

THE HIGHLAND AND ISLANDS FIRE BOARD
25 AUGUST 2006
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER'S PUBLIC PERFORMANCE REPORT

Agenda Item	
Report No	

Summary

The Service has a statutory duty to report on our performance. The Chief Fire Officer's Public Performance Report (PPR) is published annually and is the mechanism by which we report our performance for the previous financial year. The PPR is also designed to provide stakeholders with an understanding and insight into the vital work of the Highlands & Islands Fire & Rescue Service.

The Public Performance Report is published annually and provides the Service an opportunity to report our performance for the previous financial year. The performance information in this report shows that overall we continue to improve on our standards of service delivery, reflecting our mature service planning and performance management systems. It also provides a range of policy and service delivery information for all key sectors of the Service.

The PPR reports that the Service has undergone many changes resulting from the modernisation agenda. One of the main changes is our focus on prevention. We have made effective use of wholetime, retained and community response units by undertaking over 3000 home fire safety visits and fitted over 1500 smoke alarms in residential properties in our 4 constituent authority areas.

We are also strengthening our partnership working, targeting those most at risk eg young families, older people and migrant residents.

We continue to develop the Integrated Personal Development System (IPDS) throughout the Service in line with national guidance with the Board selecting a member with the remit of championing learning and development.

We are the first Fire & Rescue Service to have produced a Gaelic Language Plan.

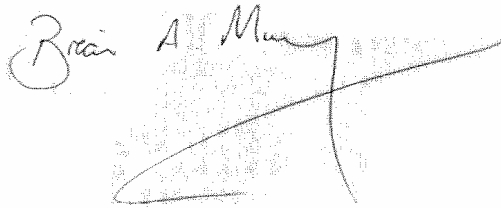
The Service has a challenging task to ensure its premises are adequate to meet the needs of a modern Fire & Rescue Service. To meet this challenge we have endeavoured to have a substantial capital build programme and indeed, in 2005/2006, completed six new builds at Mid Yell, Lochmaddy, Durness, Dunvegan, Lochcarron and Shawbost. Temporary pre-fabricated units were also provided at locations throughout the Service area. Looking ahead to 2006/2007 the challenge to ensure that our premises are fit for purpose remains the main element of our capital programme. New builds will also be undertaken at various locations including Fort William, Beaully and Valtos.

The PPR outlines what we achieved, and is also used to provide information on what requires further improvement.

Based on this performance and service delivery information we will review our activities to ensure continuous improvement.

Recommendation

Members are asked to approve for publication the Chief Fire Officer's Public Performance Report.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian A. Murray". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

Designation: Chief Fire Officer

Date: 10 August 2006