/fatality. The absence of a working smoke detector can greatly increase the vulnerability of these individuals.

The human and financial costs associated with fire casualties/fatalities are high due to potentially significant trauma/loss of life to individuals, and societal costs.

The SFRS in the Falkirk Council area aims to target a reduction in these casualties by adopting a partnership approach to reduce the risk to individuals, particularly those that are most vulnerable.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes:

- 6: We live longer, healthier lives.
- 8: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.
- 11: We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
- 15: Our people are able to maintain their independence as they get older and are able to access appropriate support when they need it.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 2: More equitable access to fire and rescue services.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

Falkirk Council Area Priority:

- Falkirk Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2011-2014.
Falkirk Community Planning Partnership: Contributes to, Single Outcome Agreement 2013-15, Theme No's, 2,3,4,5 & 6 (Performance Indicator Ref 3.5 & 3.6, and contributes to 4.12 & 4.15).
- Falkirk Community Planning Partnership 'Moving Forward Together' Falkirk Strategic Community Plan 2010-2015.

We will achieve it by:

- Active participation in Falkirk Council Community Planning arrangements and adopting a partnership approach to risk reduction.
- Continued delivery of the Home Fire Safety Visit programme to households within the Falkirk Council area, with particular emphasis on the most vulnerable in our community.
- Targeted Home Fire Safety Visit referrals from partner agencies.
- Promoting healthier lifestyles through encouraging a reduction in alcohol, drugs and cigarette use.
- Ensuring our Community Safety Strategy considers all persons at risk from fire.
- Our citizens and communities shall be encouraged to take responsibilities for their own health and well-being.

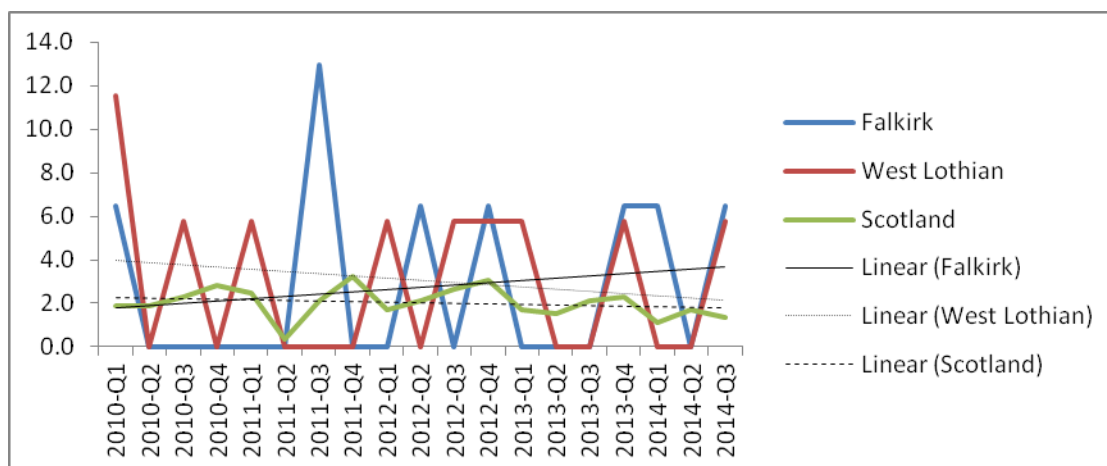
In doing so we will add value by:

- Our citizens will be protected.
- Our communities will be safer.
- Reducing demand on other partner services such as local health care and social work partners.
- Reducing fire casualty hospitalisation times.

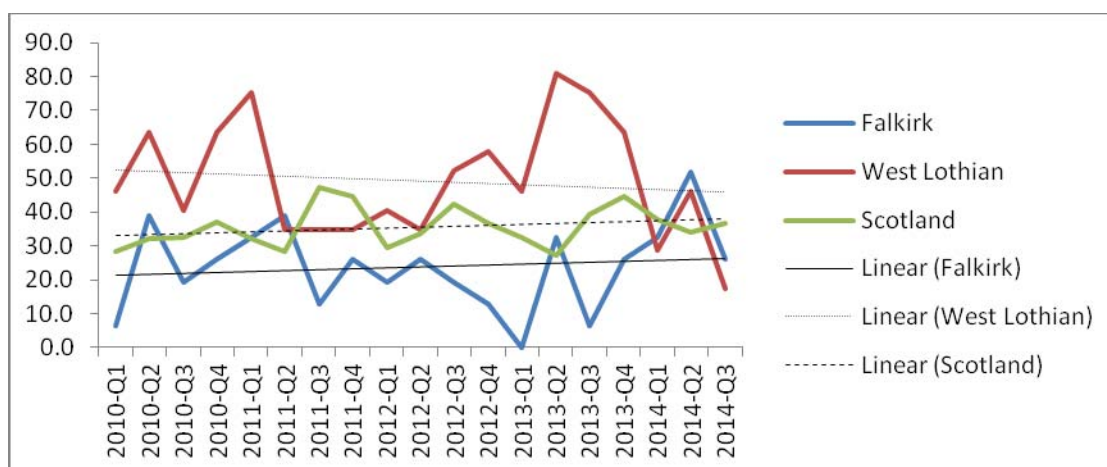
We aim to reduce Fire Casualties on a year on year basis in the Falkirk Council area, that contributes towards the SFRS target of a reducing Fire Casualties by a 5% reduction, per year over a three-year rolling period

Performance

The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to Fire Fatalities. (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to Non Fatal Fire Casualties. (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graphs above depict the occurrence of Fatal and Non-Fatal Casualties per 1,000,000 population*. For benchmarking purposes comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (West Lothian) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: GROS

4. Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting

Deliberate fire setting is a significant problem for the SFRS and is responsible for a significant number of secondary fires that are attended across the Falkirk Council area. In the main, secondary fire categories are refuse, grassland and derelict buildings incidents. In addition, deliberate fire setting is responsible for a number of primary fires that involve property loss and potential injury/loss of life.

There is a close link between deliberate secondary fires and other forms of anti-social behaviour. By continuing to focus our attention on deliberate fires this will reduce the demand on the SFRS and the burden upon partners and in turn enhance community wellbeing and reduce the environmental impact.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes:

- 4: Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.
- 8: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.
- 11: We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
- 12: We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.
- 14: We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production.
- 16: Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 2: More equitable access to fire and rescue services.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

Falkirk Council Area Priority:

- Falkirk Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2011-2014.
Falkirk Community Planning Partnership: Single Outcome Agreement 2013-15, Theme No's, 1, 2, 3, & 6 (Performance Indicator Ref 3.5).
- Falkirk Community Planning Partnership 'Moving Forward Together' Falkirk Strategic Community Plan 2010-2015.

We will achieve it by:

- Engaging in a multi-agency approach to tackle deliberate fire setting and fire related anti-social behaviour by the targeting resources to areas of demand.
- Leading the Safety Work-stream of the Falkirk Community Safety Partnership.
- Contributing to the monthly/fortnightly Tasking & Coordinating process.
- Deliver youth engagement programmes to reduce anti-social behaviour through diversionary activities and education.
- Identify and develop partnerships with organisations who engage with young people.
- Providing an enhanced level of fire Investigation within the Falkirk area.

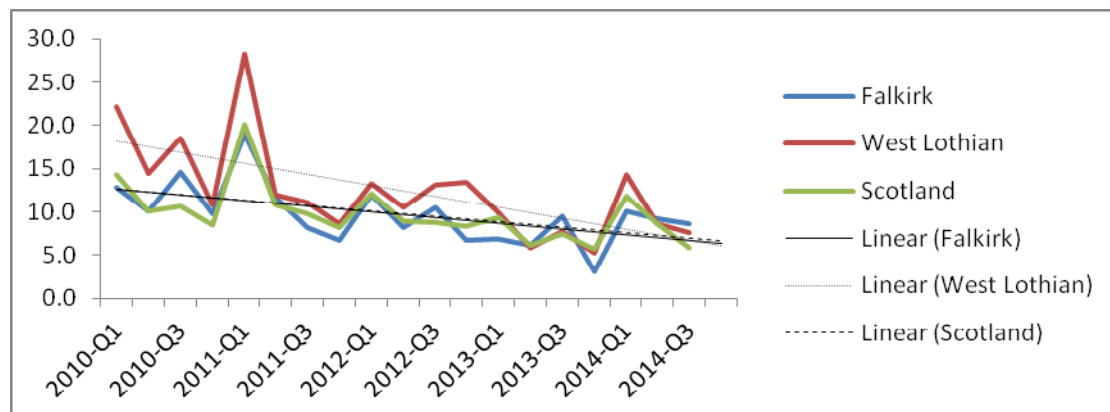
In doing so we will add value by:

- Promoting safe and attractive communities in which people want to live.
- Diverting those persons away from anti-social behaviour by encouraging them to be good citizens.
- Reducing the adverse effects that deliberate fire setting has on peoples' lives within the Falkirk Council area.
- Supporting the national focus towards early and effective intervention.

We aim to reduce Deliberate Fire Setting on a year on year basis in the Falkirk Council area.

Performance

The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to Deliberate Fire Setting (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graph depicts the occurrence of all deliberate fires per 10,000*. For benchmarking purposes comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (West Lothian) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: GROS

5. Reduction of Fires in Non-Domestic Properties

All fires in workplaces and business premises are classed as Non-Domestic Fires and come under the scope of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005.

Fire Safety Enforcement Officers carry out audits to ensure statutory responsibilities are met and provide advice to businesses on fire safety. The types of premises encompassed by the Act can be wide-ranging and include industrial, commercial and those premises providing sleeping accommodation such as residential care premises.

In addition to the costs associated with fires in commercial properties, many businesses that experience a significant fire do not reopen afterwards.

We proactively work as part of a partnership, with local industry to ensure that Businesses Continuity Planning and Emergency Preparedness Arrangements are appropriate, to ensure we can mitigate the impact of fires and other emergencies on business and that we are prepared to respond to adverse safety events.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes:

- 1: We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe.
- 6: We live longer, healthier lives.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.
- 12: We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 2: More equitable access to fire and rescue services.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

Falkirk Area Priority:

- Falkirk Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2011-2014.
Falkirk Community Planning Partnership: Single Outcome Agreement 2013-15, Theme No's, 1, 3 & 5 (Performance Indicator Ref 3.5, and 1.1)
- Falkirk Community Planning Partnership 'Moving Forward Together' Falkirk Strategic Community Plan 2010-2015.

We will achieve it by:

- The audit of business and commercial premises by Fire Safety Enforcement Officers using a risk based approach.
- Work with the Falkirk Council licensing department to ensure all multiple occupation houses comply with the required standards in relation to Fire Safety.
- Carrying out Post Fire Audits following any fire within a relevant premise.
- Work in partnership with the Falkirk Business Panel, through the Falkirk Council Economic Development Service.
- Consultation with Falkirk Council Building Standards Officers and architects.
- Participation in major incident preparedness and exercising.

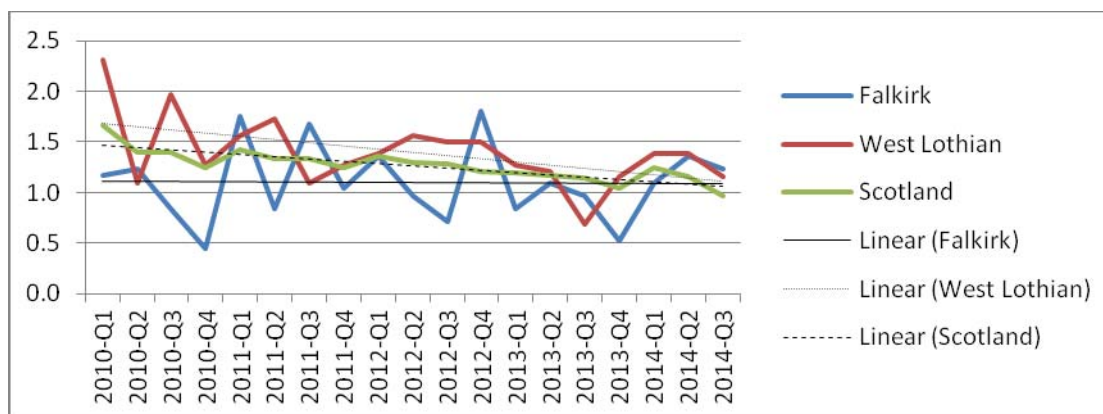
In doing so we will add value by:

- The wealth and prosperity in our area will increase.
- The quality of our infrastructure will help promote growth of the local economy.
- Safeguarding the wellbeing of residents and employees within relevant premises.
- Supporting business continuity and employment within the Falkirk Council area.
- Our citizens will be protected.
- Our communities will be safer.

We aim to reduce the number of Fires in Non-Domestic Premises in the Falkirk Council area on a year on year basis, that will contribute to the SFRS target of continually reducing the number of fires in Non Domestic premises.

Performance

The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to fires in Non-Domestic other buildings. (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graph depicts the occurrence of all fires in Non-Domestic Other Buildings per 10,000 population* For benchmarking purposes comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (Falkirk) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: GROS

6. Reduction in Fatalities and Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies

A central part of the SFRS's role is responding to non-fire emergencies such as Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs), other rescue situations such as rescues from water, from height, or from entrapment. Operational fire fighters are trained to a high standard and have at their disposal the most modern equipment for extricating people in rescue situations and administering first aid to casualties.

Attendance at RTCs has become a core role for the SFRS however primary responsibility for road safety lies with Transport Scotland, Police Scotland and local authorities. The SFRS has a crucial role in supporting these organisations at a local level and can provide access to hard-hitting education programmes aimed at the most at risk groups to highlight the consequences of RTCs and dangerous driving. National statistics identify that the most at risk group is young drivers who we include in our "Safe Drive Stay Alive" campaign that is aimed at 4th, 5th and 6th year school pupils, which supports the national Go Safe, Scotland's Road Safety Framework for 2020.

The educational road safety activities that we deliver are designed to increase driver awareness in relation to the consequences of dangerous driving. Particular focus continues to be on young and new drivers.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes;

- 4: Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.
- 6: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.
- 15: Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to other people's needs.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 2: More equitable access to fire and rescue services.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

Falkirk Council Area Priority:

- Falkirk Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2011-2014. Falkirk Community Planning Partnership: Single Outcome Agreement 2013-15, Theme No's, 3, 4 & 6 (Performance Indicator Ref 3.7, and 4.12 & 4.15).
- Falkirk Community Planning Partnership 'Moving Forward Together' Falkirk Strategic Community Plan 2010-2015.

We will achieve it by:

- Continuing our educational programmes, such as Safe Drive Stay Alive, particularly aimed at high risk groups within our communities.
- Develop innovative ways of reducing accidents in collaboration with partners.
- Working with our partners within the Falkirk Council area to ensure that all agencies are aware of road incident hotspots.

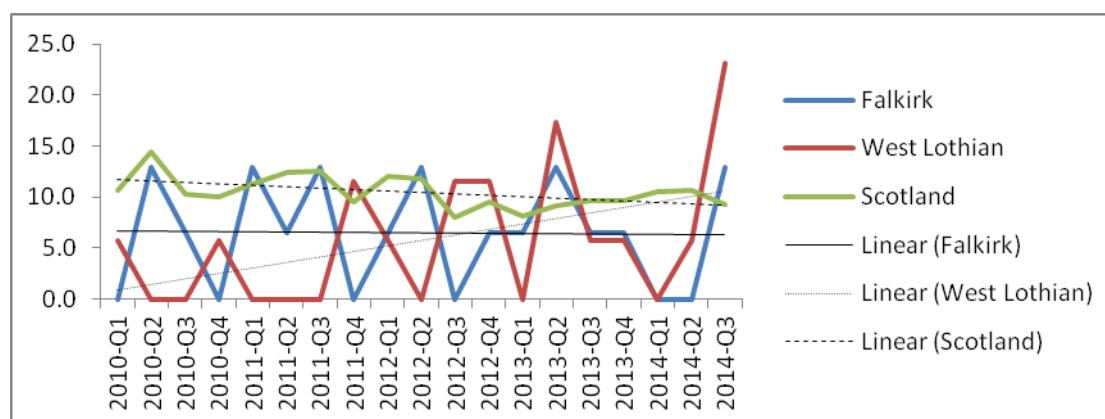
In doing so we will add value by:

- Protecting our citizens.
- Promoting safety of our communities.
- Our citizens and communities shall be encouraged to take responsibilities for their own health and well-being.
- Reducing the number of hospital admissions, and the associated costs to the NHS and other organisations due to RTC related injuries.
- Encouraging young drivers and other groups to be responsible road users through active engagement and education.

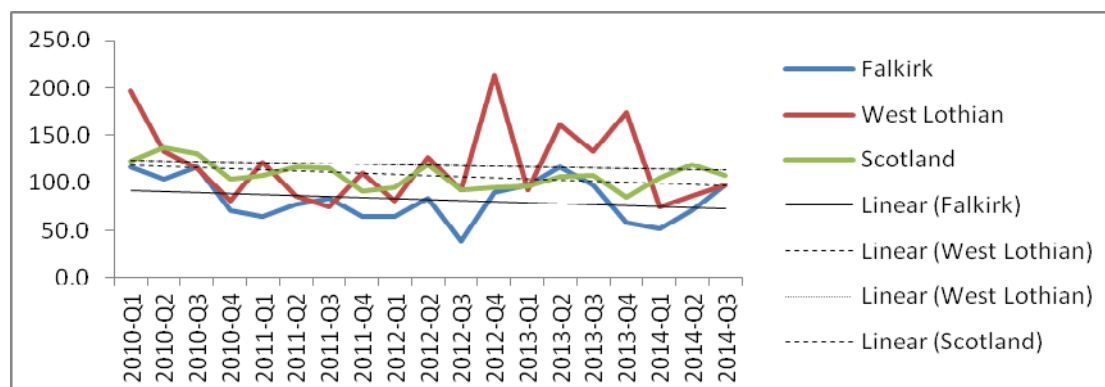
We aim to reduce the number of Fatalities and Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies in the Falkirk Council area on a year on year basis, which will contribute to the SFRS target of continually reducing the number of Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies over a three-year rolling period.

Performance

The graph below provides empirical incident data on Fatalities from Non-Fire Emergencies (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graph below provides empirical incident data on Non Fatal Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graphs above depict the occurrence of all Fatal and Non-Fatal Non Fire Emergencies per 1,000,000 head of population*. For benchmarking purposes

comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (West Lothian) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: GROS

7. Reduction of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) are those occasions when an automated fire alarm system activates and results in the mobilisation of SFRS resources, when the reason for that alarm turns out to be something other than a fire emergency.

UFAS are categorised into three main categories; False Alarm with Good Intent, False Alarm Malicious or Equipment Failure.

Within the Falkirk Council area, UFAS incidents in non-domestic properties account for a significant amount of the total calls attended.

UFAS has a negative impact on the SFRS through the deployment of resources to incidents where their life saving services are not required. This negative impact is also experienced by businesses through loss of production, business continuity or service delivery.

Attendance at UFAS creates a negative financial burden upon the SFRS as well as increasing the road risk and environmental impact within the Falkirk Council area.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes;

- 1: We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe.
- 6: We live longer, healthier lives.
- 8: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.
- 12: We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.
- 14: We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

Falkirk Council Area Priority;

- Falkirk Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2011-2014. Falkirk Community Safety Partnership contributes to Single Outcome Agreement 2013-15, No's, 1 & 3 (Performance Indicator Ref 1.1).
- Falkirk Community Planning Partnership 'Moving Forward Together' Falkirk Strategic Community Plan 2010-2015.

We will achieve it by:

- Working with the business and commercial sector to provide advice and guidance in relation to the management of unwanted fire alarm signals.
- Ensure premises with unwanted fire alarm signal occurrences comply with the British Standard 5839 Part 1 & 6 current edition.

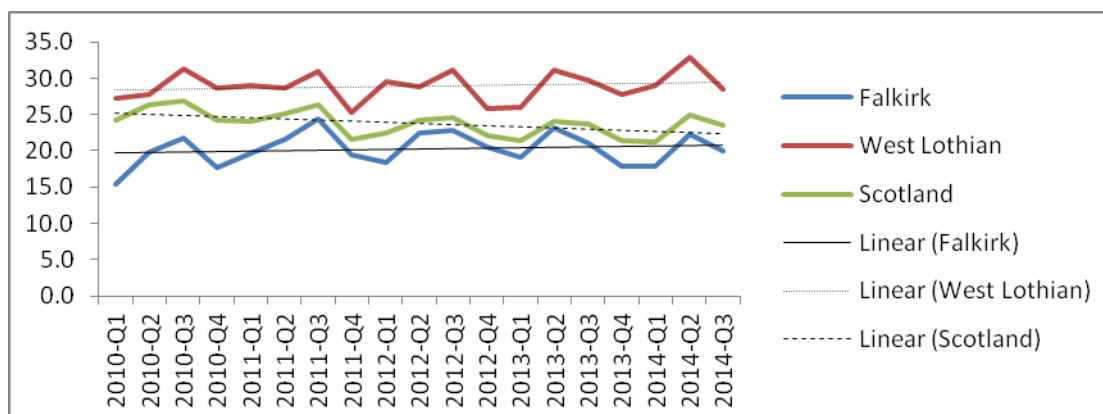
In doing so we will add value by:

- The wealth and prosperity in our area will increase.
- The negative impact of UFAS on local business will reduce.
- Reducing road risk for our emergency services.
- Reduction of our carbon footprint.
- Enabling SFRS resources to be available for life saving incidents.

We aim to achieve a year on year reduction of UFAS in the Falkirk Council area.

Performance

The graphs below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to All Fire Alarms (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graph depicts the occurrence of All False Alarms per 10,000 head of population*. For benchmarking purposes comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (West Lothian) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: GROS

Achieving Local Outcomes

Following a process of identifying local risks within the Falkirk Council area, priority actions to address them and expected outcomes have been set within this Local Fire and Rescue Plan.

Local risks were identified following considerations of political direction set by the Scottish Government, community needs identified through consultation and the operational resources and capacity of the SFRS.



Outcomes

The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 includes a framework for local scrutiny and engagement arrangements between local authorities and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

Falkirk Council area local scrutiny of the performance of the Fire and Rescue Service takes place at the Falkirk Council Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis. As part of Community Planning Partnership working, arrangements are in place to ensure that other key statutory and non-statutory partners have the opportunity to engage in the process of scrutiny. Robust scrutiny of performance is essential in ensuring that the SFRS is delivering against the Local Fire and Rescue plan and contributing to improved outcomes for communities and ensuring that the SFRS plays its full part in contributing to successful delivery of the Falkirk Community Planning Partnership Single Outcome Agreement. As a full and active partner in the local community planning partnership arrangements, we will contribute positively to a safer Scotland.

Review

To ensure this Local Fire and Rescue Plan remains flexible to emerging local or national priorities a review may be carried out at any time but will be reviewed at least once in its lifetime. A review may also be carried out if the Scottish Minister directs it or if a new Strategic Plan is approved.

Following a review the Local Senior Officer may revise the Local Fire and Rescue Plan.

Contact Us

If you have something you would like to share with us, you can get in touch in a number of ways:

- Use the feedback form on our website to send an email - www.firescotland.gov.uk.
- Contact your local Community Fire Station - details are listed on our website or in your local telephone directory.
- Contact Falkirk and West Lothian LSO Area office on 01324 629121.
- Write to us at the address at the bottom of this page.

We are fully committed to continually improving the service we provide to our communities and recognise that to achieve this goal we must listen and respond to the views of the public.

We use all feedback we receive to monitor our performance and incorporate this information into our planning and governance processes in order to continually improve our service.

We are proud to say that the majority of the feedback we receive is positive, and we are keen to hear examples of good practice and quality service delivery that exemplifies the standards of care that we strive to provide for the communities of Scotland.

In instances where our standards of service are questioned, we welcome the opportunity to investigate the circumstances, and are committed to correcting any lapses and using the learning outcomes to improve our future service delivery.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format or a version in another language, please contact:

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Service Delivery Area East HQ, Main Street, Maddiston FK2 0LG

Tel 01324 710220 Fax 01324 715353 or alternatively visit our website
www.firescotland.gov.uk

Glossary of Terms

Accidental: Caused by accident or carelessness. Includes fires that accidentally get out of control.

Casualty: consists of persons requiring medical treatment beyond first aid given at the scene of the incident, those sent to hospital or advised to see a doctor for a check-up or observation (whether or not they actually do). People sent to hospital or advised to see a doctor as a precaution, having no obvious injury, are recorded as 'precautionary check-ups'. Casualty figures do not include fatalities.

Deliberate: covers fires where deliberate ignition is suspected

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals: an event in which the Fire and Rescue Service believes they are called to a reportable fire and then find there is no such incident. These can be Malicious, of Good Intent or caused by Equipment.

Fatality: a casualty whose death is attributed to a fire is counted as a fatality even if the death occurred later. Fatalities associated with Other Incidents can include attendance to assist Police or Ambulance colleagues when a person has been found who has committed suicide, for example. Often there is little we can do as a Service to influence this particular figure.

Primary Fires: includes all fires in buildings, vehicles and most outdoor structures or any fire involving casualties, rescues or fire attended by five or more pumping appliances.

Secondary Fires: These cover the majority of outdoor fires including grassland and refuse fires unless they involve casualties or rescues, property loss or if five or more appliances attend. They include fires in derelict buildings but not chimney fires.

Incident Recording System: Department of Communities and Local Government Fire and Rescue Service Directorate, web-enabled Incident Recording System for collection and subsequent statistical handling and publication of incident data from United Kingdom Fire and Rescue Services.

Abbreviations

AFA	Automatic Fire Alarm
RTC	Road Traffic Collision
LGBT	Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender
BME	Black Minority Ethnic
COMAH	Control of Major Accident and Hazards
IRS	Incident Recording System

References

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Plan for 2013-2016.

<http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/about-us/strategic-plan.aspx>

Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2012/8/contents/enacted>

Fire (Scotland) Act 2005.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2005/5/contents>

The Scottish Government National Performance Framework

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/Performance/scotPerforms>

The Scottish Government National Outcomes

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome>

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Equality Outcomes.

http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/media/340295/equality_outcomes.pdf

The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/sdsi/2012/9780111016718/contents>

Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2013.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0041/00416181.pdf>

Falkirk Community Planning Partnership, Single Outcome Agreement, 2013 – 2015.

http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/about_council/PDFs/single_outcome_agreement.pdf

Falkirk Community Safety Partnership, Strategic Assessment 2011/14.

http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/services/corporate_neighbourhood/policy_performance_review/corporate_policy/community_safety/PDFs/public_strategic_assessment.pdf

The Falkirk Strategic Community Plan, 2010 to 2015, 'Moving Forward Together'.

http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/services/corporate_neighbourhood/policy_performance_review/corporate_policy/strategic_community_plann/scp/scp.aspx

The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (Scotland) Regulations 2005

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/02/20630/51567>

Scotland's Road Safety Framework to 2020

<http://www.roadsafetyobservatory.com/Pdf/SCOTLAND%20RS%20FRAMEWORK%202020.pdf>



Appendix 2

Report to: Falkirk Council

SUBJECT: SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN FOR FALKIRK COUNCIL AREA 2014 – 2017

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report provides members of the Falkirk Council with an overview of the responses and outcomes to the consultation on the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Local Fire and Rescue Plan for the Falkirk Council Area 2014 – 2017.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Under the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 Section 41E, the SFRS must prepare a Local Fire and Rescue Plan for each local authority area and submit it for approval to the local authority for which the Plan relates to.
- 2.2 The Local Senior Officer (LSO) is responsible for developing, for the approval of Falkirk Council, the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for the Falkirk Council Area 2014 – 2017. The plan by mutual agreement, should be integrated into the wider plans of the Community Planning Partnership and the Falkirk Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) 2013-15.

3 LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN FOR FALKIRK the FALKIRK COUNCIL AREA 2014-2017

3.1 Following the publication of the SFRS Strategic Plan 2013-2016 and identification of national priorities within this, the LSO for Falkirk and West Lothian has drafted the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Falkirk 2014-2017.

3.2 There are seven priorities identified within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for the Falkirk Council Area 2014 – 2017, these being:

- Local Risk Management and Preparedness
- Reduction of Accidental Dwelling Fires
- Reduction in Fire Fatalities and Casualties
- Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting
- Reduction of Fires in Non-Domestic Property
- Reduction in Fatalities and Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies
- Reduction of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.

4. CONSULTATION PROCESS

4.1 Where practical, best practice in public consultation has been followed during the consultation process. ¹

4.2 Consultation with key stakeholders and residents of the Falkirk Council area commenced in December 2013 and concluded on 14th February 2014.

4.3 The consultation was undertaken through a range of methodologies including;

- Face to face meetings,
- Presentations at stakeholder meetings,
- Invitations to access an electronic survey toolkit, and
- Distribution of hard copy consultation questionnaires.

¹ Scottish Government, Consultation Good Practice Guidance, May 2008

- 4.4 During the consultation process responses were received via hard copy questionnaire responses, electronic survey toolkit responses, verbal and written communications, stakeholder written responses and direct feedback from stakeholders.
- 4.5 On completion of the consultation period, all responses were collated and evaluated by staff within the Falkirk LSO area. The evaluation that was undertaken took the format of quantitative and qualitative analysis of responses and comments received during the consultation period. Section 5 below outlines the findings of the evaluation of the consultation responses.
- 4.6 Where the analysis of responses or comments concluded that the Local Fire and Rescue Plan could be enhanced through accepting the response/s or comments, the Plan was amended. Where the analysis of responses or comments concluded that the Plan would not be enhanced the comment or responses were not reflected through an amendment to the Plan.
- 4.7 In certain circumstances, responses and comments were screened and deemed not to be considered in the evaluation of the consultation, due to reasons linked to defamation, inappropriate language, or lack of pertinence to the Local Plan.
- 4.8 In addition to receiving responses from stakeholders in the Falkirk Council area on the Falkirk Local Fire and Rescue Plan, responses and comments were received by stakeholders on the Local Plans developed for all 32 local authority areas. Where relevant and appropriate these responses and comments have been taken into consideration and the Fire and Rescue Plan for the Falkirk Council Area 2014 – 2017 has been amended.

5. CONSULTATION EVALUATION

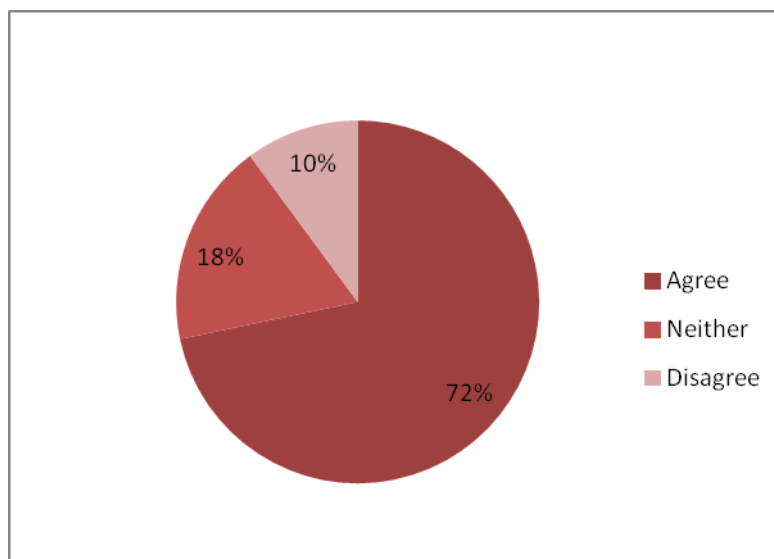
5.1 Response returns

A breakdown of the response returns received during the consultation period that relate to the Falkirk Council Area Local Fire and Rescue Plan is indicated below;

Total Responses	103	
Individuals	95	92%
Organisations	8	8%

5.2 Content and formatting (Quantitative Evaluation)

5.2.1 Q1. The language is clear and understandable

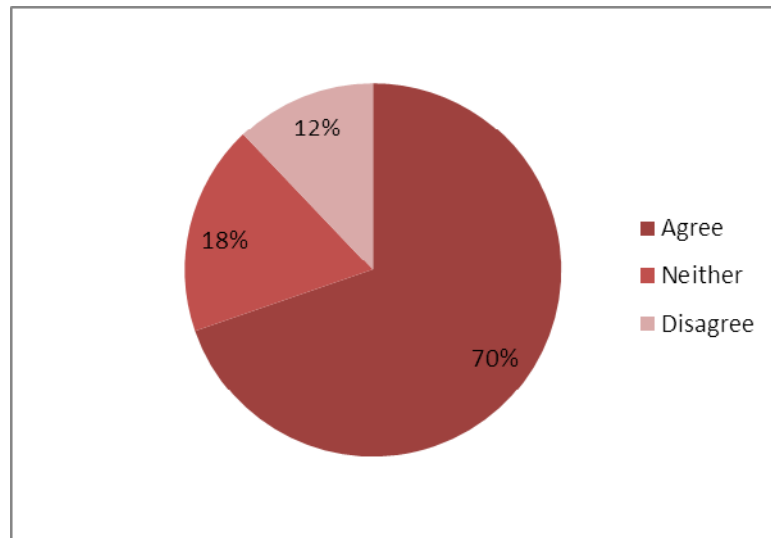


SFRS Comment/Action

Whilst a high proportion of respondents indicated that the language is clear and understandable, there are sufficient negative responses to conclude that the language could be clearer and more understandable.

The Local Plan has been reviewed and where possible language, terminology and abbreviations have been made easier to understand.

5.2.2 Q2. There is a logical progression throughout the plan clearly explaining the plan and context.

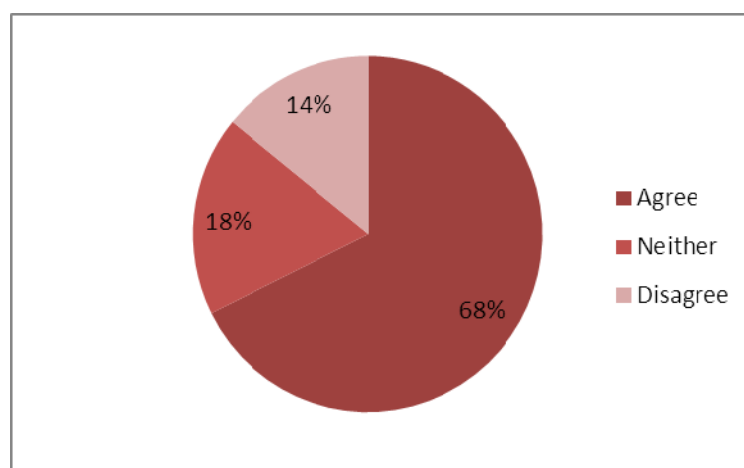


SFRS Comment/Action

Whilst a high proportion of respondents indicated that there is a logical progression throughout the Local Plan there a sufficient negative responses to conclude that some elements of Local Plan could be clearer.

The Local Plan has been revised to include flow charts to assist understanding of the logical progression throughout the plan explaining the plan and context.

5.2.3 Q3. The glossary of terms explains language and terms used fully.

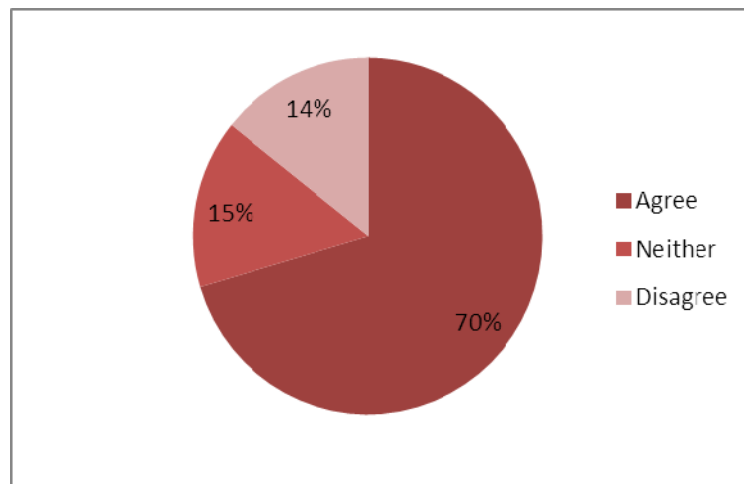


SFRS Comment/Action

The proportion of disagree and neither agree or disagree responses leads to the conclusion that better use could have been made of the glossary.

The glossary in the revised Local Plan has been expanded upon.

5.2.4 Q4. Where abbreviations are used, these are explained.



SFRS Comment/Action

The proportion of disagree and neither agree or disagree responses leads to the conclusion that abbreviations, where used, have not all been fully explained.

The Local Plan has been reviewed to ensure all abbreviations have been explained.

5.3 Content and formatting (Qualitative Evaluation)

Comment/Response

Summary of resources available to deliver the Plan. It is considered that the plan would be strengthened by a summary of resources available to ensure the delivery of the plan over a three year period.

SFRS Comment/Action

It is accepted that the Local Plan could be enhanced through the inclusion of a summary of available resources. The revised Local Plan incorporates a section on resources.

Response/Comment

Some terminology in the document could be clearer. Some use of initials without explanation of their meaning e.g. "Special Service RTCs" and "False Alarm: AFA" in the first column of the table on page 9.

Not all abbreviations in the document are explained (see Outcome 1 on Equality Assessment).

SFRS Comment/Action

Responses relating to abbreviations are captured in section 5.2.4. The Local Plan has been reviewed and terminology explained where necessary.

Response/Comment

The document does not have page numbers making it difficult to reference the different sections.

SFRS Comment/Action

Comments on page numbers accepted. The revised Local Plan incorporates page numbering.

Response/Comment

The plan consists of a lot of words, but difficult to understand.

SFRS Comment/Action

During the review process of the Local Plan a sense check process was adopted to attempt to add clarity where possible.

Response/Comment

This whole report is a waste of money. At 28 pages it is at least 24 pages too long. It repeats itself and does not need all the government propaganda / hokum. All we need are:- 1) The risks 2) What are being done about them.

You are constrained by the language of the civil service and it looks as if you are writing for that audience. I am not sure that the plan, as expressed on these lines, is meaningful to most members of the public.

SFRS Comment/Action

To meet the expectations of the Scottish Government and achieve compliance with the Police and Reform Act 2012, a Local Plan was required to be developed, consulted upon and published.

To achieve a degree of consistency the design of the SFRS Local Plan Template has an element of repetition that was required to be included in the Local Plan.

The Local Plan has an element of organisational service planning language and repetition that is difficult to reduce/remove.

Comment/Response

As I have not read the proposed local plan I am unable to comment on it.

How can I give my views on a plan which you AIM to publish ??? There is no link to it on this email ! How do we get sight of it ????.

I am missing something - I have no idea what 'plan' I am supposed to have read in order to make any sensible comments.

SFRS Comment/Action

It is disappointing that some respondents did not appear to have had sight of the Local Plan, given that it was published on the SFRS Web Site, hard copies were available on request, and hard copies were distributed during face to face consultation meetings. The SFRS will review the consultation methodology to ensure future consultations capture these comments.

Comment/Response

When referring to other documents and strategies, it would be useful to provide details of what it is/who owns it/a link to the document, for clarification.

SFRS Comment/Action

The revised Local Plan contains hyperlinks to relevant documents, where available, and provides information on ownership/author.

Comment/Response

It would be beneficial to include a foreword from an elected member.

SFRS Comment/Response

It is agreed that the Local Plan would be strengthened if a foreword from an elected member was included in the Local Plan. The revised Local Plan includes a foreword from an elected member.

Comment/Response

Provide commentary to contextualize activity tables.

SFRS Comment/Action

It is accepted that the activity table could be enhanced by provided some contextualisation. The revised Local Plan includes a commentary to contextualise the activity table.

Comment/Response

Outcome graphs well received, but benchmark graphs would be better.

SFRS Comment/Action

It is accepted that the outcomes graphs could be enhanced by the use of benchmarking data. The revised Local Plan includes revised outcome graphs.

Comment/Response

Is there any special reason for the 4-year period to which the plan refers?

SFRS Comment/Action

The SFRS Framework 2013 requires that the SFRS produce a three year plan, there is also a requirement to review the plan with-in the life cycle.

Comment/Response

Some plans made a point of the LSO being personally responsible for the plan, which is good.

SFRS Comment/Action

This comment is accepted, the foreword in the Local Plan has been revised to demonstrate that the LSO is responsible for the Local Plan.

Comment/Response

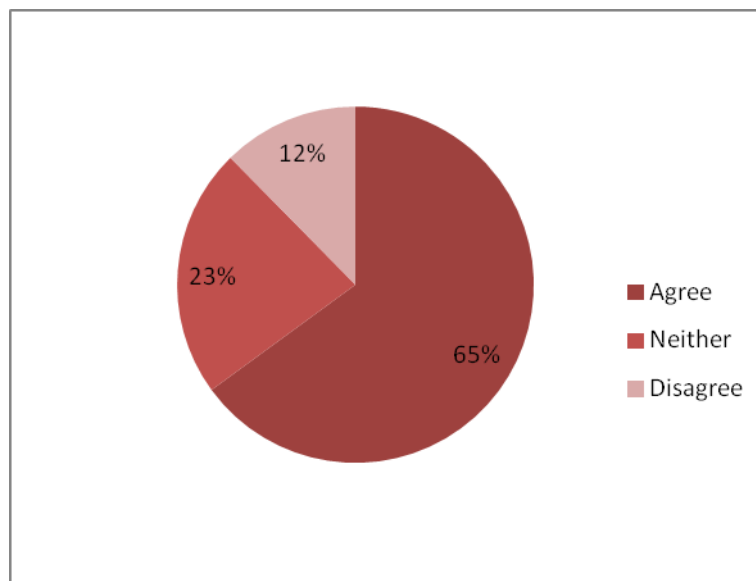
Consider inserting community needs box for achieving outcomes.

SFRS Comment/Action

This comment has been accepted, the achieving outcomes section of the Local Plan has been revised to include community needs.

5.4 Profile and Risk (Quantitative Evaluation)

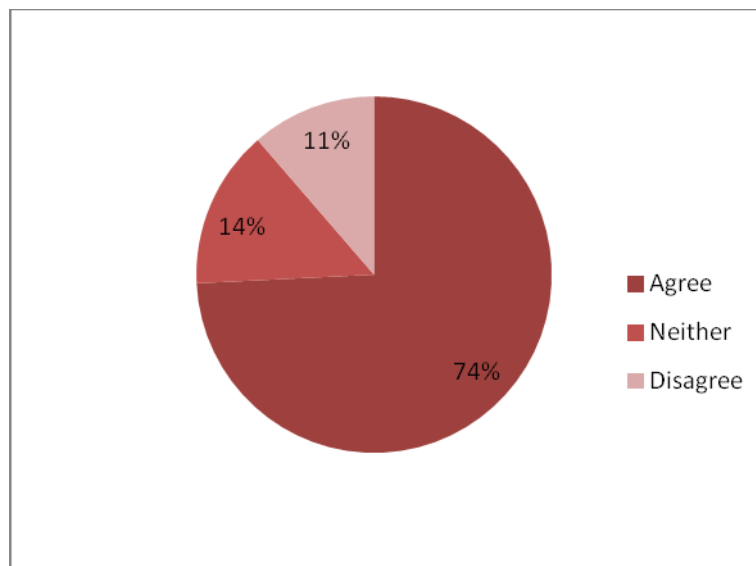
5.4.1 Q5. Priorities have been effectively developed.



SFRS Comment/Action

From the high proportion of respondents who agreed or neither agreed or disagreed, it is indicative that there is a broad agreement that priorities have been effectively developed. There are a number of qualitative comments and responses that give an indication that the SFRS could provide some additional focus on local risk and profile, these comments are captured in the qualitative comments section/s of this report.

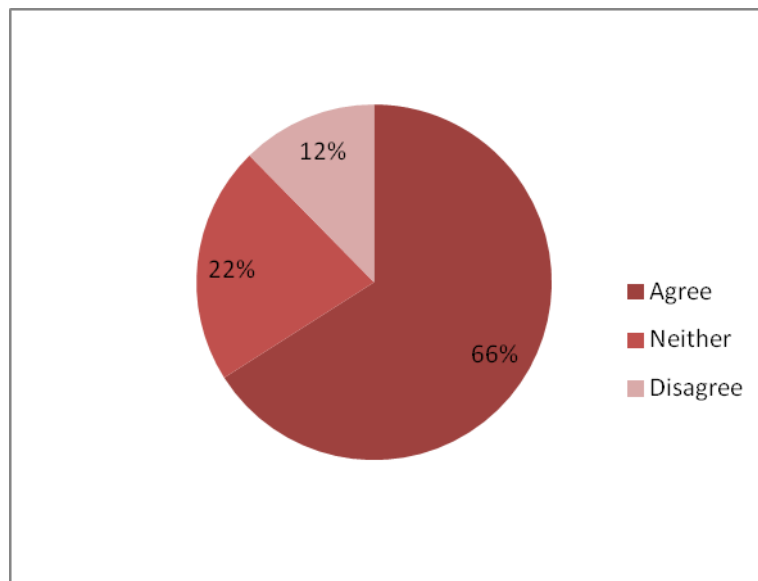
5.4.2 Q6. The Service understands local risks and uses this knowledge to plan how it deploys resources.



SFRS Comment/Action

From the high proportion of respondents who agreed or neither agreed or disagreed, it is indicative that Service understands local risks and uses this knowledge to plan how it deploys resources. There are a number of qualitative comments and responses that give an indication that the SFRS could provide some additional focus on local risk and resource deployment, these comments are captured in the qualitative comments section/s of this report.

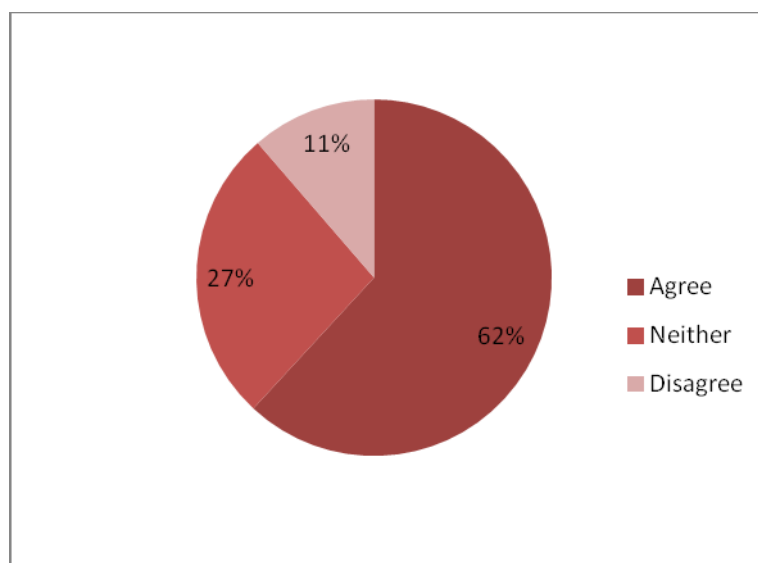
5.4.3 Q7. The Plan shows how my local Service will meet Scottish Government National Outcomes.



SFRS Comment/Action

From the proportion of respondents disagree or who neither agreed or disagreed, it is indicative that there could be some added clarity on how the Local Plan will meet Scottish Government National Outcomes. The Local Plan has been revised to include flow charts to add clarity in this area.

5.4.4 Q8. The Plan shows how the Fire and Rescue Service's national Equality Outcomes will be met within my local area.



SFRS Comment/Action

The high proportion of disagree and neither agree or disagree responses leads to the conclusion that it could be clearer how the Fire and Rescue Service's national Equality Outcomes will be met within the local area.

The Local Plan has been revised to make it clearer how the Fire and Rescue Service's national Equality Outcomes will be met within the local area.

5.5 Profile and Risk (Qualitative Evaluation)

Response/Comment

The Council appreciates that locally you have to work within a consistent national framework but we very much hope that considerable flexibility exists to give the Falkirk Fire and Rescue Plan a strong local identity. One example of this is the importance of the Grangemouth refinery and petro chemical complex to the local area. We note that this is referenced in the draft plan, but recognising the local and national importance and risk of this national industrial asset we would suggest that this needs to be more strongly referenced in the plan. One of the benefits of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service is making available national assets in response to major incidents. It may therefore be helpful to reference both the local and national assets which are available in planning a response to a potential major incident, which would be in keeping with this industrial asset's importance.

SFRS Comment/action

This comment is accepted insofar that the Local Plan could be strengthened by a section that includes assets/resources that are available in the local area and across Scotland. A more explicit reference to the Grangemouth refinery and petro chemical complex could also enhance the Local Plan. The revised Local Plan takes cognisance of these comments and has been amended to reflect them.

Response/Comment

We expect local plans to set out local solutions to national priorities: there's less evidence of local tailoring than expected, as well as being less targeted. An example would be referencing chimney fires in rural and island communities, as there were 508 chimney fires recorded in the 2012-13 fire statistics report. Other specific risks with linked action, such as motorways, prisons and high rise flats should be included where relevant – this was more explicit in some plans than others.

The diagram shown is only a map showing the wards into which the Falkirk Council area is divided. (Map of Falkirk Council's wards.)

SFRS Comment/Action

As the Local Plan covers a large local authority geographical area where there can be diverse socio-demographic differences, reference to specific types of incidents linked to areas is considered to be too focussed. It is envisaged that the development of Ward Plans will capture this type of level of detail.

Response/Comment

If Grangemouth is recognised as being a large risk then how is removing the Command and Control vehicle from Bo'ness Station and not having one in this area considered a step forward and improvement for the safety of residents in this area..

SFRS Comment/Action

In recognising the concept of more equitable access to Fire and Rescue Services resources across Scotland, it is a strategic aim of the SFRS to ensure access to the right resources are in place based on community risk profile. At this time, no decision has been taken by the SFRS Board on the distribution or re-distribution of resources throughout Scotland.

Response/Comment

I am impressed by the commitment of Fire and Rescue to partnership working and by their intimate knowledge of the local area.

SFRS Comment/Action

No comment/action required

Comment/Response

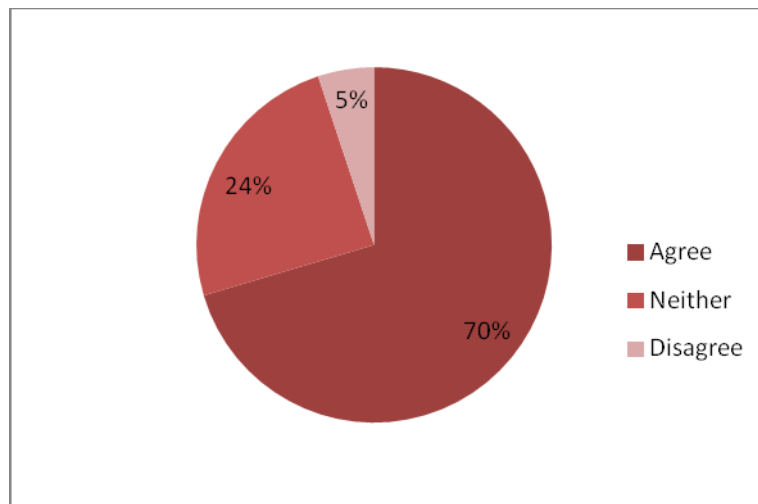
Under local assessment section, include reference to SOA, Strategic Assessment etc, a local SOA feel need to be included here.

SFRS Comment/Action

The revised Local Plan will include a more explicit reference to the SOA outcomes.

5.6 Priorities (Quantitative Evaluation)

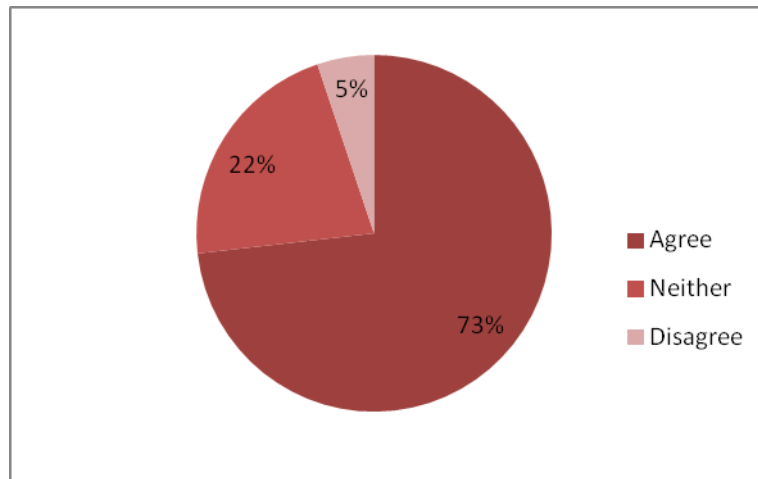
5.6.1 Local Risk Management and Preparedness



SFRS Comment/Action

The high proportion of agree and neither agree or disagree responses coupled with the low proportion of disagree responses leads to the conclusion that the respondents are supportive of this priority. No action required.

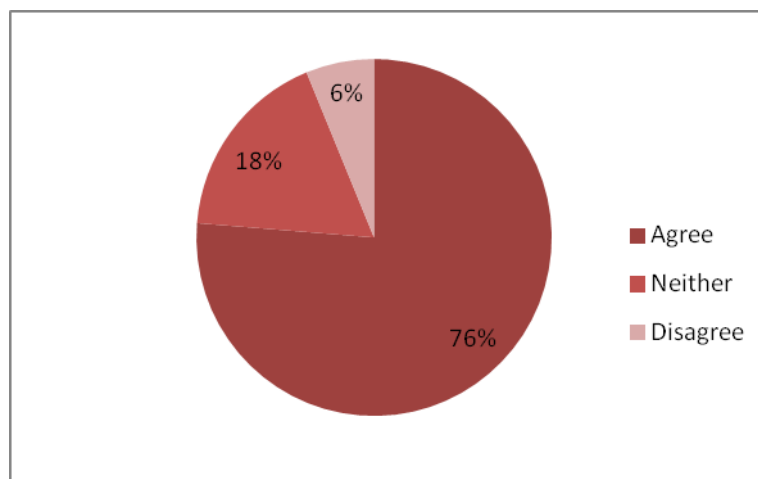
5.6.2 Reduction of Accidental Dwelling Fires



SFRS Comment/Action

The high proportion of agree and neither agree or disagree responses coupled with the low proportion of disagree responses leads to the conclusion that the respondents are supportive of this priority. No action required.

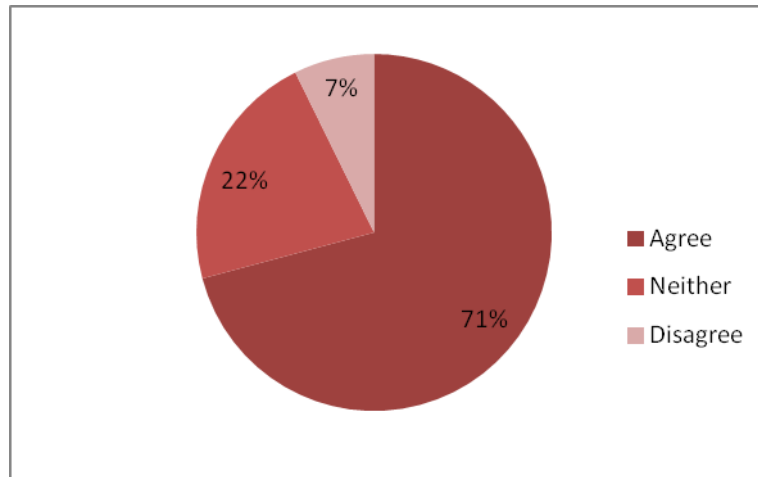
5.6.3 Reduction in Fire Casualties and Fatalities



SFRS Comment/Action

The high proportion of agree and neither agree or disagree responses coupled with the low proportion of disagree responses leads to the conclusion that the respondents are supportive of this priority. No action required.

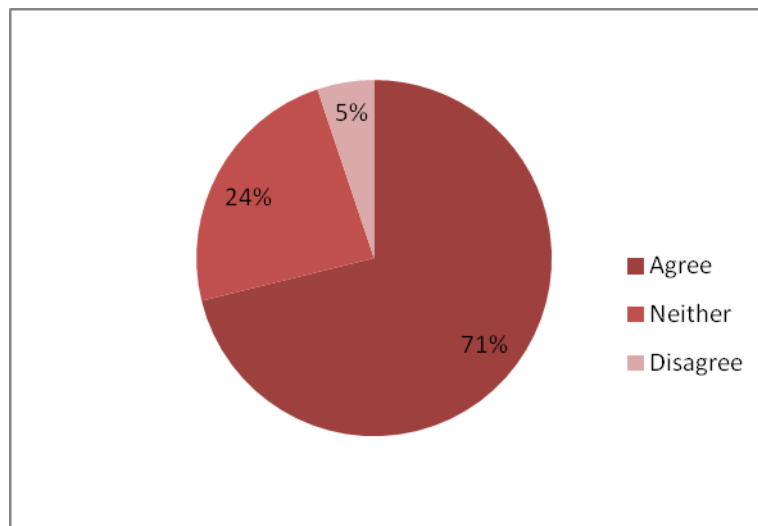
5.6.4 Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting



SFRS Comment/Action

The high proportion of agree and neither agree or disagree responses coupled with the low proportion of disagree responses leads to the conclusion that the respondents are supportive of this priority. No action required.

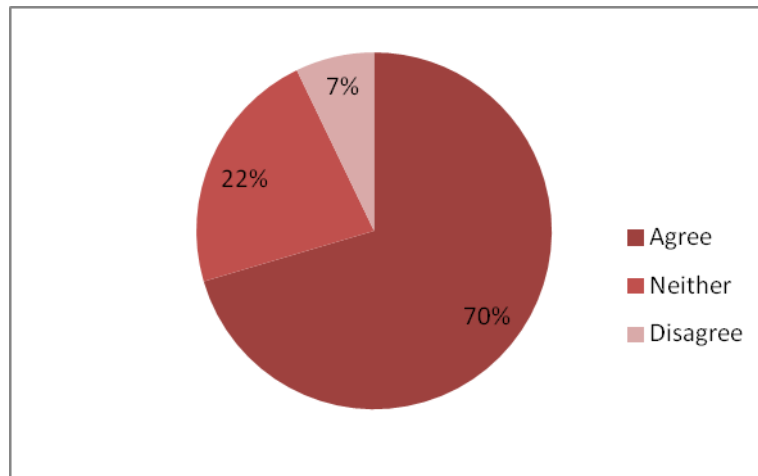
5.6.5 Reduction of Fires in Non Domestic Properties



SFRS Comment/Action

The high proportion of agree and neither agree or disagree responses coupled with the low proportion of disagree responses leads to the conclusion that the respondents are supportive of this priority. No action required.

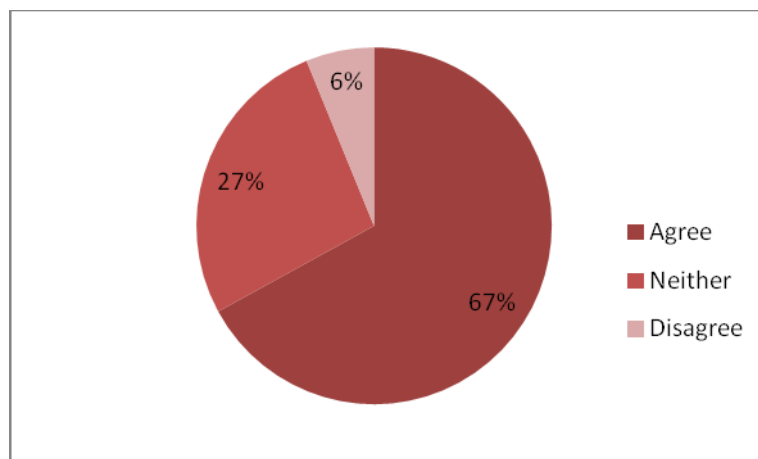
5.6.6 Reduction in Casualties from non Fire Emergencies (including Flooding and Road Traffic Collisions)



SFRS Comment/Action

The high proportion of agree and neither agree or disagree responses coupled with the low proportion of disagree responses leads to the conclusion that the respondents are supportive of this priority. No action required.

5.6.7 Reduction of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals



SFRS Comment/Action

The high proportion of agree and neither agree or disagree responses coupled with the low proportion of disagree responses leads to the conclusion that the respondents are supportive of this priority. No action required.

5.7 Priorities (Qualitative Evaluation)

Comment/Response

For the priorities on 'Reducing Accidental Dwelling Fires' and 'Reducing Casualties from Non Fire Emergencies' we would suggest that action which the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service will take should include leading the 'Safety' strand within the Community Safety Partnership. This will provide the Service with a major opportunity to develop and implement approaches at a partnership level. We would also wish to highlight the need for reducing deaths and casualties from road traffic accidents to have a strong place within the 'Reducing Casualties from Non Fire Emergencies' priority.

SFRS Comment/Action

This comment is accepted with reference to the SFRS leading the 'Safety' strand within the Community Safety Partnership being included in the revised Local Plan.

Comment/Response

For the priority on 'Reducing Deliberate Fire Setting' we would suggest that action which the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service will take in collaboration with other Community Safety partners should be the pursuit of intelligence led tasking and co-ordination. This will identify and resolve areas / communities where the incidence of deliberate fire setting is high.

SFRS Comment/Action

The revised Local Plan makes reference where applicable to the SFRSs involvement in the Community Safety Partnership Monthly/Fortnightly/Daily tasking/co-ordinating process.

Comment/Response

In terms of the priorities on 'Reducing Fire In Non Domestic Premises' and 'Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals' we would suggest that there is scope for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to seeks access to the Falkirk Business Panel, through the Council's Economic Development Service. This could help to raise the profile of this issue and pursue prevention based approaches.

SFRS Comment/Action

This comment is accepted and the priorities to, Reduce Fire In Non Domestic Premises and Reduce Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals have been amended in the revised Local Plan to include partnership working with key stakeholders and partners to achieve the desired outcomes.

Comment/Response

As raised at the Council's Scrutiny Committee recently, we would urge the Scottish Fire and Rescue Services to maintain routine inspection visits to licensed premises in tandem with Council Licensing Officers.

SFRS Comment/Action

As reported to the Falkirk Council Scrutiny Committee on the 14th November 2013 and subsequently on the 13th March 2014, on a risk based approach, the SFRS does not consider it best use of resources or best value to undertake routine joint inspections of licensed premises. However, through specific targeted initiatives or via thematic inspection processes, the joint inspection of licensed premises is regarded as a valuable partnership initiative, and will continue in the future. Due to the specific nature of this comment and SFRS response there is no requirement for inclusion in the revised Local Plan.

Comment/Response

To reflect flooding threat to industry and how the SFRS will take action to "keeping industry working" is an ideal opportunity to link in with LA flood plan and MICC is working in partnership for this specific reason, hence we have/will identified how and with who.

SFRS Comment/Action

This comment is accepted and the risk management and preparedness sections of the Local Plan has been revised to reflect this comment.

Comment/Response

There is considerable repetition, which could be eliminated and more specific examples given on, for example, how disasters in the chemical industry will be managed. I also note no reference to air or rail accidents.

SFRS Comments/Action

During the review of the Local Plan focus was given on providing examples of specific risks in the Falkirk area. In recognising that the Local Plan is an overarching plan that details the risk profile in the Falkirk area, it is envisaged that the development of Ward Plans, that support the Local Plan, will capture risk profiles at a more local level.

Comments/Response

Except for the work done on road safety I thought the SFRS already worked on the strategies mentioned in the document.

SFRS Comment/Action

Whilst the 8 antecedent FRSs and the SFRS have developed strategies on most of the priorities in the Local Plan, Local Plans are the vehicle whereby the SFRS will publicly state it's priorities, aims and objectives to key stakeholders, which includes members of the public.

Comments/Response

Continue to provide resources into training and education for all ages of the community.

SFRS Comment/Action

Community safety engagement and education activities and initiatives will continue to be a focus of the SFRS. The Local Plan captures examples of this which will be supported by the development of Ward Plans.

Comments/Responses

File great info but doesn't say what next steps are in terms of delivering it.

SFRS Comment/Action

It is envisaged that Ward Plans will be developed to support the Local Plan. Ward Plans will contain the detail of 'what will be done' and 'how it will be done' at ward level and these plans will contain the level of detail requested.

Comment/Response

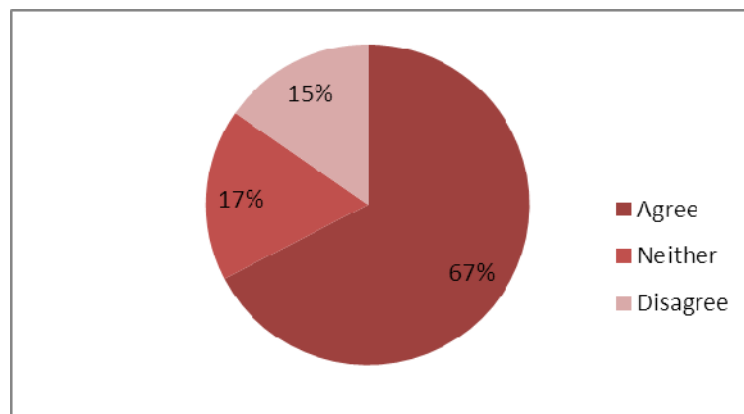
My local area has had a surge in willful fire raising and there has been no criminal prosecutions and a lot of property damage, the figures do not seem to reflect this.

SFRS Comment/Response

The graphs contained with the local plan are an accurate reflection of incidents to which the SFRS attended. The statistical data contained in the Local Plan is reported to the Falkirk Council Scrutiny Committee. The Local Plan provides details of how the SFRS will prioritise the reduction of deliberate secondary fires, of which wilful fire-raising is a contributory element.

5.8 Achieving Local Outcomes (Quantitative Evaluation)

5.8.1 Q12. It is clear how the fire and rescue service are held to account for their performance in the local area.



SFRS Comment/Action

The relatively high proportion of disagree and neither agree or disagree responses indicates that there is a lack of clarity on how the SFRS is held to account for their performance in the local area.

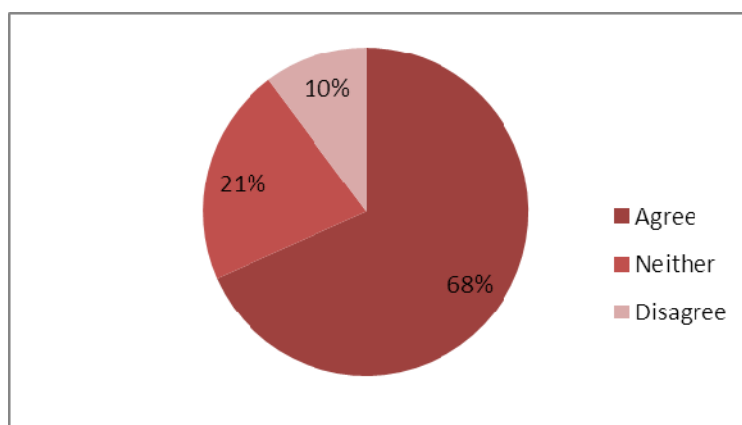
SFRS Comment/Action

A quarterly performance report is submitted to the Falkirk Council Scrutiny Committee who hold the LSO to account for performance in the local area. The minutes of these Scrutiny Committee meetings and the performance reports are available on the Falkirk Council COINS system.

A revised reporting framework, which reflects the priorities in the Local Plan is currently under development and will be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee for approval once the Falkirk Local Plan is approved and adopted by Falkirk Council.

Consideration will be given to making the revised reporting framework more accessible to stakeholders.

5.8.2 Q13. It is clear within the plan what legislation, plans and agreements have informed the development of this local plan.



SFRS Comment/Action

In recognising that a proportion of respondents disagreed or neither agreed or disagreed with the question that it was clear within the Local Plan what legislation, plans and agreements have informed the development of this Local Plan, consideration will be given to identifying means of clarifying this section of the Local Plan.

5.9 Achieving Local Outcomes (Qualitative Evaluation)**Comment/Response**

As you will be aware all partners are being asked to collaborate and contribute to Community Planning on a more equal basis. While the draft plan covers traditional Community Safety priorities, there is an opportunity for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to state how it will contribute to the wider aspects of the Strategic Community Plan and our SOA. This could be achieved in a simple manner by stating what contribution the Service will make to each of the key thematic areas of the Strategic Community Plan / SOA.

SFRS Comment/Action

This comment is accepted. The Local Plan has been revised by providing a matrix table that outlines how the SFPR priorities contribute to the SOA key thematic areas.

Comment/Response

We welcome proposals to develop more localised plans and look forward to engaging with you on how best to achieve this. In our view it would be helpful if there could be consistency with Police Neighbourhood / Ward plans.

SFRS Comment/action

This comment aligns to the aspirations of the SFRS and the LSO. Cognisance will be taken of Police Neighbourhood / Ward plans when developing SFRS Ward Plans.

Comment/Response

Inclusion of specific and measurable improvement targets. It is considered that whilst the plan contains a number of targets, these are either at a national level or generic i.e. continuous improvement. The plan would benefit from specific and measurable target...to allow members to exercise their scrutiny function.

SFRS targets: as was discussed during their development, they were designed to be adapted/modified to address local risk profiles/circumstances. We would expect to see the contribution being made to overall targets in local plans – perhaps links to which targets are of particular relevance in a local area?

Could benefit from setting out specific criteria to outline exactly what their targets are and how these will be achieved and measured.

SFRS Comment/Action

It is accepted that the targets set in the Local Plan could have a more local focus, which is linked to the SOA. The targets set in the revised Local Plan have been amended to reflect these comments.

Response/Comment

The Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Falkirk 2014-2017 is an exercise in local government policies and many of the issues covered within it should not be incorporated into the SFRS objectives but remain at government level.

I am always amazed at how much money is wasted on rhetoric, performance indicators and absolutely pointless targets for any publicly run organisation. Value the front-line staff more and provide them with the equipment and training to do their jobs and that is all that's really needed. If there really was a true intention to improve the Fire and Rescue Service you would pay them more and train them as paramedics as in the USA.

SFRS Comment/Action

The Police and Fire Reform Act 2013 and the Scottish Government publication 'The Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland, 2013' sets out the governance arrangements under which the SFRS will operate set its priorities. It is not within the remit of SFRS to deviate from these governance arrangements.

Response/Comment

Performance data only covers 3 years, is this insufficient for reliable identification of trends? The method of identifying the trends appear to be inconsistent. It can be either final year outturn against the 3-year average OR final year outturn against the previous year outturn. The graphs containing empirical incident data on performance are not clear on what period the quarters relate to. Is it financial years commencing March or calendar years commencing January?

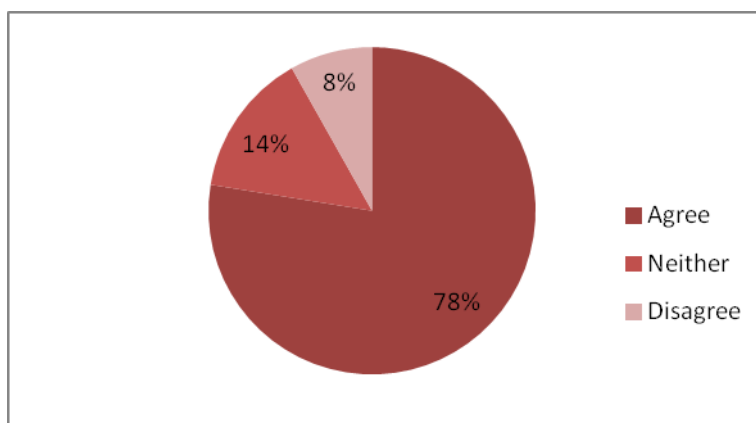
SFRS Comment/Action

As a benchmark the Scottish Government and SFRS adopts a rolling three year period as suitable timeframe to measure performance. The graphs contained within the Local Plan have been reviewed to confirm relevant data is clear and understandable.

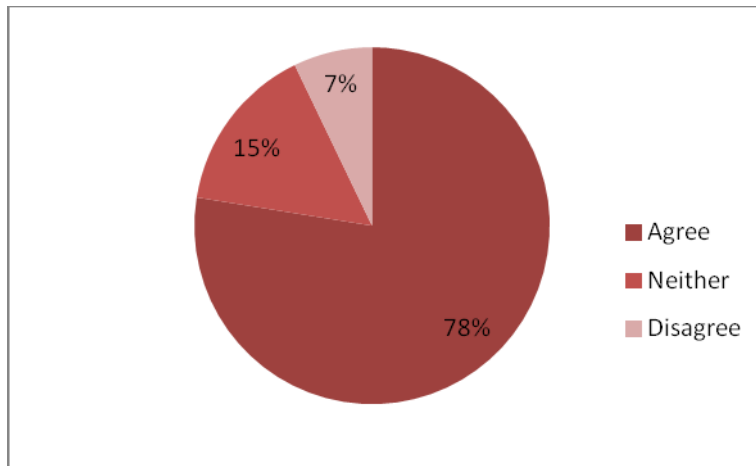
5.10 Let Us Know How We Are Doing (Quantitative Information)

Whilst the responses and comments made in this section and section 5.11 below do not necessarily require to be taken into consideration in the context of making revisions to the Local Plan, the responses provide a valuable insight into the perceptions of the respondents of how the SFRs is performing. Whilst acknowledgement is taken of the responses and comments in this section SFRS comments and actions are not considered to be required.

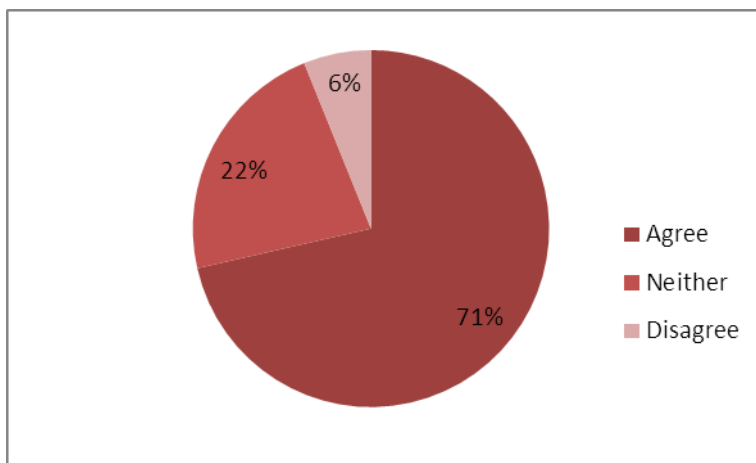
5.10.1 Q14.1 Prevention through education, advice and engagement should continue to be the key focus of our work and the local fire and rescue service plan.



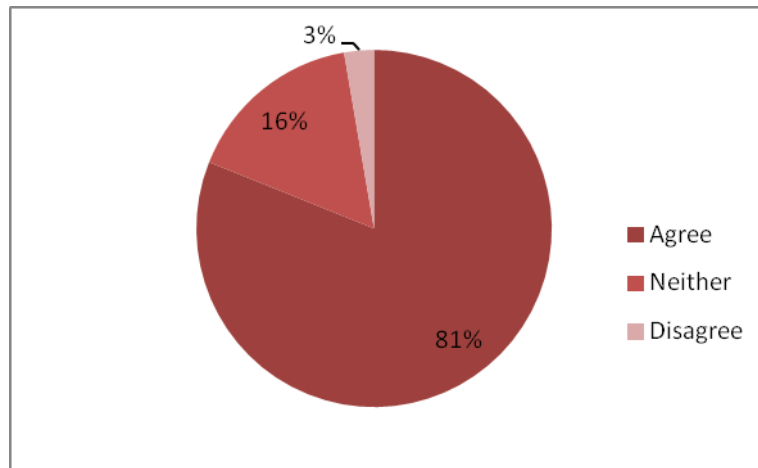
5.10.2 Q 14.2 Our priorities are sufficiently focussed on improving safety.



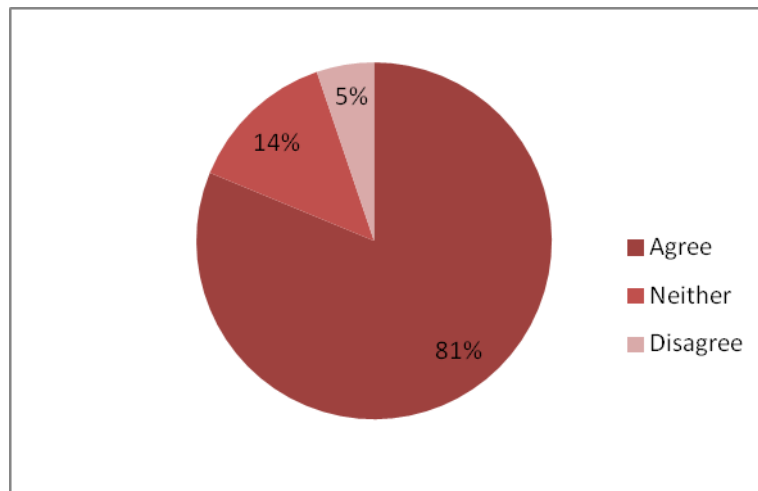
5.10.3 Q 14.3 We are adequately focussed on equality in communities.



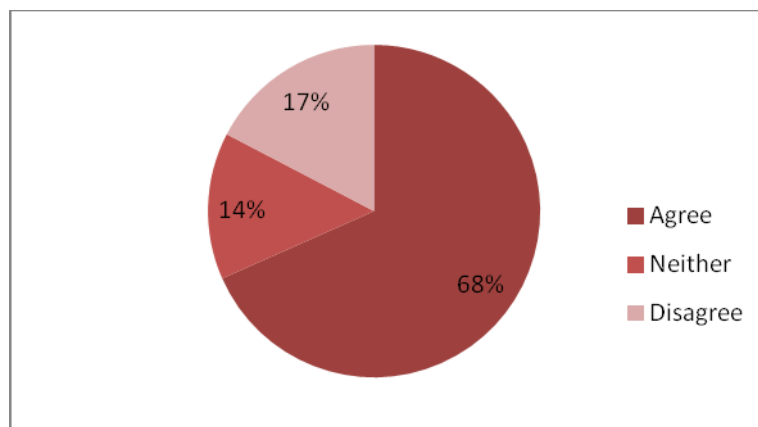
5.10.4 Q 14.4 I have confidence in the Fire and Rescue Service in my area.



5.10.5 Q 14.5 I am satisfied with the Fire and Rescue Service in my area.



5.10.6 Q 14.6 I know how to contact the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service for non emergency advice.



5.1 Let Us Know How We Are Doing (Qualitative Information)

Responses/Comments

The Council (Falkirk) welcomes the draft new plan in that it clearly builds on the outgoing plans, has strong links to our Strategic Community Plan and our Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) and to the Community Safety Partnership's priorities.

I have much appreciation for the service provided by SFRS and realise the difficult circumstances under which they have to operate. I would like to see their aims and objectives fulfilled with the support and means supplied by the Scottish Government.

I do feel that the Fire Brigade men and women do such a worthwhile job, its not only about putting out fires.

I hope the Fire Service continue to carry out a good job in my community.

I am always willing to provide feedback to surveys but only if I am asked to express my views in a sensible manner. I find your type of survey nothing more than for the self gratification of management. Questions are geared towards knowing the answers you are wanting to hear.

Keep up the good work.

This appears to be a way to cut costs and little else.

This is all about cutting costs...One hopes that the need to make savings doesn't put the public in any danger.

Visit to church building was very helpful and separate visit to toddlers group with hose was much appreciated! Opportunities for gentle and clear education were taken on both occasions very well.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 It can be concluded that the consultation process proved a valuable tool in gaining an understanding of the views and perceptions of key stakeholders on the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for the Falkirk Council Area.
- 6.2 As intimated in the main section of this report the Local Plan has been revised to take cognisance, where appropriate and relevant, of the comments and responses received during the consultation period.
- 6.3 The revised Local Fire and Rescue Plan for the Falkirk Council Area 2014-17, is attached in Appendix 1 of this report.

7. RECOMMENDATION

7.1 Falkirk Council Scrutiny Committee is invited to:

- Note or otherwise the content of this report,
- Approve or otherwise the revised Local Fire and Rescue Plan for the Falkirk Council Area 2014-2017,
- Agree to forward the Local Plan to the Falkirk Council Executive for formal approval and adoption.

Gary Laing
Local Senior Officer
Falkirk and West Lothian

May 2014

Appendix 1 – (Revised) Local Fire and Rescue Plan for the Falkirk Council Area 2014-2017

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: ETHICAL STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE ETC. (SCOTLAND) ACT 2000
Meeting: FALKIRK COUNCIL
Date: 14 MAY 2014
Author: CHIEF GOVERNANCE OFFICER

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Section 18 of the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 2000 requires a Council in receipt of findings from the Standards Commission following a hearing, to consider those findings at a meeting of Council. It is not available to delegate this function to an officer or to a committee and the findings must be considered within three months of receipt. These provisions are repeated in Rule 10.9 of the Commission's Hearings rules which also require the outcome of any consideration to be reported back to the Commission.

2. HEARING AND FINDINGS

- 2.1 The Standards Commission met in Falkirk on 17 and 18 February 2014 for a hearing to consider a complaint against Councillor Robert Spears. As required by the Act, a copy of the Commission's findings, which were issued on 4 March 2014, is attached to this report.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that Council considers the findings of the Standards Commission as required by Section 18 of the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 2000.

.....
Chief Governance Officer

Date: 13 March 2014

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

**Decision of the Hearing Panel of the Standards Commission
for Scotland following the Hearing held at the Best Western
Park Hotel, Falkirk on 17 and 18 February 2014.**

Panel Members: Mr Ian Gordon OBE, QPM, Chair
Mr Matt Smith OBE
Mrs Julie Ward

This Hearing arose in respect of a Report by Mr D. Stuart Allan, Commissioner for Ethical Standards in Public Life in Scotland (the Commissioner), further to complaint No. LA/Fa/1392 ("the Complaint"), concerning an alleged contravention of the Councillors' Code of Conduct ("the Code") by Councillor Robert Spears of Falkirk Council ("the Respondent").

Mr Ranald Macpherson attended the Hearing as the representative of the Commissioner and presented his case and was accompanied by Mr Ian McLeod, Investigating Officer. The Respondent attended the Hearing and was represented by Councillor Brian McCabe.

At the opening of the Hearing Councillor Spears indicated concern that he had had insufficient time to engage legal representation. The Chair drew Councillor Spear's attention to correspondence from the Standards Commission, as on 19 December 2013, when he had been advised of his entitlement to representation of his choice. Councillor Spears then asked if it would be in order for him to be represented by one of his witnesses, Councillor McCabe. The Chair, having invited comment from the Commissioner's representative agreed to this form of representation and as a consequence provided an opportunity for Councillor McCabe to give opening evidence, as a witness, before assuming his representational role. To further facilitate this process, the Chair offered Councillors Spears a brief adjournment.

The Complaint

The Complainant was Councillor Dennis Goldie. The complaint alleged that the Respondent, while an elected member of Falkirk Council, had contravened the Code and, in particular, the provisions relating to conduct at meetings.

The Commissioner investigated the complaint and concluded that the Respondent had, on a balance of probability, given Provost Reid a straight arm salute and did say the words "Sieg Heil" at a public meeting of Falkirk Council. Therefore the Respondent was found to have breached Paragraph 3.2 within the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

The relevant provisions are:

Councillors' Code of Conduct

Section 3: General Conduct: Conduct at Meetings

3.2 *You must respect the chair, your colleagues, Council employees and any members of the public present during meetings of the Council, its committees or sub-committees or of any public bodies where you have been appointed by, and represent the Council. You must comply with rulings from the chair in the conduct of the business of these meetings.*

Joint Statement of Facts

The Commissioner and the Respondent failed to agree a Joint Statement of Facts.

Evidence presented at the Hearing

1. The Respondent was present at a meeting of the Falkirk Council held on 6 March 2013 and took part in a vote by those present on a motion to suspend Council Standing Orders. The vote was taken by a show of hands from Councillors that was counted by the Clerk to the Council.
2. The motion was controversial and the Chamber was noisy; the term 'dictatorship' had been used. The Respondent voted for the motion; those supporting the motion voted first whilst those against the motion voted second. Mr Macpherson stated that after the vote was completed, the Respondent raised his arm in a straight-arm salute and said the words "Sieg Heil", which appeared to be directed at the Provost who was seated opposite the Respondent in the Council Chamber.
3. Councillor McCabe, for the Respondent, stated that the Respondent gave no straight-arm salute. The only time he had raised his arm was whilst voting for the motion. Councillor McCabe said the Respondent had made a comment: "We'll be Sieg Heiling in here next", directed at Councillor McCabe but he had not in fact heard it. The Respondent stated that he said those words during the vote. Councillor McCabe was seated next to the Respondent during the meeting.
4. Four witnesses, including the Provost (who was chairing the meeting) and the Democratic Services Manager of the Council, both of whom were sitting opposite the Respondent, stated they saw the Respondent make the straight-arm salute and heard him say the words, "Sieg Heil". These witnesses further state that the raising of the arm and words spoken were after the vote had been taken.
5. The Democratic Services Manager made a handwritten note of the meeting in which, after the vote had been concluded, he had written that the Respondent had said "Sieg Heil". When he was preparing the notes for typing he added (arm raised). He did this because that is what he had seen the Respondent do after the vote.

6. Two witnesses for the Respondent (including Councillor McCabe) said they had become aware of a commotion in the Chamber but had not seen the Respondent raise his arm or speak the words. One of those witnesses thought the commotion may have been after the vote. Two other witnesses were not aware of anything untoward in the Chamber and had not seen the Respondent raise his arm or speak the words. These four witnesses could not therefore clarify if the event did or did not take place.
7. The Respondent, in evidence, said that he only raised his arm to vote on the motion— as did the other councillors; he did not make a straight arm salute and he did not say “Seig Heil”. He did make a flippant comment to Councillor McCabe, who was sitting next to him, comprising: “We’ll be Sieg Heiling in here next”. He regrets making that comment. No other witnesses heard that comment.
8. There was no clarity by the witnesses as to whom the salute was directed but it was clear that it was made towards the Bench, where the Provost was seated. Those persons, who had witnessed the action and heard the words, gave evidence that they considered it was offensive. The Provost said he was angered by the Respondent’s actions and said so at the time.
9. Evidence was given that the Respondent made a statement in the Chamber, to the Provost in relation to the event. Not all witnesses saw or heard this and those who did thought it was not an apology, as such, by the Respondent. Evidence was also given that the Respondent saw the Provost immediately after the event, in the Provost’s private Chamber, and apologised for making the remark.

The Decision

The Hearing Panel considered all of the evidence, the submissions given in writing and orally at the Hearing and found as follows:

1. The Councillors’ Code of Conduct applied to the Respondent.
2. The Respondent had breached Paragraph 3.2 of the Councillors’ Code of Conduct when he was disrespectful in the Council Chamber of Falkirk Council on the 6 March 2013.

The reasons for the Hearing Panel decision are based on the balance of probabilities arising from the evidence heard:

1. During the meeting on 6 March 2013, in relation to an agenda item under discussion, a vote was taken to allow for the suspension of Standing Orders; those supporting the motion, which included Councillor Spears, voted first. Those opposing the suspension of the Standards Orders voted second. The result of the votes was announced. This had been a contentious issue during which there had been exchanges across the Chamber including an allegation of dictatorship. At this point, following the vote, it is alleged that

Councillor Spears raised his arm in a straight-arm salute and said the words "Sieg Heil".

The Hearing Panel carefully considered the evidence of four witnesses who had observed and heard this event and when it occurred, giving particular credence to that of the Provost and the Democratic Services Manager. The Hearing Panel heard evidence from other witnesses who said that they had not observed this event.

The Respondent admitted that he had said a form of words that included the phrase "Sieg Heil". There was no evidence given of the other form of words used by Councillor Spears.

The Hearing Panel determined, on the balance of probabilities, that this event - action and words, had taken place.

2. There is evidence from the Provost that he had objected to what had been done and said by the Respondent and, as a consequence, he had received a form of apology from the Respondent, which was later repeated by him in the Provost's Chamber. The Hearing Panel considers the event was directed at the Provost.
3. There is clear evidence from the witnesses who had seen and heard this event that the Respondent was disrespectful of the Provost; the Hearing Panel considered it was unreasonable and disrespectful for Councillor Spears to conduct himself in this way.

Sanction

The Hearing Panel decided to censure Councillor Spears.

This sanction is made under the terms of the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 2000 section 19(1)(b)(ii).

The reasons are:

1. The Hearing Panel accepted the action was a moment of indiscretion on the part of Councillor Spears.
2. The Hearing Panel also accepted that he showed regret and made an immediate apology to the Provost and repeated that apology at a later time.
3. The Hearing Panel carefully considered all of the evidence, the circumstances and the mitigation. Councillor Spears has made a significant contribution in public life in Scotland and elsewhere. The Panel saw no merit in suspending Councillor Spears even for a limited time.
4. The Hearing Panel considered that censure will allow Councillor Spears to reflect on his future conduct in the Chamber.

Appeal

The attention of the Respondent is drawn to Section 22 of the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 2000 which details the Right of Appeal in respect of this Decision.

Date: 3 March 2014



Ian A Gordon OBE, QPM
Chair of the Hearing Panel

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEE
Meeting: FALKIRK COUNCIL
Date: 14 MAY 2014
Author: CHIEF GOVERNANCE OFFICER

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise of a resignation from the Audit Committee and to request that Council appoints to the vacant position.

2. AUDIT COMMITTEE

- 2.1 Council appointed Councillor Black to the Audit Committee on 18 May 2012. Councillor Black has now intimated her resignation from the committee and Council is consequently invited to appoint a successor to the vacant position. In accordance with the decision on political proportionality taken by Council on 18 May 2012, the successor should be a member of the Labour Group.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 Council is invited to note the resignation of Councillor Black from the Audit Committee and to appoint to the vacant position.

.....

Chief Governance Officer

Date: 2 May 2013

Contact Officer: Brian Pirie, Democratic Services Manager on 01324 506110.

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: EXECUTION OF DEEDS
Meeting: FALKIRK COUNCIL
Date: 14 May 2014
Author: CHIEF GOVERNANCE OFFICER

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Deeds shown in the Appendix to this Report have been signed and sealed on behalf of the Council by the Chief Governance Officer.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That Council notes the signing and sealing by the Chief Governance Officer of the Deeds listed in the Appendix.

.....
Chief Governance Officer

Date: 23 April 2014
Contact Officer: Brian Pirie (Tel: 01324 506110)

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

ACCESS AGREEMENT between FALKIRK COUNCIL and

ET Owen and EC Owen

Land adjacent to 45 Millburn Street, Falkirk

CHARGING ORDER by FALKIRK COUNCIL

Mary Norma Walker

Caledonian House, Victoria Road, Larbert

DISCHARGE by FALKIRK COUNCIL in favour of

G Brooks & MI Brooks

66 Ladysmill, Falkirk

DISCHARGE of INHIBITION by FALKIRK COUNCIL in favour of

J McCaig

S50 - Blackbraes Farm, California &
Avonbridge, Falkirk

DISPOSITION by FALKIRK COUNCIL in favour of

J Kane

62 Chacefield Street, Bonnybridge

EM Sinicki

9-5 Maxwell Tower, Seaton Place, Falkirk

N Henderson

124 Grahamsdyke Street, Laurieston

J T R Millar & Miss D M Main

44 Carronview, Stenhousemuir

C I Steele & Laura Murphy

29 Crownest Loan, Stenhousemuir

NMT Gillespie

19 Castle Crescent, Denny

MJ Lyon & FH Austin

81 Main Street, Redding

IM Inglis and LA Delrio

85 Lamond View, Stenhousemuir

A D Rooney

23 Garry Place, Hallglen, Falkirk

I Webster

64 Anderson Drive, Denny

J Webster & J Webster

83 Roughlands Drive, Carronshore

SAB Chester

3 Wallace Court, Wallace Street, Grangemouth

L Hansford

53 Cromwell Road, Falkirk

M Carmoodie

11 Craigleith Road, Grangemouth

NMA McCormack and JM McCormack

16 Fairways Place, Bonnybridge

A Learmonth and M Learmonth

48 Barnego Road, Dunipace

GUARANTEE in favour of FALKIRK COUNCIL by

Hadden Construction Limited and Lloyds Bank plc

Extension to Antonine Primary School,
Bonnybridge

LEASE between FALKIRK COUNCIL and

Glenhead Energy Limited

Access area at Glenhead Farm, California

K Wilson and S Wilson t/a Graeme Pharmacy

308 Main Street, Camelon, Falkirk

MINUTE of AGREEMENT between FALKIRK COUNCIL and

Persimmon Homes Limited

Overton Farm, Falkirk

BDW Trading Limited

Parkhall Farm Maddiston Phase 2 Phase D

MINUTE of AGREEMENT among FALKIRK COUNCIL and

Walker Group (Scotland) Limited and National House

Building Council

Cauldhame Farm (Phase 3)

MINUTE of RENUNCIATION between FALKIRK COUNCIL and

Corrie Cuthbertson trading as Ginko Translations

17 Anson Avenue, Falkirk

MINUTE OF WAIVER by FALKIRK COUNCIL in favour of

Dr C Barth and Mrs AM Barth
M Wong

Land at Greenbank Road, Falkirk
7 Callendar Road, Falkirk

MINUTE of VARIATION between FALKIRK COUNCIL and

Gray Precision Engineering Limited

3 Castle Court, Bankside Industrial Estate, Falkirk

Christine Horn

77 Dower House, Bo'ness

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION RE MODIFICATION OF PLANNING OBLIGATION

Manor Forrest Limited

Land to the north east of Burnside, Maddiston,
Falkirk

NOTICE OF PAYMENT OF IMPROVEMENT GRANT

H Stevenson
A Sharp
J Campbell
M Arundel
M Hatch
G Brownlee
M Lapping
T McGinty
J Donaldson
D O'Neil
J Arundel
M O'Neil
M McGrouther

29 Hamilton Road, Grangemouth
65 York Street, Falkirk
1 Craigleith Avenue, Falkirk
18 Letham Cottages, Letham, Falkirk
6 Foxdale Court, Bonnybridge
44 Blair Avenue, Bo'ness
44 Alma Street, Falkirk
32 Coronation Place, Skinflats
54 Hillhouse Road, Head of Muir, Denny
5 Broomagebank, Main Street, Larbert
22 Rae Street, Stenhousemuir
21 Compton Road, Grangemouth
5 Avonlea Drive, Polmont

PATH AGREEMENT between FALKIRK COUNCIL AND

William Braes and Robert Braes

The Blackness/Bo'ness Core Path

RENT REVIEW MEMORANDUM between FALKIRK COUNCIL and

Thistle Investments Limited and Palace Investments Limited as
general partners of Propinvest Callendar LP

Unit 2C, Callendar Square Shopping Centre,
Falkirk

Thistle Investments Limited and Palace Investments Limited as
general partners of Propinvest Callendar LP

Unit MSU1, Callendar Square Shopping Centre,
Falkirk

SECTION 75 PLANNING OBLIGATION among FALKIRK COUNCIL and

J Penman & W Penman (as Landowner) and J Penman & W
Penman (as Developer) with the consent of Skipton Building
Society

Subjects at Cloybank Farm, Banknock including
subjects to the south of the Stables, Braeface
Road, Banknock

SHORT LIMITED DURATION TENANCY between FALKIRK COUNCIL and

J Flett

19.101 hectares at The Points Fields, Towncroft
Farm, Bothkennar