

MINUTE

B – Public

**Special Shetland Islands Council
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick
Monday 17 December 2012 at 10.00am**

Present:

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|------------|-------------|
| M Bell | P Campbell |
| G Cleaver | S Coutts |
| B Fox | R Henderson |
| A Manson | D Ratter |
| G Robinson | D Sandison |
| C Smith | G Smith |
| T Smith | M Stout |
| J Wills | A Wishart |
| V Wishart | |

Apologies:

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| M Burgess | A Cooper |
| A Duncan | F Robertson |
| A Westlake | |

In Attendance (Officers):

M Boden, Chief Executive
C Ferguson, Director of Corporate Services
N Grant, Director of Development Services
M Craigie, Executive Manager – Transport Planning
J Riise, Executive Manager – Governance and Law
S Pearson, Team Leader – Safety and Risk
C Anderson, Senior Communications Officer
I Gall, Emergency Planning and Resilience Officer
J Wylie, Community Safety Officer
L Adamson, Committee Officer

Also In Attendance:

A MacInnes, Chief Inspector, Northern Constabulary
J MacDonald, Area Manager, Highlands and Islands Fire and Rescue Service

Chair:

Mr M Bell, Convener of the Council, presided.

Circular:

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

The Convener ruled that due to special circumstances, namely that due to the timescales involved, the following item of business would be considered at this meeting as a matter of urgency in terms of paragraph 3.2.2 of the Council's Standing Orders for Meetings.

Agenda Item 2 – Inter Island Air Services Tender Report

Declarations of Interest

Mr Wishart declared an interest in Item 2 “Inter Island Air Services Tender Report”, and confirmed that he would leave the Chamber during the discussion.

117/12 **Community Safety and Resilience Board – Pathfinder Project**

The Council considered a joint report by the Team Leader – Safety and Risk and the Area Commander – Northern Constabulary (Report No: GL-103-12-F), which provided up-to-date information regarding the progress of the Pathfinder Project and sought approval for the formation of the Community Safety and Resilience Board (CS&RB) as a multi-agency board delivering on the “Safer” strand of the Shetland Performance Framework and the Single Outcome Agreement.

In introducing the report, the Team Leader – Safety and Risk referred Members to the proposed membership of the CS&RB outlined in Appendix 1, Section 2.1 (1st bullet point) which she advised should be changed to read, “7 Shetland Islands Council Members (1 from each ward). The Chairperson of the Community Safety & Resilience Board will be an elected Member.” She said that a Council Member from each Ward area would ensure all communities are involved, and she advised on the proposal for the Council membership to include Mr A Cooper and Mr A Duncan, who are members of the Police and Fire Boards, to ensure continuity from these Board meetings to the CS&RB.

Chief Inspector A MacInnes, Northern Constabulary, gave a short presentation which informed of the Police and Fire Service’s requirement to participate in local scrutiny and engagement. During the presentation he advised on the requirement for the Police to develop an overall Police Plan and individual Police Plans for each of the Ward areas. He said that from a police perspective he welcomed the proposal that a Council Member was to be appointed from each Ward area, which would assist in developing the Ward plans, however he acknowledged that the Council representation on the CP&RB would be a decision of the Council.

During his presentation, J MacDonald, Area Manager, H&IFRS advised that the focus of the Fire and Rescue Service, as it moves to a single Fire and Rescue Service, is on local engagement, accountability and working closely with communities, with the key strategic aims of prevention, people, response and resource. He reported that the Fire and Rescue Service Framework would provide the objectives for the single service moving forward.

The Convener thanked Chief Inspector MacInnes and Mr J MacDonald for their presentations.

During the discussion that followed, Members questioned the legal status of the CS&RB and how the CS&RB would mesh with the plethora of other committees and groups. A comment was made on the lack of plain English in terms of the Scottish Government initiatives, such as the word “resilience”, and also on the £100m debt that the new single Police Force is expected to take forward.

Chief Inspector MacInnes explained that the Scottish Government has tasked each Local Authority to develop its own local scrutiny and engagement. The role of the CS&RB was not to manage the Scottish Police and Fire Service, but to scrutinise the local Fire and Police Services, which will take a wider view to include emergency planning and other agencies, and assist the local Police and Fire Services to develop their plans and to provide assistance as these plans progress. He explained that each Local Authority has to decide the most appropriate method to take forward their own local scrutiny and engagement, and he said that different Local Authorities have developed various models. He added that an objective of forming a CS&RB in Shetland, involving all the key agencies, was that fewer meetings would be required.

The Executive Manager – Governance and Law advised that the legislation that underpins community planning as a function of Local Government has been in place for 10 years, and the Community Planning Governance Arrangements had been approved by this Council. In regards to the proposed remit of the CS&RB, the Executive Manager – Governance and Law said that provision was built into the documents that permitted future reviews of these arrangements to ensure its ongoing effectiveness.

In response to a suggestion that an alternative for Shetland would be to strengthen the existing Community Safety Partnership, it was explained that the CS&RB would include the Community Safety Partnership, and through partnership working with other key agencies would deliver on the objectives of the 'safer' strand of the Shetland Performance Framework.

In referring to Appendix 1, Mr Fox noted that the proposed membership of the CS&RB did not include any representation from the Voluntary Sector. Following a brief discussion, Chief Inspector MacInnes confirmed that a representative from the Voluntary Sector could be included within the membership.

Some discussion took place on the proposed name of the CS&RB, and in order to give a better understanding of the purpose of the Board it was suggested that the word 'resilience' should be removed. It was confirmed however, that the name and membership of the Board could be reviewed at a later stage.

In response to questions it was explained that the membership of the CS&RB, as set out in Appendix 1, included all the agencies in the Emergency Planning Forum and the Community Safety Partnership, and therefore the formation of the CS&RB would ensure combined involvement at a strategic level and provide an increased level of local scrutiny. It was advised that each agency and Council Member would have the same status at these meetings and as the CS&RB had no decision-making powers, progress would be reported back to each agency through their respective representative, and decisions would be reported to the Council, as well as the Shetland Partnership.

During the discussion, reference was made to the aspiration that the CS&RB would be inclusive of the Shetland community, however it was noted that the proposed membership of the CS&RB included majority representation from the Council.

Some discussion took place on whether Community Councils could be represented on the CS&RD to provide participation at a strategic level. The Executive Manager – Governance and Law referred to the earlier decision to include a representative from the Voluntary Sector onto the CS&RB, and said that with Voluntary Action Shetland providing the secretariat for the Association of Shetland Community Councils (ASCC), an option would be that the ASCC could appoint one person to represent the Community Councils onto the CS&RB. The Executive Manager – Governance and Law suggested that this matter could be considered further at the first meeting of the CS&RD.

Dr Wills moved that the Council approve the recommendations in the report, but for the Board to be named the "Community Safety Board". He confirmed that his motion included the addition of a representative from the voluntary sector to the membership of the Board. Mr Ratter seconded.

Following a call for nominations from each Ward area to represent their respective communities on the Community Safety Board, the following appointments were made:

- Mr A Cooper, Shetland North
- Mr A Duncan, Shetland South
- Dr J Wills, Lerwick South
- Mr M Stout, Lerwick North
- Mr M Burgess, Shetland Central (In absentia)
- Mr F Robertson, Shetland West (In absentia)
- Mr G Cleaver, North Isles

Decision:

The Council **RESOLVED** to:

- i) Approve the structure and membership of the Community Safety Board, as detailed in the proposed Terms of Reference with the addition of a representative from the Voluntary Sector;
- ii) Approve the Governance arrangements;
- iii) Approve the Reporting Structure; and
- iv) Appoint the following elected Members to represent their respective communities on the Board:

- Mr A Cooper, Shetland North
- Mr A Duncan, Shetland South
- Dr J Wills, Lerwick South
- Mr M Stout, Lerwick North
- Mr M Burgess, Shetland Central (In absentia)
- Mr F Robertson, Shetland West (In absentia)
- Mr G Cleaver, North Isles

The Convener moved that in order to avoid the disclosure of exempt information, the Council resolve to exclude the public in terms of the relevant legislation during consideration of the following item of business. Mr Ratter seconded.

(Mr Wishart left the meeting).

118/12 Inter Island Air Service Tender Report

The Council considered a report by the Executive Manager – Transport Planning which advised on the outcome of the recent tender exercise for Inter Island Air Services and in particular to address the issue of continued air services to Papa Stour and Out Skerries.

(Dr Wills left the meeting).

Following a discussion where the Executive Manager – Transport Planning responded to questions from Members, Mr Henderson moved that the Council approve the recommendations contained in the report. In seconding, Mr T Smith commented that he welcomed the savings achieved at this stage.

Decision:

The Council **RESOLVED** to:

Approve the proposals to award the contract for inter Island Air Services for the period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2016 to Directflight Ltd; and

Approve the proposal to retain air service to Papa Stour and Out Skerries on the basis that withdrawing these services reduces the overall contract cost.

The meeting concluded at 11.35am.

Convener