



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE
AUTHORITY**

**Minutes of the
Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole
Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee
held at 10:00 hours on 30 May 2019 at the
Poole Fire Station, Safety Drive, Poole**

Members present: Cllr Ann Stribley (Chair); Cllr Malcolm Davies; Cllr Beverley Dunlop

Officer attendance: Director of Service Support, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Byron Standen; Group Manager, Steve Waller; Democratic Services Officer, Mrs Marianne Taylor

Observers: Corporate Governance Manager, Nicki Whitehouse; Watch Manager, Neil Werrey-Easterbrook (On-Call)

19/11 Welcome

19/11.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed attendees and observers.

19/12 Apologies

19/12.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Vikki Slade; Assistant Chief Fire Officer Jim Mahoney; Temporary Area Manager Dave Graham

19/13 Code of Conduct, Declarations of Interest and notifications of any other business

19/13.1 The Chairman asked the meeting for any disclosures of pecuniary interests under the Localism Act. There were no disclosures.

19/14 Public questions

19/14.1 There were no members of the public present and no public questions had been received.

19/15 Review and approve minutes of the Bournemouth & Poole LPS meeting on 14 February 2019

19/15.1 The Chairman asked Members to review and approve the minutes from the last meeting.

19/15.2 Members discussed the letter to schools in paragraph 19/07.9 and agreed that a reminder may need to be sent.

19/15.3 **RESOLVED: that the minutes be confirmed without amendment and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.**

19/15.4 **ACTION: Democratic Services to send a reminder letter to schools who have not engaged with Safe Drive Stay Alive by the end of the school year.**

19/16 Action Progress

19/16.1 Democratic Services Officer, Mrs Marianne Taylor, advised Members that this report contained a list of outstanding actions from previous meetings with regular update comments.

19/16.2 Mrs Taylor added that some actions were closed quickly because they were actioned at or immediately after a meeting and some may take longer if they were related to external providers.

19/16.3 Members noted that since the last meeting two actions had been completed and the remaining one was pending. Members discussed the outstanding action and agreed that all completed actions could be removed from the report.

19/16.4 Members agreed that Action 208 could be closed and removed from the report, the meeting was convened so the action was now redundant

19/16.5 **RESOLVED: Members noted the actions and comments.**

19/16.6 **ACTION: Members agreed that all completed actions were to be removed from the action log as closed or completed.**

19/17 Performance monitoring and briefing

19/17.1 GM Steve Waller took Members through the Quarter 4 Performance Report for Bournemouth Christchurch & Poole Local Performance & Scrutiny (Appendix A) and the associated presentation.

- 19/17.2 The three priorities that T/AM Graham 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.
- 19/17.3 **Priority 1**
GM Steve Waller advised Members that the pilot for patient referrals was going well and that the initiative has been picked up nationally through the National Fire Chiefs Council. He added that the lead partner is the Red Cross and that referrals were made through Safe and Independent Living (SAIL).
- 19/17.4 ACFO Byron Standen outlined the Service's commitment to providing this service to reduce risks amongst vulnerable patients who leave hospital with limited or no support. Members were interested to know how many referrals had been made. GM Steve Waller apologised advising Members that he did not have that information to hand and would advise Members following this meeting.
- 19/17.5 ACFO Standen outlined for Members the mechanism for collating the patient referral information to enable the Service to look for trends, provide value for money information and the impact on other blue-light services.
- 19/17.6 Members discussed the risk associated with collecting data from hospital discharge patients and the potential implications for the trusted brand of the fire & rescue service. ACFO Standen advised that the Service always follows General Data Protection Regulation guidelines when handling people's information and data. He added that quality of SAIL assessments was important as well as looking at those in the highest risk groups, which included identifying where SAIL referrals were expecting Safe & Well Officers (S&W) to support lower risks groups.
- 19/17.7 Members were interested in how referrals were made and what outcomes were noted. GM Waller advised Members that every vulnerable person was referred, and a particular note was made about whether the vulnerability was temporary or permanent. The Service was monitoring resources and referring on to other agencies with support 'tapering-off' guidelines in place.
- 19/17.8 GM Waller confirmed to Members that, following domestic fire trends from previous quarters, S&W visits were also highlighting cooking risks. GM Waller went on to explain how specialist equipment was used within the home when allocated to individuals.

- 19/17.9 GM Waller provided Members with a case study that illustrated the work and the testing involved in ensuring the specialist equipment works effectively. GM Waller also confirmed that a web-page for carers was now on the DWFire website providing advice about emollient creams and oxygen use, with links to specialist help. He added that specialist equipment included misting units and vibrating alarms. ACFO Standen advised Members of the risks involved with emollient creams and adequate washing of clothing and bedding.
- 19/17.10 GM Waller took Members to the report Appendix for Q4 showing charts on pages 6 to 12 which related to S&W visits, adding that 81.5% were to homes classed as high or very high-risk. He assured Members that 100% of all referrals were visited during the quarter.
- 19/17.11 GM Waller outlined the use of PinPoint as a tool to support mapping of areas of high risk, and very high-risk individuals. He confirmed that the Service has access to language line and interpreters as well as a number of documents in a range of languages. ACFO Standen added that community leaders were also approached in some circumstances.
- 19/17.12 Youth education activities continued, and GM Waller outlined the range and number of education visits that had taken place during Q4, including Prince's Trust Team programmes and the three Safer People and Responsible Communities (SPARC) courses for those aged 12-17 who may be at risk of offending. Members confirmed that they were very pleased with the work carried out by youth education teams.
- 19/17.13 GM Waller confirmed to Members that Safe Drive Stay Alive (SDSA) education had been delivered to 1,400 students through seven roadshows. He added that the Survive the Drive campaign had gathered momentum and it was anticipated that these would increase with demand in the future. ACFO Standen added that would be delivered to every British military base.
- 19/17.14 GM Waller confirmed to Members that, in partnership with Dorset Police, Operation Close Pass continued and those who were identified as passing too close to bicycles when driving were provided with advice from the police.
- 19/17.15 **ACTION: GM Steve Waller to provide information on the number of patient referrals for S&W visits.**
- Priority 2**
- 19/17.16 Members discussed Safeguarding and GM Waller confirmed that 11 adults were referred through the Service to Safeguarding Boards across Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole, he also confirmed there were no child referrals in Q4.

- 19/17.17 GM Waller confirmed the number of fire safety audits carried out and, in line with the reduction of fires across business premises, which were decreasing. Members were interested in how licensing applications for bars and clubs took place. GM Waller advised that this happens initially as a desk top exercise once notified, with visits to new premises; and that the Service was consulted where needed. He added that fire risk assessments were carried out as standard.
- 19/17.18 GM Waller confirmed that the Service was consulted for temporary and ad-hoc public events with organisers carrying out the risk assessment under health & safety guidelines. He advised that local authorities have the overall responsibility to ensure this is carried out appropriately.
- 19/17.19 GM Waller confirmed that the Service carries out site-specific inspections and uses mobile data terminals alongside station risk assessment maps to identify high risk areas and any emerging patterns.
- 19/17.20 GM Waller advised Members that deliberate fire setting was quite low, and consistent with school holiday term times. GM Waller confirmed there had been one fire related injury, and that the Service was awaiting HM Coroner's verdict on a death, with an anticipated ruling from HM Coroner in January 2020.
- 19/17.21 GM Waller advised that a number of exercises, teleconferences and planning events were carried out in readiness for Brexit and would be revisited in September 2019 for the new EU Exit date of 31 October 2019.
- 19/17.22 Members asked about local events and GM Waller advised that the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) arrange regular exercises and training events based on the Dorset area risk register. GM Waller went on to outline the types of risks that were on the register and the nature of managing the many situations.
- Priority 3**
- 19/17.23 GM Waller took Members to the information relating to attendance times and the events vehicle, which has been rebranded for On-Call recruitment. This has had a good impact on the Service. He added that On-Call Officers support stations to help improve availability and been proactive in improving On-Call response times.
- 19/17.24 GM Waller provided Members with the details behind the few and rare missed targets for attendance at incidents, which included delays created by roadworks.
- 19/17.25 GM Waller took Members to a number of events that took place in Q4, including a tree through a bus in Christchurch and the Ocado distribution centre fire in Andover. GM Waller advised that the Service provided support and assistance to Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service and showed a brief video of the Ocado fire taken from an aerial ladder platform (ALP) appliance.

19/17.26 GM Waller reported that operational staff were well prepared in the area, with compliance levels high at 94%. He added that the Service was moving to a new training package to better capture operational licence information and become smarter about training availability. Staff also undertake e-learning, adding that some packages were compulsory including Safeguarding, Mental Health and Data Protection.

19/17.27 GM Waller confirmed to Members that the operational effectiveness database (OED) captured feedback from events following operational 'hot' debriefs taking place and with a requirement for firefighters to input into the OED to support greater learning. Members discussed how the Service and the airport firefighting service support each other and carry out training. GM Waller added that simulated events had taken place recently with the Chief Fire Officer in active attendance.

19/17.28 **RESOLVED: Members scrutinised and approved performance for Quarter 4.**

19/18 Update on the role/challenges of On-Call Support Officers

19/18.1 WM Neil Werrey-Easterbrook was invited to the table to discuss with Members recruitment and retention within the On-Call firefighter element of both the Service and nationally. He explained some of the challenges encountered.

19/18.2 WM Werrey-Easterbrook confirmed to Members that there had been 38 new joiners, and 32 leavers. He added that in the BCP area there were 11 individuals on the waiting list who were contacted regularly to maintain interest and a further 20 going through the process in other areas.

19/18.3 WM Werrey-Easterbrook advised Members that promoting increased skills sets and their usefulness to employers, alongside statistical evidence about average call outs for On-Call firefighters, were used to promote the role with employers.

19/18.4 Members discussed promotion and marketing opportunities such as the Dorset Link and Dorset Vale magazines alongside other avenues for raising awareness of On-Call firefighter roles and responsibilities. Members thanked WM Werrey-Easterbrook for his briefing.

19/19 Update on LPS reporting – LPS Member Working Group (verbal)

19/19.1 Members were advised that the next meeting of the working group would take place in September.

19/20 Issues raised by Members (agreed with chairman)

19/20.1 Members thanked the outgoing Member, Cllr Beverley Dunlop, for her support and input on the LPS Committee meetings

19/20.2 Members discussed learning and development and asked that the link to the Members e-learning (Grow), be circulated to them

19/21 Date of Next Meeting

19/21.1 The Chairman confirmed the date of the next Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee meeting as 29 August 2019 at 10:00 hours at Poole Fire Station.

The meeting closed at 11:30

Signed: _____