



POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE 21 JUNE 2007

LEGALISED POLICE CELLS VISITING COMMITTEES – STORNOWAY AND LOCHMADDY

Report by Chief Executive

PURPOSE OF REPORT To seek the appointment of three Members to each of the Legalised Police Cells Visiting Committees for Stornoway and Lochmaddy.

COMPETENCE

- 1.1 The Comhairle is under an obligation to appoint Visiting Committees in respect of the legalised police cells in Stornoway and Lochmaddy in terms of the Prison and Young Offenders Institutions (Scotland) Rules 1994 as amended. Costs arising from the Visiting Committees carrying out their function will be made from the Members Services Budget.

SUMMARY

- 2.1 The purpose of Legalised Police Cells Visiting Committees is to comment on the condition and administration of legalised police cells and to hear and investigate complaints made by prisoners. Each Visiting Committee should meet at the Legalised Police Cells in Stornoway or Lochmaddy at least once every three months. In addition, one Member of the Visiting Committee must visit the cells at least once in a month if any prisoners have been detained within the preceding month. The Committees make annual Reports on the state of the legalised cells and their administration to the Scottish Prison Service.

RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 **It is recommended that the Committee appoint three Members to each of the Legalised Police Cells Visiting Committees for Stornoway and Lochmaddy.**

Appendices: Nil

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Background Papers: Prison and Young Offenders Institutions (Scotland) Rules 1994