



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE
AUTHORITY**

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

Members present: Cllr Garry Perkins (Chair); Cllr Abdul Amin; Cllr Brian Mattock

Officer attendance: Area Manager (AM), Swindon & Wiltshire, Ian Jeary; Group Manager (GM), Glyn Moody; Democratic Services Officer, Mrs Marianne Taylor

19/33 Welcome

19/33.1 The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.

19/34 Apologies

19/34.1 Apologies were received from the Director of Community Safety, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, James Mahoney.

19/35 Code of Conduct, Declarations of Interest and Notifications of Any Other Business

19/35.1 The Chair asked the meeting for any disclosures of pecuniary interests under the Localism Act. There were no disclosures.

19/36 Public questions

19/36.1 There were no members of the public present and no public questions had been received.

19/37 Review and approve minutes of the Swindon LPS meeting on 5 September 2019

19/37.1 The Chair asked Members to review and approve the minutes from the last meeting.

19/37.2 **RESOLVED: That the minutes be confirmed without amendment and signed by the Chair as a correct record.**

19/38 Action progress

19/38.1 Democratic Services Officer, Mrs Marianne Taylor, advised Members that the Action Progress report contained a list of outstanding actions from previous meetings with regular update comments.

19/38.2 Members discussed the report and were updated on the two outstanding actions, which were resolved and can now be closed.

19/38.3 **RESOLVED: Members noted the actions and approved the removal of completed actions.**

19/39 Performance monitoring and briefing – quarter 2

19/39.1 GM Glyn Moody took Members through the quarter's Performance Report for Swindon Local Performance & Scrutiny Committee (Appendix A) and the associated presentation.

Priority 1 Making Safer and Healthier Choices

19/39.2 Members discussed the various boards and noted which officers sit on which boards. GM Moody advised that local station managers attend the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) meetings which are mostly concerning antisocial behaviour and other local issues, adding that parish councillors are also involved.

1939.3 A Salamander course was run with 25 members of the Swindon Borough Council (SBC) Adult Community Learning Team who support a range of vulnerable residents.

19/39.4 In quarter 2 a total of 559 Safe and Well visits took place, which is an 83% increase on the same quarter in 2018-19. AM Jeary added that the Service was working with SBC, partner agencies and hospitals to further improve the referral rate. Other routes for referrals include vulnerable adults who have collapsed behind closed doors, where the person meets the criteria for being high or very high risk.

19/39.5 Members discussed ways of generating referrals through other avenues including other visiting officers. AM Jeary added that safeguarding referrals take place and usually result in Safe and Well visits, either from the Service, or from partner agencies.

19/39.6 Educational visits took place and targeted school years 2, 5 and 6, resulting in 1,396 young people receiving fire safety lessons. This is an increase of 300 (1,096) in 2018-19. Also 15 Cadets passed out in July, following a 38-week course. A new Cadet cohort is about to commence.

- 19/39.7 At Wiltshire College's Lackham Campus, 100 students benefited from a day's water and animal rescue training. There was also a pass out parade for the young people from Swindon Down's Syndrome group who benefitted from a one-week Salamander course.
- 19/39.8 A number of other community events took place in the quarter, alongside promoting the Safe and Well visits and fire safety and prevention.
- 19/39.9 12 Safe Drive Stay Alive events were held at Swindon Empire Cinema with a total attendance of 2,323 16-17-year olds. Also, in quarter 2, 52 adults attended one of the three 'Bikerdown' courses.
- 19/39.10 AM Jeary advised that he was monitoring safeguarding reports to ensure consistency of reporting adding that 14 safeguarding referrals were made during the quarter. He reported that he represents the Service at the Safeguarding Adults Board (soon to become the Vulnerable People's Partnership).
- Priority 2 Protecting you and the environment from harm**
- 19/39.11 751 fire safety audits took place in quarter 2 with Airbnb awareness being highlighted. Members discussed visits to, and applications for Licensed Premises.
- 19/39.12 Members discussed the Premises Information Plates (PIP) and the information contained on them. PIPs are located on the outside of high-rise properties to advise crews on numbers of floor and types of dwellings, hydrant & dry riser locations and other useful information. GM Moody added that information on PIP would soon be available on mobile data terminals.
- 19/39.13 A number of multi-agency exercises took place, including one which was undertaken at Great Western Hospital to test response times and procedures, working with the Local Resilience Forum (LRF). Cross-border exercises also took place with Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service and the Ministry of Defence at Shrivenham.
- 19/39.14 Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service crews partnered with Swindon area command to carry out a multi-agency road traffic collision exercise at the Honda testing centre. A number of LRF tabletop exercises also took place in quarter 2.
- Priority 3 Being there when you need us**
- 19/39.15 GM Moody confirmed to Members that he had no concerns relating to appliance turn out times as he took them through the response standards and the changes to reporting. He added that 90% of the time, the target was met for sleeping risk (nursing homes, above fast-food outlets etc). GM Moody explained how the time is split between Control (call handling), attendance and, for on-call firefighters, travel times.

- 19/39.16 On-call recruitment is on-going, with an over subscription to some courses and an increase in the number of on-call firefighter interest. He added that consultation is on-going for the new on-call pay contract, which is anticipated to take effect in April 2020. Members discussed the complexities of meeting expectations in relation to changes in salary.
- 19/39.17 There were 28 accidental dwelling fires in quarter 2. These were mostly cooking related incidents, but also faulty appliances, with no particular concerns evident. Deliberate fires dropped from 96 (Q2 2018-19) to 64 in this quarter with a small number showing a pattern, which was resolved using the safeguarding referral process.
- 19/39.18 Members discussed the various incidents and Service call outs, including road traffic collisions and accidental fire alarms and their causes.
- 19/39.19 Members were advised that there were no concerns for operational licenses, with a new system due imminently which would result in smarter working in relation to competency training courses. Crews are debriefed following every incident and exercise, with learning shared through the Operational Effectiveness database. Non-operational debriefs also take place.
- 19/39.20 **RESOLVED: Members scrutinised and approved performance for Quarter 2.**
- 19/40 Media & Communications**
- 19/40.1 AM Jeary reported that he would arrange for all Members to receive the regular social media messages that go out to staff so they could stay up to date with safety messages and other relevant information.
- 19/40.2 **ACTION: AM Jeary to arrange for Members to receive the regular social media messages that go out to staff.**
- 19/41 Update of LPS Reporting – LPS Working group (verbal)**
- 19/41.1 Members were updated on progress to the forthcoming dashboard for reporting local performance.
- 19/41.2 Members were provided with a template proforma for reporting to the Authority meetings twice yearly and agreed items of interest would be highlighted at meetings and transferred to the Authority report by Democratic Services.
- 19/42 Issues raised by Members (agreed with Chair)**
- 19/42.1 There were no issues raised.

19/43 Date of Next Meeting

19/43.1 The Chair confirmed the date of the next Swindon Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee meeting as 13 February 2020 at 10:00am at Westlea Community Fire Station, The Chesters, Stonehill Green, Westlea, SN5 7DB

The meeting closed at 11:50

Signed: _____