



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE
AUTHORITY**

**Minutes of the
Dorset Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee
held at 9.30am on Wednesday 29 August 2018 at the
Dorchester Community Fire Station**

Members present: Cllr Kevin Brookes (Chairman); Cllr Richard Biggs; Spencer Flower; Cllr Byron Quayle

Officer attendance: Director of Community Safety, ACFO Jim Mahoney, Area Manager (AM) Craig Baker; Head of Prevention & Protection, AM Seth Why; Group Manager (GM) Richard Coleman; Democratic Services Officer, Mrs Marianne Taylor

Observers: Communities Programme Manager, GM Katie Cornhill; Station Manager (SM), Daniel Perrett

18/20 Election of Chairman

18/20.1 The Director of Community Safety, ACFO Mahoney, opened the meeting and asked Members for their nominations for the role of Chairman. Cllr Kevin Brookes was nominated, seconded and agreed as Chairman

18/20.2 **RESOLVED: Cllr Kevin Brookes be the Chairman of the Dorset Local Performance & Scrutiny Committee.**

18/21 Welcome

18/21.1 The Chairman thanked Members for their confidence in him and welcomed attendees including GM Katie Cornhill and SM Dan Perrett (East Dorset).

18/22 Apologies

18/22.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Rebecca Knox.

- 18/23 Code of Conduct, Declarations of Interest and Notifications of Any Other Business**
- 18/23.1 The Chairman asked the meeting for any disclosures of pecuniary interests under the localism act. There were no disclosures.
- 18/24 Public Questions**
- 18/24.1 There were no members of the public present and no public questions had been received.
- 18/25 Minutes of the Dorset LPS meeting on 18 May 2018**
- 18/25.1 The Chairman asked Members to review and approve the minutes from the last meeting. Members noted that under 'Date of Next Meeting' (item 18/19) the start time of this meeting should state '9.30am'.
- 18/25.2 **RESOLVED: Minutes were approved as an accurate record with subject to a minor amendment to the start time of the forthcoming meeting.**
- 18/26 Action Progress Report**
- 18/26.1 The Democratic Services Officer, Mrs Marianne Taylor, advised Members that since the last meeting all actions had been progressed and one was pending input from various Officers and Members.
- 18/26.2 Mrs Taylor confirmed to Members that four actions had been completed, four closed with one remaining action in progress.
- 18/26.3 **RESOLVED: Members noted the actions.**
- 18/27 Performance monitoring and briefing**
- 18/27.1 AM Baker took Members through Quarter 1's Performance Report for Dorset Local Performance & Scrutiny Committee (Appendix A).
- 18/27.2 The three priorities that AM Baker has responsibility for in his area are:
Priority 1 Help you make safer and healthier choices
Priority 2 Protect you and the environment from harm; and
Priority 3 Be there when you need us.
- 18/27.3 **Priority 1**
AM Craig Baker invited GM Richard Coleman to take Members through the presentation provided, which related to the referenced pages in the Dashboard report Members had previously received. GM Coleman added

that the presentation would focus on the most vulnerable/high risk members of the community and partnership links throughout.

- 18/27.4 Members discussed the statistics within the Dashboard and the presentation. The Director of Community Safety, ACFO Mahoney, provided some background on the procedure used to establish vulnerable and high-risk groups and individuals, using a number of factors such as age, ability and location.
- 18/27.5 The Head of Prevention and Protection AM Seth Why confirmed that the prevention team had been providing smart measures which included higher risk ratings where they were aware of specific information which might be provided by face to face contact or through partner agencies, such as social services, or firefighter observations.
- 18/27.6 ACFO Mahoney advised Members that the Service had target figures for safe and well advisors which allowed for quality visits to take place. ACFO Mahoney confirmed anomalies did occur and that such visits took less time with information updated within Pinpoint (data capture system). Any follow up visits were rated at a lower risk.
- 18/27.7 AM Baker advised Members that Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service (the Service) was reviewing the possibility of becoming an approved hearing assessor which would support complex case management, which may require more input.
- 18/27.8 AM Coleman provided Members with information relating to safety, education and community programmes. He added that youth intervention, aimed at 12 to 17-year-olds, included fire-setter programmes and Safer People and Responsible Communities (SPARC). AM Baker confirmed that a SPARC event was supported by Ansbury, a charity which aims to improve the lives of young people aged 15 to 24. You can find out more here: https://www.ansbury.co.uk/Young_People.html
- 18/27.9 AM Baker and AM Why confirmed that the Service received referrals from schools and other partner agencies.
- 18/27.10 GM Coleman confirmed that road safety education was ongoing and target groups were discussed and included Ministry of Defence (MoD) personnel, drink and drug related driving, close pass (bicycles) and the work of the Road Death Overview Panel (RDOP) adding that three road safety staff were fully qualified in line with National Fire Chiefs Council guidance.
- 18/27.11 AM Baker provided background into the work of RDOP which focussed on the detail of the events that lead to deaths on the roads and contributing factors.
- 18/27.12 **ACTION: AM Seth Why to advise Members of approximate cost per pupil of SPARC course and the variety of referrals, to be brought to next meeting.**

Priority 2

- 18/27.13 GM Coleman provided information relating to local environment, safeguarding and protection from harm. He outlined the safeguarding practice and routes taken for referrals. GM Coleman went on to outline a range of prevention activities that take place.
- 18/27.14 GM Coleman summarised the targets for response to an incident adding further detail about fire safety complaints, post-audits and licensing applications. GM Coleman confirmed that a constant review of operational activities takes place.
- 18/27.15 AM Coleman advised Members about the role of firefighters in heathland fires and other sites of special scientific interest, alongside gathering information about other risk areas like prisons and waste sites. Members discussed the difficulties involved and AM Baker confirmed that such sites had additional hazards.
- 18/27.16 AM Why confirmed that the Service worked with the National Farmers Union (NFU) to garner information about high risk items for salvage and prevention activities. AM Baker provided background into the challenges involved for farmers and firefighters, and Members were assured of the work carried out.
- 18/27.17 GM Coleman provided a case study showing the impact of the pump appliance at a recent Ferndown Common fire.

Priority 3

- 18/27.18 Members were interested to know more about on-call firefighter retention and noted the 40-year service certificate awarded to one firefighter. GM Coleman provided background information to the changes and challenges relating to on-call firefighter retention in the modern world.
- 18/27.19 Members discussed the on-call salary scheme, its flexibility and message to all eligible firefighters. Members who had attended Buddy visits recently advised that this, and training, were common themes on their visits, alongside appliance availability.
- 18/27.20 ACFO Jim Mahoney advised Members that the Strategic Leadership Team would be having an update about the on-call salary scheme and recruitment at their meeting on 3 September.
- 18/27.21 Members were interested to learn that the Service was undergoing a review of its training programme and was instigating a quarterly programme of training and other elements to support improvement in all areas.
- 18/27.22 GM Coleman advised Members that video training packages were used to provide a visual opportunity for new firefighters to watch procedural activity for safe use and storage of equipment, such as breathing apparatus.

- 18/27.23 GM Coleman confirmed that core competence levels were good and that firefighters had a range of competencies that provided for them to attend incidents.
- 18/27.24 Members were interested in the learning outcomes from the Blandford brewery fire, not least of which was how it was cascaded to other parts of the Service. GM Coleman advised that learning also comes from significant events such as the Manchester Arena incident and the associated Kerslake report.
- 18/27.25 **RESOLVED: Members approved performance for the 1st Quarter.**

18/28 LPS Working Group Terms of Reference – nominated deputy

- 18/28.1 ACFO Jim Mahoney advised Members of the working group which had been agreed along with the terms of reference and its purpose, which was to ensure the right balance between the level of detail reported and the ability of Local Performance & Scrutiny (LPS) Committees to appropriately scrutinise, and be assured of, Service performance against key indicators within the three priorities (1, 2 & 3).
- 18/28.2 The Democratic Services Officer, Mrs Taylor advised Members that at the Finance & Governance meeting of 31 July Members agreed that there should be a nominated deputy to cover should the Chairman of any of the LPS Committees not be available to attend the working group meetings.
- 18/28.3 Members discussed the working group's requirements and proposed and agreed Cllr Byron Quayle as the nominated Member to deputise at LPS working group meetings for the Dorset LPS Chairman, Cllr Brookes.
- 18/28.4 **RESOLVED: Cllr Byron Quayle be the nominated substitute to attend the LPS working group if the Chairman was not available.**

18/29 Issues raised by Members (agreed with chairman)

- 18/29.1 There were no issues raised by Members.

18/30 Date of Next Meeting

- 18/30.1 The Chairman confirmed the date of the next Dorset Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee meeting as 6 November 2018 from 9.30am at Dorchester Community Fire Station.

Meeting ended at 11:17hrs

Signed: _____