



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE  
FIRE AND RESCUE  
AUTHORITY**

**Minutes of the  
Swindon Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee  
held at 10:00 am on 5 September 2019 at the  
Westlea Community Fire Station, The Chesters,  
Stonehill Green, Westlea SN5 7DB**

Members present: Cllr Garry Perkins (Chair); Cllr Brian Mattock; Cllr Byron Quayle (substituting for Cllr Abdul Amin)

Officer attendance: Director of Community Safety, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, James Mahoney; Area Manager, Ian Jeary; Group Manager (GM), Glyn Moody; Group Manager, Wayne Presley; Corporate Governance Manager, Nicki Whitehouse

**19/22 Election of Chair**

19/22.1 Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Jim Mahoney opened the meeting. He asked for nominations for the role of Chair. Cllr Perkins was nominated by Cllr Mattock. A show of hands confirmed unanimous agreement, and Cllr Perkins was elected Chair.

**19/22.2 RESOLVED: Cllr Perkins was elected Chair of the Swindon Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee.**

**19/23 Welcome**

19/23.1 The Chair welcomed attendees, in particular Cllr Quayle, who was acting as substitute Member for Cllr Amin.

**19/24 Apologies**

19/24.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Amin.

- 19/25 Code of Conduct, Declarations of Interest and Notifications of Any Other Business**
- 19/25.1 The Chair asked the meeting for any disclosures of pecuniary interests under the Localism Act. There were no disclosures.
- 19/26 Public Questions**
- 19/26.1 There were no members of the public present and no public questions had been received.
- 19/27 Review and approve minutes of the Swindon LPS meeting on 14 May 2019**
- 19/27.1 The Chair asked Members to review and approve the minutes from the last meeting.
- 19/27.2 **RESOLVED: the minutes were confirmed without amendment and signed by the Chair as a correct record.**
- 19/28 Action Progress**
- 19/28.1 Members noted that since the last meeting, the two outstanding actions had been completed. Members agreed that closed actions could be removed from the report.
- 19/28.2 **RESOLVED: Members noted the actions and comments and agreed to close the completed actions.**
- 19/29 Performance monitoring and briefing**
- 19/29.1 GM Moody took Members through the Performance Report for quarter 1 for Swindon Local Performance & Scrutiny (Appendix A).
- 19/29.2 The three priorities are:  
**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.
- 19/29.3 **Priority 1**  
GM Moody reported that 435 Safe and Well visits had been carried out in quarter 1. He explained both the work that operational crews were doing and that being done working with partners in order to get referrals to visit those most at risk. He explained that the Safe and Well team now have one member of staff dedicated to generating referrals.

- 19/29.4 GM Moody explained the Migration Fund and the work that had followed a fire in Manchester Road that had resulted in two fatalities and a life changing serious injury. Work had been done in partnership with Swindon Borough Council and Government funding of approximately £300k had been awarded to the partnership. This funding had enabled a Safe and Well Advisor to be dedicated to working with the Environmental Health team at Swindon Borough Council. As a result, over 700 Safe and Well visits have been carried out with 234 smoke/heat/carbon detectors being fitted. GM Moody reported that there had been ten fires in 2018, before the fire, but none since.
- 19/29.5 In answer to a question from Members, GM Moody explained that the Service continues to attend parish council meetings and community events in the area to ensure it keeps the community safety work up to date as the area has a transient population.
- 19/29.6 GM Moody gave an update on the YESS (Youth Education Support Services) project. The Service has been involved with the police and public health to work with young people with mental health issues. AM Jeary informed Members that the team was also working on setting up a regular Men's 'Talk Club' based at Swindon Fire Station from October.
- 19/29.7 GM Moody explained that the Junior Good Citizen scheme had been going for 30 years, and that it is accessible to all year 6 pupils. He informed members that input is provided by the Service and police on a range of issues such as knife crime, cyber, road safety, stranger danger and electrical safety. AM Jeary confirmed that all schools in Swindon had 'bought into' the scheme.
- 19/29.8 GM Moody reported that 2,634 children had been to a Safe Drive Stay roadshow and that one school had not engaged. GM Moody will contact this school directly. He also thanked Members for their help and support to make these roadshows work. AM Jeary informed Members that they were welcome to visit any of these youth engagement or road safety events.
- 19/29.9 **ACTION: Democratic Services to invite Members to youth engagement and road safety events.**
- 19/29.10 **ACTION: GM Moody to contact the school that has not engaged in the Safe Drive Stay Alive scheme.**
- 19/29.11 **Priority 2**  
GM Moody explained that there had been an increase in safeguarding referrals in Swindon but stressed that this did not necessarily mean there were more safeguarding issues, but may indicate the reporting had improved, which is positive.

- 19/29.12 GM Moody explained the work that fire protection teams were doing in partnership with the local authority housing team at Swindon Borough Council. He also reported that there was a target to inspect all high-risk sleeping accommodation by March 2020.
- 19/29.13 GM Moody outlined the Primary Authority Scheme and that the Service had set up a new post (self-funded) to investigate the further opportunities of the Scheme for the Service.
- 19/29.14 ACFO Mahoney explained that he is the Service lead on planning for Brexit and that he and his team regularly attended meetings of the two Local Resilience Forums. He explained that the role of the Service was to ensure that it could maintain its service throughout any disruption.
- 19/29.15 **Priority 3**  
GM Moody explained that the majority of fires start in the kitchen and these were often related to kitchen appliances. He said that all of these were investigated, and relevant information shared nationally and within our networks.
- 19/29.16 GM Moody gave an outline of a significant fire in a thatch roof in Wroughton which had occurred at the end of the last quarter (March). He went on to explain how the Service de-briefs and take a multi-agency approach where-ever appropriate and that improvements are made if necessary.
- 19/29.17 AM Jeary reported a successful Chamber of Commerce Business West event hosted at Swindon Fire Station, attended by the local MP and Leader of Swindon Borough Council.
- 19/29.18 **RESOLVED: Members scrutinised and approved performance for quarter one.**
- 19/30 Update of Local Performance & Scrutiny reporting (LPS) - Members Working Group**
- 19/30.1 ACFO Mahoney gave an update and explained how the Service's approach to corporate performance and reporting was being restructured.
- 19/31 Issues raised by Members (agreed with Chair)**
- 19/31.1 No issues were raised.

**19/32            Date of Next Meeting**

18/32.1            The Chair confirmed the date of the next Swindon Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee meeting as 7 November 2019 from 10.00 at Westlea Fire Station, The Chesters, Stonehill Green, Westlea, SN5 7DB

The meeting closed at 11.35

*Signed:* \_\_\_\_\_