

4. WEST LOTHIAN BONFIRE/FIREWORKS 2021 DEBRIEF

The Board considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the West Lothian Community Safety Partnership providing an overview of the multi-agency debrief following the preventative activities undertaken within the West Lothian area during the Bonfire / Firework Period 2021.

Group Commander Steven Michie introduced himself to the Board having replaced Brian Robertson who had moved on to another role.

The Board were advised that the outcome of the activities and engagement detailed within the report should have been included in the update. Group Commander Michie advised that within the three categories measured there had been 174 deliberate fires for the same period in 2020-21 compared to 134 in 2021-22. This amounted to a 23% reduction and a saving of £80,000 considering each deliberate fire was costed at £2,000.

It was recommended that:

1. SFRS and Community Planning Partners agree on the detail within the report and implement improvements for the 2022 Bonfire Activity period; and
2. the Board consider and make any comment in relation to the report.

Decision

1. To approve the contents of the report; and
2. To note the update advising of a 23% decrease in deliberate fires compared to 2020-21 resulting in a saving of £80,000.