SAFE GLASGOW PARTNERSHIP'S MINUTES.

By video conference, 16th March 2023.

Safe Glasgow Partnership.

Present: Paul McCabe (Chair), Jill Brown, Holly Bruce, Graham Campbell, Ann Jenkins, Elaine McSporran, Leòdhas Massie, Robert Mooney and Catherine Vallis, Glasgow City Council; Chief Superintendent Mark Sutherland, Police Scotland; Local Senior Officer David Murdoch, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; Mark Nicol, Wheatley Housing Group; Lynsey Smith, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership; and Eileen Marshall, GCC Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability.

Apology: William Graham.

Attending: L Sclater (Clerk); T Jackson and R MacLeod, Community Empowerment and Equalities; K Hay (for the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability); Group Commander Garry Marshall, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; and Superintendent David Reid, Police Scotland.

Chairs remarks.

1 Bailie McCabe opened the meeting by acknowledging the recent tragic loss of a firefighter whilst on duty and passed on condolences to the family and everyone at Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

Minutes of previous meeting approved.

2 The minutes of 24th November 2022 were submitted and approved, subject to noting that the report requested as a result of the motion at Glasgow City Council's meeting on 27th October 2022 in relation to tackling Hate Crime and Islamophobia in partnership with communities, would be included in the Hate Crime Working Group report that would be brought to the next meeting of this Partnership.

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership Governance Framework – Membership update noted.

3 There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Legal and Administration providing an update on the membership of the Safe Glasgow Partnership, advising that

(1) David Reid was the substitute member for Police Scotland, replacing Claire Campbell;

(2) Mark Nicol was the member for Wheatley Housing Group and Jennifer Anderson was now the substitute member;

(3) Lesley Gordon was the member for Glasgow Third Sector Interface Network and Liann Weir was the substitute member; and

(4) Eileen Marshall had been appointed as member for Glasgow City Council Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability and Gary Walker was substitute member.

The Glasgow City Local Policing Plan 2023-26 - Report by Police Scotland noted etc - Reference to City Administration Committee.

4 There was submitted a report by Chief Superintendent Mark Sutherland, Police Scotland regarding a draft Local Policing Plan 2023-26 which set out the local policing priorities for the City of Glasgow for 2023-26 and formed part of a broader planning process, taking into account other strategic plans, advising that

(1) the plan had been designed to deliver positive outcomes for the people of Glasgow and was closely linked with the citywide Glasgow City Council Strategic Plan, whilst supporting Local Authorities themes and priority areas;

(2) Greater Glasgow Division had been driving an innovative public health approach and had appointed the first dedicated public health co-ordinator in local policing to ensure this work would go from strategy into making a difference in people's everyday lives;

(3) whilst focusing on identified local policing priorities, Greater Glasgow Division would aim to deliver positive outcomes, whilst promoting Glasgow's vision and helping to deliver the Glasgow City Council Strategic Plan key themes of inequality, tackling poverty, driving inclusive growth and fighting the climate emergency; and

(4) the views of the community had been obtained through community engagement via the 'Your Police' survey, and had been promoted via Police Scotland social media channels and interaction with local communities and partners.

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) noted

(i) that Councillor Bruce had circulated an amendment to the recommendations in the report, requesting the establishment of a working group/roundtable discussion on road safety, given that this had been highlighted as a main priority during the consultation process of the plan;

(ii) that the live information and engagement session held for Safe Glasgow Partnership members had been beneficial and helped shape some changes to the final draft of the plan;

(iii) the range of different ways Police Scotland used to promote the Local Policing Plan Survey;

(iv) that Chief Superintendent Sutherland would circulate further information to the Partnership on the breakdown of respondents to the Local Policing Plan Survey;

(v) that an appendix would be added to the quarterly update reports, detailing a fuller breakdown, to include statistics and any learning from police complaints;

(vi) that an exercise to map out communities was currently underway in Glasgow to better understand where the police could strengthen and improve the communities they served;

(vii) that a paper on public trust and confidence would be brought to the next meeting of the Partnership;

(viii) that a presentation, to include the following BME issues would be brought to a future meeting:-

(A) recruitment and retention of BME officers; and

(B) number of officers that had received BME/Equalities training; and

(ix) that information on the use of tasers in Glasgow would be reported to the next meeting; and

(x) that data on Police Officers who had committed violence against women would be included in future quarterly reports if available and in line with Police Force publishing policy; and

(b) agreed

(i) that a working group/roundtable discussion on road safety be established in conjunction with this Partnership, Police Scotland and NRS officers, with any recommendations arising from it being used to assist/inform the Council's Strategic Plan; and

(ii) to recommend the Glasgow City Local Policing Plan 2023-2026 to Glasgow City Council's City Administration Committee for approval, subject to slightly amended wording to be agreed by Chief Superintendent Sutherland and Councillor Bruce prior to its submission.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2020-23 - Performance report for Quarter 3 noted.

5 There was submitted and noted a report by Local Senior Officer David Murdoch, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service providing an overview of the current performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service for the period Quarter 3 2022/23, from 1st October to 31st December 2022, advising

(1) of the progress made in relation to local fire and rescue plan priorities on the prevention and reduction of accidental dwelling fires, accidental dwelling fire casualties, unintentional injury or harm, accidental other building fires and prevention and protection activities along with details for each Glasgow City Council ward with the year-on-year percentage change and 3-year average change;

(2) that deliberate fires had significantly decreased during this quarter compared to the same period the previous year, with work ongoing with partner agencies Police Scotland and Neighbourhood Co-ordinators to target and reduce those figures;

(3) of a slight increase in the number of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) compared to the same period the previous year, whilst recognising that many historically regular premises of high UFAS acitivety had been directly affected by Covid restrictions in 2021, as there had been less occupants within buildings;

(4) indicating that the gradual return of people to their place of work had directly influenced an increase in the number UFAS; and

(5) that during Quarter 3, SFRS had responded to a total of 4,122 incidents in the Glasgow City area, which had shown an increase of 48 incidents from quarter 3 in 2021/22 and the average number of incidents for Quarter 3 over the previous 3 years stood at 3,924 which was a slight increase on the 3 year average.

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) presentation noted.

6 There was heard a presentation by Group Commander Garry Marshall, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, in relation to changes in responding to reports of automatic fire alarm activations that could potentially realise a number of benefits for both the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and the wider public, advising that

(1) Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) accounted for 31% of all operational activity nationally;

(2) despite attempts through greater engagement and policy change, UFAS incidents had continued to increase;

(3) the SFRS Board had agreed that from 1st July 2023, SFRS would stop attending automatic fire activations to commercial business and workplace premises unless a fire had been confirmed;

(4) the change would not apply to sleeping premises, such as hospitals, care homes, hotels or domestic dwellings who would still receive the full pre-determined attendance;

(5) SFRS control operators would undertake call challenge to establish the type and circumstance of activation to reach an informed decision to mobilise appliances or not and that alarm receiving centres would be encouraged to implement a similar arrangement prior to passing to SFRS operations control; and

(6) SFRS had no legislative requirement to attend premises in response to an activation of a fire alarm to investigate the cause, the responsibility rested with the duty holder of the premises.

After consideration, the Partnership noted

(a) the presentation; and

(b) that SFRS would link in with the properties highlighted by Councillor Mooney, in relation to them being of greater risk due to those with disabilities working or attending the premises.

Police Scotland - Local Policing Plan 2020-23 – Performance for Year 3, Quarter 3 noted.

7 There was submitted a report by Chief Superintendent Mark Sutherland, Police Scotland, providing an overview of the current performance of Police Scotland for the period Q3 2022/23, from 1st October to 31st December 2022,

(1) highlighting the continued drive forward with its Public Health Approach to policing, which involved working closely with partners to support vulnerable members of communities;

(2) detailing some of the work being undertaken in relation to protecting vulnerable people, events, crime and serious and organised crime;

(3) intimating that of the 626 complaints received between October and December 2022, 278 were resolved by explanation, 59 were criminal, 146 were non-criminal and the remainder had been abandoned; and

(4) highlighting the work that had taken place around the delivery of Hate Crime Awareness Week and the annual 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence campaign.

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) noted that

(i) further information in relation to the small rise in incivility, generally seen when a police use of force has been required, would be brought back to the next meeting;

(ii) Superintendent David Reid would share further information with Councillor Bruce in relation to coercive and controlling behaviour; and

(iii) a presentation from 'Go Safe Glasgow' would be submitted to the next meeting; and

(b) agreed that a fuller breakdown of hate crime statistics should be included in future quarterly updates.

Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership - Update noted - Instruction to Chair.

8 There was submitted a report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability regarding the work of the Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership (GVAWP), highlighting

(1) that GVAWP would now also report to the Environment and Liveable Neighbourhoods City Policy Committee;

(2) the work of the WAIR Group which was the only group of its kind in the UK and responded to the needs of women who were subject to immigration barriers;

(3) how the current increase in the cost of living had impacted on women who lived with or experienced any form of gender based abuse;

(4) how the delay in access to justice had impacted and increased risks for women and their children;

(5) that the Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) had been established in all 32 Local Authorities in Scotland, however funding in Glasgow would come to an end on 31st March 2023; and

(6) the concern GVAWP had around the use of restorative justice practices within the area of domestic abuse and sexual violence.

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) noted

(i) the report; and

(ii) that a joint position statement would be drafted from GVAWP and Community Justice Glasgow partners in relation to the use of restorative justice in relation to domestic abuse and sexual violence; and

(b) agreed that a sustainable funding model for MARAC had to be found; and

(c) instructed the Chair of this Partnership to write to the Chair of the City Administration Committee to seek the appropriate route for engagement to ensure future funding for MARAC.

Safe Partnership visit to Police Scotland noted.

9 There was heard a verbal update by Chief Superintendent Mark Sutherland, Police Scotland regarding the Partnership's forthcoming visit to Helen Street Police Station on Friday 24th March 2023.

After consideration, the Partnership noted that

(1) the confirmed agenda for the visit had been circulated to the Partnership and would cover the call centre trial that had been discussed at the previous meeting;

(2) the visit would start at 10am on Friday 24th March 2023, at Helen Street Police Station, Govan with all members encouraged to attend; and

(3) a date for a visit to Scottish Fire and Rescue Service would be circulated to members once confirmed.

Future meeting dates noted.

10 The Partnership noted the following meeting dates:-

8th June 2023;
24th August 2023; and
23rd November 2023.

Chair's closing remarks.

11 At the close of business, Bailie McCabe expressed his gratitude for all of the hard work undertaken by both the Glasgow Humane Society, who provided a vital, lifesaving service on and around Glasgow's waterways and had been doing so for

over 230 years, and to Duncan and Margaret Spiers who had been tirelessly campaigning for water safety following the death of their son, Christopher, in the River Clyde in 2016 and as a result had ensured that, in his memory, hundreds of distinctively coloured ropes had been added to lifebelts up and down the River Clyde.