

Action Notes of Tain & Easter Ross Ward Forum

10th December 2014, Tain Parish Church hall, Tain

1 Attending / Representing

Cllr. Jamie Stone	Highland Council
Ch. Insp. Iain MacLelland	Police Scotland
Insp. Jason Beeston	Police Scotland
Scott Hay	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
John Macdonald	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
David Macdonald	Royal Burgh of Tain Community Council
Derek Loudon	Royal Burgh of Tain Community Council
John Waring	Nigg & Shandwick Community Council
Eveline Waring	Nigg & Shandwick Community Council
Emma Barr	Balintore & Hilton Community Council
Helen Ross	Highland Council

Apologies

Cllr. Alastair Rhind	Highland Council
Cllr. Fiona Robertson	Highland Council

1. Police Scotland – Ch. Insp. Iain MacLelland, Insp. Jason Beeston

There was a presentation by Ch. Insp. Iain MacLelland and Insp. Jason Beeston on Multi Member Ward Policing Plans, including an update on current performance information, followed by discussion.

Main Discussion points

- Traffic speed, especially along the long straight, is the main concern for N&S CC. Noted that traffic survey information indicated that speeding was taking place at peak times. Insp Beeston will highlight this to local officers.
- Tain High Street – noted issues relating to young people at nights had improved but concern was expressed re impact on the High Street and local shops of court attenders and those with them. Insp Beeston will highlight concerns to the Court officers. The importance of prompt reporting of concerns via 101 was emphasised.

2. Scottish Fire and Rescue Service – Scott Hay

There was a Presentation which detailed current priorities and trends and outlined the Highland Local Fire Plan 2014-17 followed by discussion.

Main Discussion points

- 30 – 40% of all calls are false alarms – these are often from larger complexes of buildings, such as shopping centres, hospitals etc .
- Concern was raised re levels of local knowledge of water hydrant locations and the potential impact on effectiveness of response. This had also been a concern raised in October 2013 at a similar ward forum. Noted that details of

hydrant locations in the Nigg area had been provided by the Community Council chair. Of the 22 hydrants only 18 were operational. The community council chair had been given different contacts to follow up for more information re hydrants but had not received any satisfactory response. Mr Hay noted that Scottish Water is responsible for the hydrants but undertook to follow up N&S CC's queries and ensure a response is provided. Mr Hay also noted that attending appliances will always have a supply of water on-board so will always be able to provide a response.

3. Further Questions /Issues

It was noted that:

- The new drink driving limit is now in operation.
- It is important that wood burning stoves are correctly installed. SFRS noted they do monitor trends and also do education work with the industry.
- SFRS will usually tackle chimney fires from below but can use a safe platform if needed and training on working at height is being rolled out.
- There is no proposal to change the retained SFRS units - there is a commitment to front line services
- SFRS – recruitment can be a challenge, especially for cover during 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday when people may be working away.

4. Date of Next meeting

To be confirmed