



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE
AUTHORITY**

Item 22/27

MEETING	Swindon Local Performance & Scrutiny Committee
DATE OF MEETING	31 August 2022
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Performance report for quarter 1
STATUS OF REPORT	For open publication
PURPOSE OF REPORT	For consideration and scrutiny
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	This paper sets out the performance achieved for the first quarter covering the period 1 April to 30 June 2022. The report outlines performance against the key lines of enquiry against the Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) methodology. As Members are aware, there were a number of aspects of the Service’s work in prevention and protection that had been impacted by the national pandemic. Where needed we have delivered using alternative methods to good effect. All statutory responsibilities have continued to be fulfilled and performance in these areas is beginning to return to pre-pandemic figures. There are no significant issues arising from this report.
RISK ASSESSMENT	There are no significant risks arising from this report. Performance remains good with no significant issues to raise with Members.
COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	Performance remains good and there are no significant adverse community issues arising from this report.
BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	None for the purposes of this report
RECOMMENDATION	Members are asked to scrutinise and comment upon performance of the Service period, 1 April to 30 June 2022.

BACKGROUND PAPERS	https://dwfrs.dashboard.cammsgroup.co.uk/#/
APPENDICES	None
REPORT ORIGINATOR AND CONTACT	Name: Area Manager, Darren Langdown Email: darren.langdown@dwfire.org.uk Tel: 07825 423651

1. Introduction

- 1.1 As Members are aware, the Service's performance is reviewed against the strategic priorities set out in the Community Safety Plan. This Committee oversees the performance against Priorities 1, 2 and 3 - *making safer and healthier choices, protecting you and the environment from harm and being there when you need us*, with the Local Performance and Scrutiny Committees scrutinising service delivery performance at a local level.
- 1.2 Part of this innovative approach to reporting and scrutiny has been to anchor reporting to specific Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOEs). Each of the strategic priorities is supported by a set of KLOEs.
- 1.3 The Service revised its KLOEs with effect from 1 April 2021 to align to the methodology within the three pillars of HMICFRS's methodology: Effectiveness, Efficiency and People.
- 1.4 This alignment is designed to provide evidence of the Service's performance against the methodology and to allow Members to monitor and scrutinise the Service's performance to ensure it continues to achieve the overall HMICFRS rating of 'good'.
- 1.5 A baseline assessment for each KLOE has been undertaken against the HMICFRS methodology and 'good' rating. The evidence collected for each has been assessed against three levels – requires improvement, good, or outstanding to determine the overall level of performance and where improvement actions are required.
- 1.6 This report sets out the performance for quarter 1, 2022-2023 and will be supported by the attendance of key Officers at the meeting to answer any specific points Members may wish to raise.

2. Quarterly performance summary

- 2.1 KLOE 1: How well do we understand the risk of fire and other emergencies?

Availability and attendance of wholetime appliances remains good and in line with the corporate target.

Whilst the availability of on-call appliances continues to be below target, there are a number of initiatives underway to improve this further including a review of the current on-call recruitment process and an increased recruitment campaign for on-call firefighters and measures to improve on-call retention.

The Service is further developing the productivity tool in liaison with station based staff to ensure that stations better understand the demands, risks and challenges at a local level. This will enable them to set in place interventions of each risk which will feed into a station action plan.

A new initiative to train firefighters on some elements of fire safety work has been delivered and we are currently seeing crews deliver low level fire safety audits across the Service area. This will allow the fire safety team to focus their expertise on higher risk properties in Swindon.

2.2 KLOE 2: How effective are we at preventing fires and other risks?

Increasing partnership referrals remains a key focus for the Safe & Well team, particularly from hospitals and health care organisations. So far this is progressing well with current established partners.

Teams have adapted to new ways of working to deliver our key safety messages such as the virtual Safe Drive Stay Alive and virtual fire safety lessons. Social media is used to maintain engagement with the wider public promoting key safety messages. Stations continue to support promoting key safety messages.

The Service is developing an evaluation of our prevention activities to measure the impact they are having on preventing fires and other risks. Alongside this is the value for money framework which provides evidence of the Service, partner and wider societal savings from our prevention interventions.

Annual road safety figures show that in Wiltshire County there were 28 fatalities on the roads with 194 seriously injured. Across the Service area there were 53 fatalities and 490 serious injuries.

Our integrated approach to firesetting behaviour centred on key risk groups and areas has proven successful and we remain one of the lowest for deliberate fires in England.

2.3 KLOE 3: How effective are we at protecting the public through the regulation of fire safety?

Progress against the Service's programme of fire safety audits at high-risk premises with sleeping risk is currently below the corporate target due to ongoing prioritisation of high rise residential buildings which has delayed the allocation of some other premises and some identified issues with how the audits are recorded. This is now better understood and should allow for any shortfall to be caught up in quarters 2 and 3.

The Service has revised its risk-based inspection programme for non-domestic buildings to include assessing the premises inspected compared to premises where incidents are occurring to ensure effective targeting. Progress against this programme is slipping due to the reasons identified above.

2.4 KLOE 4: How effective are we at responding to fires and other emergencies?

The Service continues to be effective in evaluating and improving operational performance. Following an incident, where necessary, a structured debrief report

captures any learning to share across the organisation, and where appropriate is taken to a cross-departmental group for consideration of any further action required.

Alongside this the Service continues to align with national guidance and oversee any further work necessary to strengthen its compliance against these standards.

2.5 KLOE 5: How well prepared are we to respond to major and multi-agency incidents?

The Service continues to work closely with Local Resilience Forums to capture community risks. The Service also plays a key role in all Strategic Coordinating and Tactical Coordinating Groups that are now in place for exiting the European Union and other localised risks.

Service exercise governance continues to be strengthened via a programme of exercising, including at our highest risk Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) sites. The development of specific tactical response plans continues for these COMAH sites to ensure clear guidance in the event of an incident at one of these sites.

3. Summary and key points

- 3.1 The use of KLOEs is an innovative approach to reporting performance. This approach provides a structured means for Members to receive performance information within a wider context.
- 3.2 There are no new significant issues to raise with Members at this time and good progress is being made.
- 3.3 The quarter 2 performance report for 2022-2023 will be provided to the Swindon Local Performance & Scrutiny Committee on the 30 November 2022.
- 3.4 Members can also view Key Performance Indicators via the on the online dashboard [here](#).