

CORPORATE POLICY AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

27 SEPTEMBER 2012

POLICE AND FIRE REFORM – OCE/12/018

1. The Committee had before it a report by the Chief Executive which provided an update on the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 and detailed the responsibilities placed on local authorities by the Act. The report advised that Council would be requested at its meeting on 10 October 2012 to revise the Orders of Reference of the Corporate Policy and Performance Committee to provide it with the necessary powers to discharge the Council's responsibilities in relation to the Scottish Police Authority, the Police Service of Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

The report recommended:-

That the Committee:

- (a) notes that Council will be requested at its meeting on 10 October to revise the Orders of Reference of the Corporate Policy and Performance Committee to provide it with the necessary powers to discharge on behalf of the Council its responsibilities in relation to the Scottish Police Authority, the Police Service of Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service;
- (b) agrees, subject to the decision of Council, that briefing sessions on police and fire matters be arranged for members of the Committee during late October and early November ahead of reports relating to Police and Fire Reform being brought to Committee for consideration at its meeting on 29 November 2012;
- (c) agrees, subject to the decision of Council, that the arrangements for discharging the Council's responsibilities in relation to the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 should be kept under review as the Council's relationship with the Scottish Police Authority, the Police Service of Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service develops.

At this juncture, Councillor Greig proposed an addendum to the recommendations, namely recommendation (d), as follows:-

"In order to action recommendations (a) to (c), to recommend to Council the establishment of a working group comprising the Aberdeen City Council members of Grampian Joint Police Board and Grampian Fire and Rescue Board – with their existing substantive and substitute member arrangements – which will be set up to deal with questions on transition under the police and fire legislation. The purpose of the Working Group is to formulate recommendations for the Council in this new area of Council business and so that the Council can effectively

identify, address and tackle the policing, fire safety and public safety priorities and needs of the people of Aberdeen. The business of the Working Group will include committee orders of reference, training and resource requirements, any other issue for discharging the Council's statutory responsibilities. The working group will seek assistance from the offices of the Clerks of both Boards, Grampian Fire and Rescue Service, Grampian Police and relevant Council officials. The working group will operate at least until April 2013 and will report back to Council, Corporate Policy and Performance Committee and elsewhere as and when required."

The Committee resolved:-

to recommend to Council approval of recommendations (a) to (c) contained in the report, along with the additional recommendation (d) listed above.

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