



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE
AUTHORITY**

**Minutes of the
Wiltshire Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee
held at 10:00 hours on Tuesday 15 May 2018 at the
Devizes Training and Development Centre
Hopton Industrial Estate, London Road, Devizes, SN10 2EU**

Members present: Cllr Christopher Newbury (Chairman) (part); Cllr Ernie Clark; Cllr Andrew Davis; Cllr Peter Hutton; Cllr Bob Jones; Cllr Paul Oatway; Cllr Pip Ridout; Cllr Robert Yuill

Officer attendance: Director of Community Safety, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, James Mahoney; Area Manager, Byron Standen; Head of Strategic Planning and Knowledge Management, Mr Robert Ford; Group Manager Wiltshire, Tim Gray; Democratic Services Officer, Mrs Marianne Taylor

Observers: Service Delivery Facilitator (Swindon and Wiltshire), Rachel Dowse; Head of Operational Training, GM Kathy Collis (part); Training Centre Manager (Devizes TDC), Wayne Presley; Business Assurance Manager, WM Dave Adamson; and the Head of Prevention, GM Seth Why

18/10 Welcome

18/10.1 Members were advised that Cllr Newbury was delayed. In the absence of the Chairman at the commencement of the meeting Members nominated and agreed that Cllr Bob Jones should act in the Chairman's stead.

18/10.2 The acting Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed attendees including Officers present as observers.

18/11 Apologies

18/11.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Matthew Dean; Cllr Brian Dalton; and Performance & Evaluation Manager, Mrs Jane Barnes.

- 18/12 Code of Conduct, Declarations of Interest and Notifications of Any Other Business**
- 18/12.1 The Chairman asked the meeting for any disclosures of pecuniary interests under the localism act. There were no disclosures.
- 18/13 Public Questions**
- 18/13.1 There were no members of the public present and no public questions had been received.
- 18/14 Minutes of the Wiltshire LPS meeting on 28 May 2018**
- 18/14.1 The Chairman asked Members to review and approve the minutes from the previous meeting.
- 18/14.2 Members thanked Officers for their support and professionalism during the past year.
- 18/14.3 **RESOLVED: Minutes were approved and signed as an accurate record with no amendments.**
- Cllr Ernie Clark arrived.
- 18/15 Action Progress**
- 18/15.1 The Democratic Services Officer, Mrs Marianne Taylor, advised Members that since the last meeting four actions had been completed and the remaining two were in progress.
- 18/15.2 Members discussed the report and were advised by Area Manager (AM) Byron Standen that work was scheduled to be carried out soon for action no 128. Members determined that action no128 be made 'pending', subject to works being carried out to the appliance bays, both front and rear; and a discussion between the Area Manager and Cllr Davis had taken place.
- 18/15.3 **RESOLVED: Members noted the report and commented as detailed in item 18/15.2**
- 18/15.4 **ACTION: Democratic Services to make action no 128 'pending' subject to works being carried out to appliance bay doors as outlined in 18/15.2 above.**

18/16 Performance monitoring and briefing

18//16.1 AM Standen took Members through the 4th Quarter's Performance Report for Wiltshire Local Performance & Scrutiny area (Appendix A).

18/16.2 The three priorities that AM Standen 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.

Priority 1

18/16.3 AM Standen advised Members that Wiltshire area was established as a key partner to improve the sharing of information and data, and to ensure that the most vulnerable people in the area received early intervention and support.

18/16.4 AM Standen assured Members that the Wiltshire Information Sharing Charter would be fully compliant with the new General Data Protection Regulations.

18/16.5 AM Standen advised that Police, Ambulance Service, Housing, Social Services, GPs, Fire, Probation, with wider support from Wiltshire Council, were working closely to place prevention at the forefront of Service delivery through a High Frequency Contact board.

18/16.6 AM Standen advised Members that, working closely with the Director of Public Health, the Service was looking at identifying opportunities to improve Road safety through the Community Safety Partnership (CSP); and support the Council to fulfil its statutory duty for PREVENT - to reduce radicalisation in the community. PREVENT is a key element of the wider Counter Terrorism Strategy (CONTEST).

18/16.7 AM Standen confirmed to Members that no schools were failing to engage with the Service's education programme. AM Standen added that Chippenham station has initiated a trial with young children to embed the importance of smoke alarm testing. The trial would subsequently be evaluated. Members agreed this was a good initiative.

18/16.8 AM Standen advised that a new impact and evaluation tool would mean education officers would be monitoring the impact of education activities over a three-month and a six-month period.

18/16.9 AM Standen advised Members that a successful grant of £6,584 from FM Global would be used for training, education and additional resources to support fire-setting intervention. AM Standen added that there were currently six ongoing interventions within the Wiltshire area.

18/16.10 AM Standen advised Members that the Service was a member of the South West Region Fire-setter Intervention Group. Adding that the

Service was working regionally with other practitioners to ensure best practice was delivered. AM Standen further advised that recently 14 more intervention advisors had been trained and undertaken enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks.

- 18/16.11 AM Standen thanked Members for their support and confirmed that all schools in the Wiltshire area were engaged with the Service's Safe Drive Stay Alive (SDSA) programme.
- 18/16.12 AM Standen advised Members that there was an initiative underway to target alcohol and drug misuse related fires and kitchen fires in the home. Members were interested to learn more about those in poverty. AM Standen advised that the Service was using Pinpoint to highlight people in the community with care packages, people over 65, or those over 85 and areas of deprivation.
- 18/16.13 The Head of Strategic Planning and Knowledge Management, Mr Robert Ford, apologised for the error in target figures which should have been 100% (not 85%) targeting of high risk individuals.
- 18/16.14 AM Standen advised that safe & well (S&W) teams and operational crews were working with home care providers to identify vulnerable persons.
- 18/16.15 **ACTION: Members to request that County Hall be made available for promoting the testing of Smoke detectors in the home.**
- 18/16.16 **ACTION: AM Standen to engage with Wessex Water via their community officer and instigate referrals for Safe & Independent Living (SAIL).**
- Priority 2**
- 18/16.17 AM Standen confirmed that safeguarding referrals had taken place and partnership working with the local authority, the Red Cross and social services was proving effective.
- Cllr Christopher Newbury arrived.
- 18/16.18 AM Standen advised that the Service was working with the local authority to ensure that evacuation strategies were in place in all public buildings. He added that the Services had targeted deliberate fire starting in multi-level car parks which involved close working with the local authority.
- 18/16.19 AM Standen advised that a partnership was being developed between the Service, Wiltshire Council and the Police to understand modern day slavery and human trafficking with a view to developing joint actions across partner agencies.

- 18/16.20 Following Members discussion about camping and caravan sites AM Standen assured Members that the Service had engaged with all known site holders and would carry out visits and education as needed.
- 18/16.21 AM Standen reminded Members of some of the recent significant events and outlined that there had been no appliance mobilising issues during the period of adverse weather. AM Standen added that four-wheel drive vehicles were utilised to support partner agencies, particularly the health service.
- 18/16.22 Group Manager (GM) Tim Gray updated Members on the situation regarding the Salisbury nerve agent incident, adding that he was the Hazmat (Hazardous Materials) Officer. GM Gray advised Members that a number of Service venues had been utilised to support Police, Ambulance and other partners, with the on-going situation.
- 18/16.23 Members discussed the situation in Salisbury and were advised by GM Gray that counselling and other support had been made available to all affected staff. Members asked that their thanks and appreciation be conveyed to all Service officers and staff involved in the on-going clear-up operation.
- 18/16.24 ACFO Jim Mahoney provided background information about uniform, protective wear and its disposal following the incident. He added that the Service budget reserves included a sum of money for such significant events.
- 18/16.25 AM Standen provided an update on the Compton Basset waste site and what had taken place since the incident in April 2018. The Service was looking at developing some officers as waste fire tactical advisors.
- 18.16.26 Members voiced their concern about how the scrap car industry was faring and asked if the Service was engaging with owners. ACFO Mahoney advised this was a national issue alongside landfill and recycling, adding that there was now a set of national guidelines on good practice to cover all similar business. ACFO Mahoney further advised Members that this was in addition to ongoing partnership working with the Environment Agency and business owners. ACFO Mahoney assured Members that where unregistered sites are identified a follow up visit takes place.
- 18/16.27 **ACTION: AM Standen to convey Members' thanks and appreciation to all Service officers and staff involved in the on-going clear-up operation in Salisbury.**

Priority 3

- 18/16.28 AM Standen advised that three new wholetime firefighters would be in place in approximately one month with an on-going recruitment drive for On-call firefighters. AM Standen confirmed that On-call support officers were in place and 'have a-go' sessions and the '#BeOneOfUs' campaign was on-going.
- 18/16.29 Members discussed and agreed that a Motion be carried to the full Fire and Rescue Authority (the Authority) suggesting that the Authority asks itself: "does setting target times makes sense?" adding that perhaps it was time for a rethink on the way targets were set.
- 18/16.30 Members asked about recruiting within manageable turn out times and AM Standen responded, advising Members that there was some flexibility dependent on demographics and locations of neighbouring stations. Cllr Bob Jones requested a response time comparison for the year.
- 18/16.31 Cllr Newbury and Cllr Jones to meet with AM Standen to study the response figures.
- 18/16.32 AM Standen advised members that performance management measures had identified key operational competence areas, which had been prioritised with a range of training events being delivered by On-Call Support Officers and Training Centre Staff. He confirmed that operational licence training continued to be a management priority and was monitored closely, on a monthly basis.
- 18/16.33 GM Gray advised Members that, in collaboration with Hampshire and Berkshire, a thatch fire in Ham during April was successfully extinguished. He added that the fire lasted approximately ten hours and included protecting the adjoining cottage. Members asked that they be advised of the date of the debrief, GM Gray would circulate the date of the debrief so Members could attend.
- 18/16.34 Members were interested to learn how the Service updated the Chief Fire Officers Association (CFOA) with specialist knowledge, and about how 'efficient and effective' direction took place at the incident.
- 18/16.35 **RESOLVED: Members Approved performance for Quarter four.**
- 18/16.36 **ACTION: A Motion be carried to the Authority about setting response target times by the Member Champion for Response.**
- 18/16.37 **ACTION: Democratic Services to append the response time figure on slides 17 and 18 of the presentation to these minutes.**
- 18/16.38 **ACTION: AM Standen to meet with Cllrs Newbury & Jones to discuss response standards.**

18/17 Issues raised by Members (agreed with chairman)

18/17.1 Members considered the need to raise a vice chairman at the meetings going forward.

18/17.2 The Chairman thanked Members for their attendance at meetings over the past year.

18/18 Date of Next Meeting

18/18.1 The Chairman confirmed the date of the next Wiltshire Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee meeting as 30 August 2018 10am at TBA.

Meeting ended at 11:33

Signed: _____