



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE
AUTHORITY**

Minutes of the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee held on 23 February 2022, 10.00am at Poole Fire Station, Poole.

Members present:

Cllr Steve Baron

Cllr Millie Earl

Cllr Paul Hilliard

Cllr Toby Johnson

Officer attendance:

Area Manager (AM), Seth Why

Group Manager (GM), Stuart Gillion

Democratic Services Officer, David Shaw

22/01 Election of Chair

22/01.1 The Democratic Services Officer opened the meeting. He asked for nominations for the role of Chair. Cllr Toby Johnson was nominated by Cllr Steve Baron and seconded by Cllr Paul Hilliard.

22/01.2 **RESOLVED: That Cllr Johnson be elected Chair of the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee.**

22/02 Welcome

22/02.1 The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed Members and officers.

22/03 Apologies

22/03.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Malcolm Davies and the Director of Community Safety, Assistant Chief Fire Officer (ACFO), Andy Cole.

22/04 Code of Conduct and Declarations of Interests

22/04.1 The Chair asked the meeting for any disclosures of pecuniary interests under the Localism Act. There were no disclosures.

22/05 Public questions

22/05.1 There were no members of the public present and no public questions had been received.

22/05.2 **RESOLVED: Members noted there were no public questions.**

22/06 Review and approve minutes of the BCP Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 24 November 2021

22/06.1 The Chair asked Members to review and approve the minutes from the last meeting.

22/06.2 **RESOLVED: That the minutes be confirmed without amendment and signed by the Chair as a correct record.**

22/07 Action progress report

22/07.1 The Democratic Services Officer reported that no actions had been taken at the meeting on 24 November 2021 and that there were none outstanding from previous meetings.

22/07.2 **RESOLVED: Members noted that there were no actions outstanding.**

22/08 Performance monitoring and briefing quarter 3

22/08.1 Group Manager (GM) Stuart Gillion presented to Members the Performance monitoring and briefing for quarter 3, which covered the three priority areas overseen by this Committee:

Priority 1 Help you to make safer and healthier choices

Priority 2 Protect you and the environment from harm, and

Priority 3 Be there when you need us.

A link to the presentation can be found [here](#).

22/08.2 **Priority 1 - Help you to make safer and healthier choices.**

22/08.3 GM Gillion highlighted that the Service had appointed a new on-call manager to assist with on-call recruitment and also referred to the multiagency work that was carried out to identify and support vulnerable groups and individuals. The work of the Dorset Local Resilience Forum subgroup to monitor and respond to recent storm Eunice, supporting those most at risk, was also mentioned.

- 22/08.4 In answer to the Chair's question, Area Manager (AM), Seth Why stated that partner referrals increasingly concentrated on the quality of the referral to identify those most at risk, rather than the numbers of referrals, some of which may be reporting those at low risk. Dialogue took place with the partner making the referral to ensure that high levels of quality were maintained.
- 22/08.5 In answer to questions from Cllr Millie Earl and Cllr Paul Hilliard, the officers clarified that referrals of student accommodation were dealt with as houses in multiple occupation (HMOs), and that links with university authorities were maintained. GM Gillion added that the Service attended university open days and fresher fairs to help engage with students.
- 22/08.6 **Priority 2 - Protect you and the environment from harm**
- 22/08.7 In answer to Members' questions, the officers explained that in respect of the Building Risk Review programme, there was one Premises Information Plate remaining to be installed on site, although the inspection had been completed. Members commented that the relevant BCP Council local ward member might be able to assist in arranging its display at the premises by liaising with the site owner.
- 22/08.8 The Chair asked about the contact that was made with local employers within the vicinity of an on-call station to seek the availability of potential on-call firefighters. GM Gillion confirmed that this contact was made to enable understanding of what the role entailed and to explain the benefits to the community.
- 22/08.9 In reply to a question from Cllr Hilliard, the officers explained that access for emergency vehicles in cases of narrow thoroughfares or through inconsiderate parking were addressed through driver training and community liaison, including speaking with residents and leaflet drops. In the case of Whitelegg Way cycle way, Bournemouth, no problem was envisaged for the deployment of emergency vehicles, and the issue with the high kerb had now been addressed following the application of the final road surface dressing, which had now raised the road level. Cllr Baron mentioned that Poole Quay might have its road closed permanently and that access for emergency vehicles should be given consideration in its design.
- 22/08.10 **Priority 3 – Be there when you need us**
- 22/08.11 In answer to Members' questions, the officers outlined the types of enquiries that might be made of the Authority during Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Fire and Rescue Service (HMICFRS) inspections that were about to commence. For example, there might be enquiries of the Prevention and Safe and Well teams to ascertain the positive impact on communities that was made.

22/08.12 Cllr Baron enquired if any issues had arising during the coronavirus pandemic with the increase in staycations and the use of Airbnb, shepherd's huts and caravans. GM Gillion replied that there had been publicity campaigns on BBQ safety and there had been engagement with glamping sites. AM Why added that fire statistics had not highlighted a problem.

22/08.13 In reply to Members' questions regarding false alarms, and false and malicious calls, AM Why explained the actions taken by the Service Control Centre, the work of the Service's False Alarm group which considered data and trends and the education that was provided to schools to improve relations with young persons. GM Gillion added that repetitive malicious calls would be reported to the police to be followed up.

22/08.14 The Chair thanked GM Gillion for his presentation and the meeting also thanked AM Why, as this would be the last BCP Local Performance and Scrutiny meeting he would attend prior to taking up a new position within the Service.

22/08.15 **RESOLVED: Members scrutinised and noted the performance for quarter 3 2021**

22/09 Matters raised by Members (agreed with the Chair)

22/09.1 There were no matters raised by Members.

22/10 Date of Next meeting

22/10.1 The Chair confirmed the date of the next BCP Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee meeting as 25 May 2022 from 10.00am.

The meeting closed at 11.25

Signed: _____