

Minute of the Shetland Community Safety & Resilience Board
Wednesday 15th May 2014
Council Chambers

Present: Cllr Alastair Cooper (**Chair**)
Cllr Allison Duncan (**Vice-Chair**)
Cllr Gary Cleaver
Cllr Michael Stout
Cllr Frank Robertson
Cllr Jonathon Wills
C/Insp Eddie Graham
Ingrid Gall – Emergency Planning and Resilience Officer, SIC
Jan Riise – Exec. Manager, Governance & Law, SIC
Mark Boden – Chief Executive, SIC
Dr Sarah Taylor – Director of Public Health, NHS Shetland
Andy Fuller – Scottish Ambulance Service
Peter Smith – Scottish Ambulance Service
Phillip Dinsdale – SEPA
Mark Loynd – Group Manager, Response & Resilience, SFRS
Billy Wilson – SFRS

In attendance: Sara Fox - Safety and Risk, SIC (**Minutes**)
Billy Mycock – Anti-social Behaviour Officer, SIC
Denise Morgan – Exec. Manager Criminal Justice SW, SIC
Michael Foxley, SFRS Board Member, Highlands & Island
Fiona Johnson – Health & Safety Manager, SIC

Apologies: Brian Barbour – Scottish Police Authority
Ian Ross – SEPA
Neville Davis – MCA
Ralph Roberts – NHS
Sandra Pearson – Team Leader, Safety & Risk, SIC
Julian Innes – Police Scotland
Cllr Mark Burgess

1. Welcome & Apologies

Cllr Cooper opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. Chief Superintendent Julian Innes had planned to attend the meeting but had forwarded his apologies. The Board was advised of a change in running order of the meeting – Agenda Item 8 would be first and then an additional item from Rachel of Highlands and Islands Enterprise would follow, at which point the agenda would be picked up again.

Northern Community Justice Authority

8. Community Justice Consultation

Denise Morgan updated the Board on the next stage of the Redesigning Community Justice Consultation. She advised that the Scottish Government has announced its response to the Redesign of Community Justice consultation and their decision as to the future direction of the delivery of Community Justice. The new model sees Community Planning Partnerships being

responsible for strategy, delivery and commissioning of community justice services, in effect taking over from the role of Community Justice Authorities. This will include all services linked to addressing criminal behaviour and not just criminal justice social work.

The new model also proposes the creation of a national body to provide professional strategic leadership for the sector; a focus on collaboration; and a mechanism, reflecting the national and local demographic responsibilities, to afford discussion and agreements as necessary, on aspects of mutual concern.

It will be the responsibility of CPPs to produce a strategic plan on how local community justice services will meet local and national outcomes and it suggested that a local partnership is created to assist with this process.

We are now in the next stage of the process with further consultation largely around the form and functions of the national body and other related matters. As this largely affects CPPs it was agreed to start the consultation with the Shetland Partnership, as it needs to consider the implications of the proposed changes, develop thinking in terms of where community justice will sit within our structures and commence a planning process for the transition to the new model.

A meeting with officers of the Shetland Partnership is due to be held on 29.5.14 and a draft response produced.

Denise also advised that she had spoken with Billy Mycock in relation to Action Point 3.5 and the Anti Social Behaviour Working Group felt that their remit could not be extended to cover other areas of business. They also felt that if anti social behaviour were to be consumed within another group, the focus of their work would not be prioritised.

Jan asked in terms of setting up the new partnership, is the feeling that the CSB is the right place for the strategic lead to sit - a sub group could report into this. Denise commented that each local authority will decide regarding the sub group reporting up.

Michael Foxley joined the meeting.

Highlands & Islands Enterprise

Rachel advised the Board she had been tasked by the Shetland Partnership Board to take forward outcomes from the Shetland Community Plan. The main outcome to be achieved during time scale of plan is to attract people to come and live in Shetland. From the initial consultation and meeting with the community a small working group has been put together to take the plan forward and the group were presented with questions.

Rachel put the question to the board for discussion: What makes Shetland a particularly attractive place to live, work, study and invest?

The board discussed this issue and the following points were made:

- Shetland is has a beautiful natural environment
- Low crime
- Safe
- Low unemployment

- Perception of affluent area
- Strong sense of community
- Safe place to bring up children
- High quality education
- Good NHS service
- Clean environment
- Lots of opportunities
- Inclusive, no secular activities
- Community has a “can do” attitude
- Strong musical links
- Cultural activities
- Entrepreneurial
- Unique place
- Good quality public services
- Good quality care for older people

Rachel commented that the NHS is looking to attract doctors to Shetland and asked if it is easy to attract professionals to Shetland.

Rachel then asked what makes Shetland a less attractive place to live and if these less attractive qualities can be overcome. The group discussed this and the following points were raised:

- Poor transport links – external and internal

Cllr Cooper commented on the evidence of transport costs from/within Orkney and the Western Isles as an example, asking how we can bring equality into access to the Islands. There is a disincentive to going on holiday due to the higher cost of travelling to the mainland. Cllr Stout advised this is being actively pursued. Cllr Cooper also commented on the issues of an Unst resident working on the mainland, there are empty houses in Unst as people cannot afford to live there or consider moving there due to the expense involved in getting to work.

- Cost of living
- Housing

The group discussed the lack of housing availability in Shetland

- Loss of family links

The group discussed the high costs of relatives visiting Shetland and difficulties contained in keeping in regular contact with family members due to costs. This creates isolation and a lack of framework support. Also there is the wider issue of other members of the family having career aspirations – they may find it difficult to find work specific to their skills, especially in more professional positions.

- Substance misuse

Cllr Duncan commented that, although Shetland has a low crime rate we do have a serious drug issue. The group discussed education and early intervention; the active services in Shetland such as the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership and that most people in the UK would not have the perception that Drugs are in issue in Shetland. The bigger problem lies around alcohol as most visitors to Shetland do comment on the amount of drinking that goes on and its social impact.

Cllr Cooper summarised that the main disincentives to moving to Shetland are transport links and housing availability. Shetland needs a larger pool of skilled workers and given the low level of unemployment this can be twice as difficult to recruit. The group discussed the lack of housing in greater detail with Jan commenting that no matter how this issue is approached there is a general lack. Very few houses are being built and this has an impact on the construction industry. Even

though it is relatively cheap to build a property, little is being done to improve the situation for private or social housing. Demand needs to be stimulated, there have been discussions around a proposal for the council to invest where banks will not lend in order to inject finance into the industry and make building your own home more affordable. Cllr Stout commented that considering the high employment rates and the low housing availability we should be trying to encourage people to move here. Rachel pointed out that the economy needs to diversify, Shetland has increased its population in the past and this does increase the viability of the economy. Cllr Cleaver pointed out there is a surprising amount of self-building that goes on in the north Isles but you need to be committed to living in Unst in order to build as the property would never be sold and the money spent recouped. Should we be looking at a longer term strategy to reduce the transport and housing issues before encouraging people to move here? Cllr Cooper referred to issues in recruiting to the Police and Fire Services, an environment needs to be created where we can actively encourage people to take up posts in Shetland. Sarah commented because of high levels of public service and council input, there is little scope for private industry that operates in other parts of the UK in the Health and Social Care sector. How do we encourage good quality businesses that are not necessarily provided by the council? Cllr Cooper agreed, citing pre-school services as an example. The local authority provides affordable child care which leaves little room for private businesses to set up.

Rachel then asked the Board what they thought was the target market for Shetland?

The group discussed the large oil infrastructure in Shetland, the need for entrepreneurs and economically active individuals.

Mark Boden joined the meeting.

2. Previous Minutes & Matters Arising

Cllr Stout pointed out a mistake in the Minutes; the comment about school buses and drop off points on Page 3, Paragraph 8 was made by Cllr Wills. Other than this error the minutes from 26th February were agreed on the motion of Cllr Robertson and seconded by Cllr Duncan.

The action points from the previous meetings minutes were examined and the following points noted:

2.4 Jan confirmed the report has not yet been produced. The main issue is looking at agencies that do not normally provide figures from partner organisations. Most of us can say we are involved in Community Safety at some point in our employment, but we need to be aware of the intervention level in order to determine a baseline and then target resources. Agencies could be asked to provide data on FTE staff engaged in Community Safety activities meeting the agenda of the partnership for 50% of their working week which would give a working figure. Sarah agreed this to be a difficult task and questioned its value, stating for NHS staff this exercise will be meaningless. The necessity for outcomes and issues around staffing and resources is understood but can a meaningful answer be provided that will be worth the amount of work it will entail. Billy commented that he recognised Jan's position; from a Fire Service perspective the aspiration is to increase the number of staff working in Shetland. What are we trying to capture with this exercise? A shift in numbers from the baseline may not necessarily mean there would be a decrease of service or an impact that will be detrimental.

Eddie commented as staffing levels have decreased, the remaining staff have worked harder which is testament to their team work. A short life working group has been set up in recognition of the

strategic value of Shetland. Police Scotland is working hard behind the scenes to attract people to work here.

Cllr Cooper suggested further discussion was required. Engagement was around staffing levels and this has remained a feature at every meeting since this was first brought up. A baseline gives us a starting point and at the point of change when it happens the organisation can then be challenged to reflect on how the economic changes to the organisation has affected the outcomes. This keeps the focus on things that are important – the outcomes. Jan explained he was looking for guidance from the Board towards an assessment of what would be a valuable exercise in order to prevent this item remaining unresolved on the agenda.

Billy made the observation that it is important the Board recognises the Police and SFRS local plans and their responsibility for delivery. There are no plans to set out numbers of staff, only about satisfactory outcomes. A baseline figure for staff is not a matter for Billy as the Responsible Officer as he would be being held accountable for something he has no influence over. Being held to account for something he has no influence over which difficulty arises due to the requirement for accountability. Cllr Wills asked who is accountable as the Board wants to have influence in these decisions. Cllr Cooper suggested Police Scotland and SFRS each have a member present for each meeting who has responsibility for budgeting and staffing etc. It is important in terms of Shetland as a small community multi-tasking and dealing with everything. More attention needs to be paid attention going forward. There is a requirement to understand how many folk we have that can deliver the service in a way that we know the outcomes are achievable. In regard to Fire stations such as Foula and Skerries closing, these outcomes have to be dealt with as a community.

Cllr Wills pointed out that Police and Fire Service staffing levels are than they should be. Eddie responded, advising that the Police have a baseline number for Police Officers under the new operational model with a significant amount of input coming from off island. Shetland has access to all the services based off island, from Domestic Abuse to the Road Policing Unit, providing access to additional specialised resources. While police numbers are down from what they should be they are slowly creeping back up and the support from Inverness must be appreciated.

Michael offered his reassurance to the board, commenting it was important to people the opportunity to have face to face contact with board members on big issues such as control rooms. Jan agreed the important issue is accountability and being challenged at this Board level to be held accountable. Outcomes can be changed at a national level, we can be more aware of recruitment and training issue. The Board needs to be aware of these in order to be able to make an impact on them.

Action Point: Jan, Sarah and Alistair to meet and address the issue of staffing baselines.

6.1 The issue opening of the Fire Training facility to the private sector/partner agencies is ongoing and unlikely to be complete until next year.

7.1 Fiona reported Kate Gabb is in the process setting up short life working group for the Anti Bullying Strategy. Report to the Board will be made at the next meeting.

7.6 Fiona reported Kate Gabb and Jenny Wylie had met with Mark Boden with a view to carrying out an investigation into local issues. A report to the Board will be made at the next meeting.

Cllr Cooper advised Brendan Hall has requested that for the Single Outcome Agreement, all members asked for general comments and review indicators can they please forward any comments to Brendan as soon as possible as he has not received any to date. Also, Brendan has

asked the Board to identify someone to act as strategic group lead; this would normally be Chair or Vice Chair, or a Senior Lead Officer.

Andy reported the Ambulance Service have a new reporting system which aims to improve services. The report gives a brief over view of what the Ambulance Service has been involved in over last 12 months and gives details on new vehicles and facts and figures on the reporting systems.

Cllr Cooper commented there has been a significant increase in incidents and asked why this has gone up. Andy advised there has been nothing specific identified; there has been increase across the whole service, not just Shetland. Work is being done in regard to liaising with the Health Board regarding primary care, hospital care for acute medical admissions and keeping people away from A&E by treating at home where possible. Andy advised that lots of things can influence the numbers and the Ambulance Services normally sees a small increase year on year. Cllr Duncan queried if it is normal to have such a high percentage increase every year, the percentage lies at a 23% increase. Andy confirmed the number of overall incidents has increased from 130 last year to 169 this year.

Cllr Stout asked where we are with Community Responder team. Andy reported he had taken on the development of the scheme and is actively engaging in refresher training for the Unst and Whalsay schemes, and is trying to meet with members of the public for future schemes including Bressay and Fair Isle. Cllr Stout asked for an outline of what the plan is for these areas, including timescales.

Action Point: Andy to provide outline of plan for Community Responder teams in Bressay and Fair Isle

Cllr Cooper commented that the strategic plan was put out just before Christmas with a short time scale for response asking if it could be picked up the consultation period was missed and the plan did not get the justice it deserves.

Andy confirmed he had brought this up with the national executives as it was mentioned in the previous meetings minutes. It has been agreed to take any comments and feed them back as the Ambulance Service is eager to participate in the process.

Cllr Robertson asked for clarification on the methods of engagement with the more remote communities. Andy confirmed the Ambulance Service has engaged with the local Community Councils and visited the outer islands such as Foula, and are in contact with the local health care professionals in the more remote areas.

Jan left the meeting.

Briefing Notes - For Noting:

3.1 Adult Support & Protection Committee

The Board confirmed it had no issues regarding this.

3.2 Antisocial Behaviour Working Group

The Board confirmed it had no issues regarding this, it was noted that it is important the Board receive these briefings.

3.3 Child Protection Committee

Sarah reported that she sits on the CPC and noticed the briefing notes do not contain as much detail compared to the other briefing notes, asking the Board if a higher level of detail is required.

Cllr Cooper confirmed there should be more information as in more headlines but not a massive document; a succinct report that sets out what is going on will suffice as it educates us when discussions are ongoing at a strategic level. Sarah agreed to feed that back.

3.4 Road Safety Advisory Panel

Cllr Stout reported he is meeting tomorrow with Eddie for a press campaign.

3.5 Shetland Alcohol & Drugs Partnership

Sarah reported there has been an interest in new legal highs and work is ongoing in this area. The treatment service is being redesigned to give a more coordinated approach. People on the ground should get the same or better service but there will be staff changes to give greater value for money. The issue of the cost of alcohol abuse to the community was discussed at the last meeting and this will be included in the briefing notes for the next meeting. Cllr Cleaver asked if anywhere in Shetland sells legal highs or if they are purchased over internet or brought into Shetland via the ferry. Eddie advised that legal highs can be sold on the internet then trafficked on to Shetland. Environmental Health have been very quick to find retailers selling them and retailers have then withdrawn them from sale once they have an understanding of the issues, however it is not illegal to sell these products. Sarah advised there is very little information on the long term effects of these substances as the make-up changes frequently to stay ahead of the legality of the product. Nationally legal highs have been reported to have a large range of side effects that can be significantly dangerous. Cllr Duncan asked for any evidence to show synthetic highs are on the increase. Eddie answered that in the last month or so the levels of synthetic highs have decreased but Shetland has seen higher levels of heroin. Sarah reported there has been an increase in legal highs over last 18 months. Those experimenting with substances will take whatever is available. In regards to drug usage in Shetland, if a substance gets harder to get hold of the user will switch to something else, which is different to other areas of the country as separate groups tend to take separate drugs whereas here drug users will take what is available. Sarah concluded advising the Board much of the work being done is educational and aimed at harm minimisation.

3.6 Shetland Domestic Abuse Partnership

The Board confirmed it had no issues regarding this. Eddie gave an update on MARAC, a multi-agency approach to Domestic Abuse that has so far dealt with 23 victims and identified approximately 70 actions in relation to the safety of individuals. MARAC brings together a range of agencies that are all well engaged and focussed on looking for better outcomes, allowing victims to feel as safe as possible and move on. MARAC has become an essential tool for victims of Domestic Abuse and a further report will be brought to the Board later in the year.

3.7 Tolerated & Integrated Shetland

Eddie reported the partnership has been without a Chair since Angus' departure however, a meeting has been set for 30th June to determine who will be the new Chair. Shetland has a diverse community but we have to recognise that we do suffer from hate crimes, human trafficking and honour crimes. This needs to be addressed in this forum to ensure a safe and resilient community. It is hoped the Partnership will be back up and running and well embedded in June. Cllr Cleaver asked about the remit of group and if Sectarianism falls under it, is it classed as a hate crime? Eddie confirmed the Partnership covers all strands of diversity related crimes covering the whole spectrum and there is nothing that shouldn't be on the table.

Emergency Planning & Resilience

4. Resilience Activity

Ingrid presented her report, advising the board that Training has been examined following the helicopter incident last year. It is apparent there are some gaps considering the new Fire and Police reform. Training has been organised commences next month. Multi-agency training is delivered by Scottish Resilience and Development at no cost other than the venue.

There is a list of all Exercises planned for this year at figure 2.2. There is quite a lot of activity involving multi agency teams with the Queen's Baton Relay on 1st July. A training day has been organised to ensure the event has been properly risk assessed and all the different organisations are prepared. The Council is the main organiser of the event throughout Shetland and the intention is to be well prepared.

Legislation requires regular exercises take place at airports, Sullom Voe and the gas plant. These are completed as multi-agency exercises to see how their plans tie in with ours. Cllr Duncan commented that a serious issue regarding Sumburgh airport was highlighted in the media due to the unsuccessful launch of the rescue vessel during the helicopter incident. Cllr Duncan expressed he felt more could have been done quicker and asked if any action could be taken by the Board to expedite the situation. Ingrid confirmed she had been in dialogue with HIA and bathometric measuring of the area is being undertaken. This has been an issue for years but HIA can no longer be seen to be inactive about this. There are issues over first launch site and there will still be times this cannot be used unless breakwaters are built which would have a significant cost. Whatever solution they come up with will not provide one launch area that can be used 100% of the time at all times of year. Cllr Cooper agreed given the location the best they can achieve is partial solutions. Cllr Wills commented HIA need to extend the slipway as soon as possible, or have a trailer suitable for launching from the beach. Cllr Wills suggested registering the Board's concern at the apparent lack of progress. Cllr Cooper called for report on the issue to be brought to the next meeting.

Action point: Ingrid to provide report on HIA progress over launch sites of rescue vessel at Sumburgh Airport

Ingrid continued, advising Shetland Emergency Planning Forum Executive has been meeting for a number years. The SEPFE meets once a year and brings in utilities and transport etc in addition to the emergency services. There will be an increase in the number of meetings to 3 per year due to the increase in resilience activity.

The current helicopter landing site is to be relocated due to the building of the new high school. A site has been proposed between the pitches at Clickamin. The proposal has been through the Roads dept and noise and environmental tests and impact on that have been examined. The planning application is to be submitted next week to ensure the new facility is in place before current facility is lost.

Ingrid drew the Board's attention to Appendix 2, advising of the creation of the North of Scotland Regional Resilience Partnership in 2013 which is attended by Chief Executives. Ingrid advised the local structure will not change.

Ingrid concluded her presentation, advising the Board the responses to the National Contingency Plan for Marine Pollution from Shipping and Offshore Installations has been sent to the MCA. The response was very robust response and left them in doubt as to Shetland's feelings on the document. Cllr Wills called for this to be put to the media. The Board discussed this and agreed that a copy should be sent to Alistair Carmichael and Tavish Scott before being put into the public domain.

Action Point: Ingrid to send response to National Contingency Plan for Marine Pollution to Tavish Scott and Alastair Carmichael

5. Response Capability

Ingrid advised the Board this is difficult to determine as the response capability depends entirely on the incident. The Braer incident was used as an example to enable people to relate to it.

Ingrid drew the Board's attention to Table 2.5 which shows the amount of personnel we can expect from each organisation. Initially there will be a high level of involvement which will be stepped back as the incident and their roles in it diminish.

For the helicopter incident last year, there was a short sharp response with a high level of resources and this then tailed off. Cllr Cooper commented there is lots of activity west of Shetland, if there was a big blow out and there was bad weather this could result in oil coming ashore for a period of months. How do we as a remote community deal with that, we would all here be involved at some point. Ingrid explained personnel would need to be deployed on a rota basis. Cllr Cooper pointed out we are vulnerable as a community and have been lucky so far by only having experienced one significant disaster. Ingrid commented that Internal Audit and Trading Standards do not have a direct impact on staffing and therefore can be redeployed to assist or to audit the effective use of manpower. The first day of the incident is anticipated to require cover for 16 hours then the cover needed will consist of 8 hour days. Cllr Cleaver stated he fully appreciates the major concern over oilfields west of Shetland relating to environmental incidents but referring to the training exercises, they appear to be aimed at large pollution incidents or transport related incidents at airports and ferry terminals. Cllr Cleaver asked if there has been work done out with these exercises for modelling responsiveness for more prosaic but serious incidents in remote areas. Ingrid confirmed other incidents such as a coach crash in a remote area have been tested and recognised in the risk register. The exercises stated are the list for this year and a coach crash with non-English speaking persons has been covered in the past and will be again as it is part of a rolling programme. Endless arrays of scenarios and risks are looked at and reviewed regularly.

Police Scotland

6. Performance Against Local Policing Plan 2014-2017

Eddie presented the year-end report; advising the Board it could be subject to slight variation as the Scottish Government is still to sign off on the figures but in the main they are as accurate as they can be. Crimes of violence are down from 22 to 9. There has been one attempted murder this year which was the incident in Brae. Serious assaults are significant incidents for the Police and to tackle this visits to licensed premises have been undertaken as this is where serious assaults most frequently occur. Petty assaults have gone down dramatically from 201 to 111. Stop and searches show an increase in positive detections, reflecting the Police's action towards ensuring officers are searching the right people at right time. These searches have been positive for drugs, stolen property, weapons and alcohol.

The number of complaints for disorder have halved from 2013 to 2014. These areas of business have been targeted through Operation Notebook, involving working closely with the Local Authority including ASB Coordinator Billy Mycock, Hjaltsland and SIC Housing Department and proactively dealing with calls that come in on a daily basis regarding noise levels. Any individual who is the subject of 3 or more calls regarding excessive noise within 1 month will receive letter, if the problem continues they are contacted by a Sergeant and Billy Mycock. If the situation continues the individual is called in and warned. Ultimately the perpetrator may lose their tenancy if they refuse to comply. The Police have been taken a proactive approach to reducing noise and have been particularly successful in this area.

With regard to Domestic Abuse, the DAU in Inverness assist with the high end cases. The Police are committed to detect as many cases as possible and prosecute as many perpetrators as possible. For Domestic bail offenses, for every person that goes to court as the accused the Police contact the victim within 24 hours and check the perpetrator hasn't taken up residence in order to keep the victim as safe as possible.

Hate crime detection rates sit at 83.3%. Drugs crimes have seen a slight decline in relation to supply and production. Individuals now carry less on their person equating to only personal amounts, there has been significant success over recent months in this area.

Theft by house breaking has seen some decrease with detection rates at 64%, the difference in figures from the previous year can be explained as there can be incidents taking place during one year that are detected the following year. Vandalism has reduced from 147 to 105, with far fewer victims however, this is a difficult offence to detect.

Crimes of indecency have reduced and although the detection rates for sexual offence figures reflect a decrease, there can be a time lapse while waiting for results to come back. Again, sexual offences can be reported one year but detected the next.

Road Traffic Casualty statistics show a reduction in the amount of people slightly injured, there has been proactive work ongoing with road safety. Dangerous driving figures show a slight increase, as does driving without a seatbelt and driving without insurance.

There have been 13 complaints made against Police engagement and although these figures look quite high, it needs to be understood that one complaint can have 5 or 6 sub-complaints contained within it.

A breakdown of activity was done for each council ward looking at the amount of activity in relation to the number of calls, the number of police in attendance to incidents and the number of patrols.

Eddie referred to the Performance against Local Policing plan, stating that as the figures are small they are not truly reflective though they are striving to remain in the green zone. Regarding Priority 1 - Road Safety; there has been significant activity around schools to tackle speeding. A campaign ran from 21st to 25th April involving officers being deployed outside schools within 20 mph zones and 5 of the speeding offenses relate to this campaign. There has been 4 detected drink/drug driving offenses since April and the figure to date now sits at 8 which is a significant increase that is disappointing, however, part of the issue surrounds the sheer volume of people in the area and traffic on the roads due to the transient work force and some of these incidents can be attributed to that workforce. The Road Policing Unit was in Shetland from 9th to 13th April utilising a marked vehicle, their next visit will be in an unmarked vehicle. This was a purposeful move that enabled the local community to be aware the police were involved in an operation. There may be an increase in offences relating to road safety after the next operation with the unmarked vehicle.

Eddie continued onto Priority 2 – the supply, abuse and misuse of drugs. Stop and searches have reached 30 since 1st April and there have been a significant number of seizures since that date. An offender was recently sentenced to 4 years in prison for supplying heroin and there are another 2 cases in the process. As a result of a joint operation with the Police, Road Policing Unit and the Dogs against Drugs an individual was detected with a significant amount of drugs in the region of

£13,000. The automatic number plate recognition system is in place to alert the Police to any suspicious vehicles or drink drivers coming off the ferry.

In regard to Priority 3 - Protecting People, MARAC a multi agency committee has been set up that focuses on Domestic Abuse and is running well. The target detection rate for Domestic Abuse is 80% and they are slightly down on this figure at present though there are 5 Domestic Abuse cases currently under investigation.

There has been one hate crime committed one since 1st April with work ongoing within schools aimed at educating children on the issue. Regarding anti social behaviour, 201 licensed premises checks have been completed since 1st April and during 2013-14 approx 2800 licensed premises checks were undertaken. Figures for Breach of the peace are slightly down with petty assaults worthy of note as some of these assaults took place in the premises while officers were present. These crimes are committed by a combination of both locals and transient workers and the Police are putting out the clear message that this behaviour will not be tolerated.

Eddie summarised that there has been a proactive approach in relation to noise, but the big issue that remains for the Police is drugs with drugs operations well embedded. A concern is starting to emerge over the purity of heroin that recently came into Shetland. The Queens Baton Relay will have a significant impact for the Police as is the Commonwealth games for Scotland. There has been a significant drafting-in of staff to cover the Games but Shetland will keep its staffing levels as is.

Cllr Duncan asked how many personnel the Police were currently down by. Eddie advised Shetland was currently 7 officers light but an officer was arriving off the boat this morning and 2 probationary officers are arriving on 12th July. Secondments are being offered with an officer coming from Edinburgh for a 6 month secondment to Brae. Another officer is also due to come when housing becomes available. From the wider Police Scotland family, a few officers have indicated they are more than willing to come to work in Shetland, however housing is an issue Cllr Wills left the meeting.

Cllr Duncan asked about the use of seatbelts and of mobile phones while driving. Eddie responded, advising that the Roads Policing Unit commented on the amount of drivers in Shetland who wear their seat belts and came to the conclusion that as there is a higher amount of new cars in Shetland, newer cars tend to have a warning light as standard if you are not utilising your seatbelt and this is likely to be the cause of such a high level of seat belt wearing. Drivers using their mobile phones while driving are more difficult to deal with as the driver will see you coming and drop the phone. There will be an unmarked car deployed in order to detect mobile phone offenses, all drivers have a responsibility to drive in a safe manner.

Scottish Fire & Rescue Service

7. Performance against the Interim Fire & Rescue Plan for Shetland; and Development of the 2014-17 Fire & Rescue Local Plan for Shetland

Billy presented his report to the Board, and paid tribute to the support given by Mark and the team in Shetland in particular the work being done on the agenda of prevention is to be admired. Due to small statistical base any KPI's reflected as red or green do not give cause for excitement as very small changes in numbers can affect these figures, with the important aspect being the overall outcomes. There has been significant focus on vulnerable people and the percentage of safety visits delivered in high risk households is also to be admired.

Cllr Duncan requested an update on the situation in Fetlar, Mark confirmed the recruitment campaign is still ongoing with 3 applicants all failing the fitness standards. These applicants are not out of the recruitment process as yet but also they are not fully engaged. Mark will follow up to determine their intentions and attempt to develop their fitness. The Fetlar station remains understaffed and off the run.

Cllr Duncan asked if the Fire Training facility at Sumburgh is currently working to full capacity. Mark confirmed that it is, with both Orkney and Shetland staff utilising the facility however there have been occasional cancellations.

Cllr Stout asked if there were any thoughts on the increase in false alarms. Billy advised that the key point represented by the statistics is that although there is an overall increase there has been a reduction in malicious calls so this increase can be seen as a result of the positive work done to improve fire alarm systems in vulnerable households with automatic call systems and this does impact in a spike in calls. Billy recognises there is work to be done and if these calls were of a malicious nature or occurring in business premises there would be cause for concern, however in this case there is not.

Cllr Cooper expressed his concern over the recruitment issues not improving, particularly in Brae. Employment opportunities in the area are reducing with the loss of teaching staff and a reduction in staff at the Garage as examples, with less people working in the area there are fewer potential retained fire fighters available. Mark confirmed they were working hard to address recruitment issues in Brae and a campaign is running which includes visiting households in vicinity to raise awareness of the ongoing recruitment. Mark agreed there are fewer people whose employment base is in Brae and to address this the Hillswick unit has been approached and invited to assist, requesting that those who work in Brae can be released by their employers for incidents in the Brae area in addition to incidents in Hillswick. There are recruits in the system for the Brae station but the applications are in the early stages. Cllr Cooper called for the community to be rallied and told in no uncertain terms they either staff the station or lose it. Billy responded that Mark and Angus made this point very clear during the community consultation on the local Fire and Policing plans, and that councils need assistance to encourage and identify recruits. Michael agreed the biggest threat to retained fire stations is the lack of fire fighters and the Council needs to maximise that message. As a board and across the management team how do we make process quicker and easier? Other areas are trying to recruit female fire fighters as generally women tend to be based in their local community rather than work elsewhere. There are currently 17 different steps in the recruitment process involving 62 separate interactions with the candidate. Issues arise from recruits not engaging in the process timeously. This process has never been tracked in order to assess how long it should take and Mark is undertaking work in this area.

Cllr Cooper left the meeting.

Cllr Stout commented this issue centres on morality. The automatic assumption of the previous generation was that volunteering to assist your local community was the thing that you did. Due to the profession there is now a level of bureaucracy involved as opposed to just turn up and sign up. Billy appreciated this observation but iterated that times had to change; communities have changed. People need to come forward or the service will not be able to be delivered.

Cllr Duncan asked if the process of 17 stages of recruitment can be reduced, and if it would be helpful if a letter was sent to all clerks of the various Community Councils where they are vulnerable in order for it can be discussed and highlighted before being disseminated into the community. Billy agreed this was a good suggestion and he will take this forward. Cllr Stout

commented that practically a letter would do very little but if they took a personal approach and attended a Community Council meeting, this may be of higher impact. Mark agreed to take this on board.

Mark explained the former Highlands & Islands rescue service were never able to publish a plan which covered the context of Shetland, however the new Fire and Rescue local plan addresses the role of SFRS in the community. As part of the consultation process, the two important objectives that were set out were local engagement and Community Planning. Legislation demands the local authority agrees the plan and the SFTS are seeking the Board's agreement for this plan. Cllr Duncan advised this was to be carried forward to next meeting but continue with the current plans and agreement will be confirmed at next meeting. Billy confirmed he was happy that this action will not prevent the plan going forward, though it would be helpful to know before next meeting what the process is to get this agreed by the council. Michael commented it would be helpful if the process could be expedited as the key purpose is to get strong local engagement. Work streams are underway within SFRS for retained stations and the location of stations within the service. The local plan is a basis for the community to link into this and what we want to see in the next plan. Billy agreed to contact Jan in order to gain an understanding of the mechanism of agreeing the plan. All remaining members of the Board confirmed their agreement of the plan. Cllr Duncan endorsed its sentiments but commented he would have liked to see more members of the public in attendance to the public consultation meetings and paid tribute to the hard work put into those meetings by Billy and his team.

Action Point: Billy to contact Jan regarding agreement of SFRS Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Shetland

AOCB

Ingrid reported she had emailed the Coastguard regarding the exercise over Burra and Trondra. The local community voiced their concern over an exercise that took place at 10pm causing them to presume there had been an incident involving a fishing vessel. The Community Council feels they should be informed of situations like this in order to deter willing volunteers attempting to get involved. Ingrid advised she will forward a response once communications have been received from the coast guard

Agreed Actions

Action No.	Action	Responsible Officer	Deadline
2.4	Identify the staffing baselines for agencies on the Board. Ongoing.	Alastair/Jan/Sarah	14.8.14
3.6	Organise a meeting (inviting Vaila) to look at how we capture the whole picture of what agencies are doing in relation to community safety and resilience. Ongoing.	Sandra	14.8.14
5.1	Report on the H&I Community Safety Forum framework. Ongoing.	Alastair	27.11.13
6.1	Look into the governance arrangements needed to enable the private sector or partner agencies to take a space on the fire course at Sumburgh	Billy	12.2.15
7.1	Provide a progress report on the Anti-Bullying Strategy at the next Board meeting	Fiona	14.8.14
7.4	Write to Alistair Carmichael expressing the Board's concerns about the financial compensation arrangements in relation	Cllr Wills, Mark Boden,	15.5.14

	to the National Contingency Plan. Ongoing.	Ingrid & Jan	
7.6	Produce a full report on human trafficking for a future Board meeting	Mark Boden/ Community Safety Officer	13.11.14
8.1	Provide outline plan and timescales for Bressay & Fair Isle Community Responder team	Andy Fuller	14.8.14
8.2	Provide report on HIA progress over launch sites for rescue vessel at Sumburgh Airport	Ingrid Gall	14.8.14
8.3	Send response to National Contingency Plan for Marine Pollution to Tavish Scott and Alistair Carmichael. Links to 7.4	Cllr Wills, Mark Boden, Ingrid & Jan	14.8.14
8.4	Liaise with Jan re: agreement of SFRS Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Shetland	Billy	14.8.14

Meetings 2014/2015

Thursday 14th August 2014 – 2pm – Council Chamber, Town Hall

Thursday 13th November 2014 – 2pm – Council Chamber, Town Hall

Thursday 12th February 2015 – 2pm – Council Chamber, Town Hall