



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE  
FIRE AND RESCUE  
AUTHORITY**

**Minutes of the  
Bournemouth and Poole Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee  
held at 1000 hours on Tuesday 30 August 2016  
at the  
DWFRS Hamworthy Community Fire Station, Community Room,  
Blandford Road, Hamworthy, BH15 4JN**

Members present: Cllr Christopher Rochester; Cllr Ann Stribley; Cllr Les Burden; Cllr P Eades; Cllr Malcolm Davies; Cllr Mark Anderson

Officer attendance: ACFO Ben Ansell; AM Craig Baker, Area Commander, Bournemouth, Poole & Swindon; Mr Bob Ford, Head of Strategic Planning; Mrs Jane Barnes, Performance and Evaluation Manager; Mrs Marianne Taylor, Democratic Services Officer.

**1 Welcome**

- 1.1 With the Chairman to be elected ACFO Ben Ansell opened the meeting and welcomed attendees to the first meeting of the Bournemouth & Poole Performance & Scrutiny Committee.

**2 Apologies**

- 2.2 Apologies were received from Cllr Beverley Dunlop

**3 Election of the Chairman**

- 3.1 The ACFO asked Members to nominate, vote and approve interested Members to the Role of chairman.
- 3.2 Members asked for clarification about the use of proxy votes. The ACFO advised that the Monitoring Officer's advice to him was that proxy votes, in line with other FRA committee meetings, would not be admissible and therefore not valid.
- 3.3 Cllr Mark Anderson was nominated by Cllr Ann Stribley and seconded by Cllr Chris Rochester to the role of Chairman. There being no other nominations Members confirmed their approval of Cllr Mark Anderson as the Chairman of this performance and scrutiny committee.

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3.4 **Resolved: Cllr Mark Anderson as Chairman of the Bournemouth and Poole Performance and Scrutiny Committee.**

### **4 Code of Conduct, Declarations of Interest and Notifications of Any Other Business**

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

### **5 Public Questions**

5.1 No public questions had been received and no members of the public were present.

### **6 Performance and Monitoring for the preceding quarter**

6.1 Bob Ford Head of Strategic Planning presented and outlined the performance criteria, reminding Members this will form the basis for future meetings. Clarity was given around the design of the report. He also advised this was to give an overview of the service as a whole and then to focus on B&P.

6.2 Appendix 1 – Key Line of /enquiry (KLOE) Baseline assessment was taken as read.

6.3 Concern was raised about the level of work that might be needed to properly scrutinise the local area KLOEs and the DWFRS KLOEs. ACFO Ansell suggested that officers may be called to discuss their remits and how they fit into the KLOEs. This would give some background for Members.

6.4 A Member suggested that Members themselves could attend more SPARC events to see the outcome of the on-going work with young people for themselves.

6.5 Mr Ford advised Members that a 'Members Dashboard' has been set up so that Members can see for themselves how different KLOEs and KPIs were performing. He also said there will be a Master Class for Members on the Dashboard system for those who wish to attend.

6.6 Mr Ford went through the Dashboard and highlighted the four KLOEs; reminding Members there had been no SPARC programmes for the quarter running up to the combination. These programmes have now restarted.

6.7 Members were concerned that the KLOE information was not as complete as it could be. Mr Ford will check to see if the data could be started from January

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2016. DWFRS needs to feel confident that data supplied is accurate and from a sound source.
- 6.8 ACFO Ben Ansell suggested that AM Craig Baker would work with Members to access local schools. A Member suggested that after school clubs might be accessible for this purpose.
- 6.9 A Member asked what was being done in relation to EU friendships, such as has gone on in the past. AM Baker was asked to report back to the Member. Members were concerned that shortage of funds might not allow this. Clarity was needed.
- 6.10 Safe & Well checks: Fire related deaths were discussed. AM Baker stated that there had been no confirmed fire related deaths in the area. However, two separate incidents were discussed where there had been a fatality (one at each). These cases have not yet been to HM Coroner, but may result in fire death(s) being recorded.
- 6.11 The number of home fire safety visits: Low figures in May and June. This was caused by changes to the staffing levels some of which have resulted in vacancies as staff move to other roles within DWFRS. This in turn has meant recruitment needed to take place. The ACFO confirmed that Safe & Well visits take longer than home safety visits. The Service are only prioritising medium & high risk individuals and homes. This will be reflected in the work in future quarter performance reports. ACFO said he was assured that this has not had an impact on the level of fire related incidents in homes.
- 6.12 Members requested that a trend line was added to charts to show changes.
- 6.13 Members discussed the wellbeing of vulnerable people living independently. The expected influx of students in September was used as an example by AM Baker who went on to say young people living on their own, perhaps for the first time are considered vulnerable. AM Baker outlined the changes that had taken place in the local areas which have affected their work. The team will be working closely with community groups and other organisations to enable access to data about local vulnerable people.
- 6.14 Safeguarding is a priority across all areas. A Member suggested there might be ways for Members to support the service, giving a recent elderly, bereaved, surviving partner as an example. AM Baker confirmed that no work is currently being done with funeral directors. The ACFO outlined a number of ways to make contact with vulnerable people. The AM reminded members that referrals also come from Safe & Independent Living (SAIL).
- 6.15 Only five enforcement notices have been issued. No prohibition orders issued. AM Baker advised that new legislation coming into force from 1 October 2016. He added that the current team emphasis is about using legislation, working with businesses and local authorities, landlords, care providers, clinical commissioning groups, Care Quality Commission (CQC) and others to improve fire safety awareness and fire prevention.

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- 6.16 The ACFO confirmed that all enforcement notices and prohibition orders are accessible to the public.
- 6.17 The KLOE for Protecting you and the environment from harm includes driving down risk to heritage and urban heathland (local environmental awareness). Recent training has taken place so that Officers can respond effectively right across the DWFRS area.
- 6.18 Members raised concerns about how young people can best be supported. AM Baker confirmed that actions were in place to improve support and work with young people, which had started well before combination and has continued since then. Some work (like aligning watch patterns) will be concentrated on at a later date. The Network Fire Services Partnership (NFSP) also ensures that there are relationships across county boundaries with Hampshire, Devon and Somerset.
- 6.19 The head of prevention, Lorraine Hunt, is currently looking at all forms of youth engagement to bring some alignment across the DWFRS area (SPARC, Salamander, Fire Cadets) as there are minor differences to approaches.
- 6.20 Members asked about Community plans, Local Resilience Forums and were content that these will be discussed at a later date.
- 6.21 Members expressed concern about operational response AM Baker and ACFO Ansell explained the background to the KPI. A Member was concerned that there was a drop from 98% to 91% for attendance to sleep risk response times. They explained there were 5 incidents which changed this balance. Of concern was the incident where the technology wasn't working effectively. Command debriefs have taken place looking at performance of staff and technology.
- 6.22 AM Baker gave a brief run down on the nature of the KLOE and what might prevent attendance within the time frame.
- 6.23 Members noticed that charts in the report often used different scales and this made it difficult to compare. Members asked that charts should use the same scales to show costs, numbers etc and perhaps overlay or transpose them. Members asked Mr Ford to consider the best way of presenting each chart or scale.
- 6.24 KLOE: How efficient & effective are our response arrangements. Mr Ford is trying to improve and quantify this KPI for future reports in order to provide more understanding of the severity of various fires.
- 6.25 Training and competence is monitored two ways: operational licence (driving, command competence, BA systems etc) and training. AM Baker added that this is easier to manage and complete with whole time duty system (WDS) crews than it is with retained duty system crews (RDS). Some fire stations struggle to maintain retained firefighters, whereas at Poole, for instance there appears to be

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no real problem. Recruiting and retaining RDS staff is a national challenge. Retained staff have only 2.5 hours per week contact time.

6.26 Mr Ford thanked members for their input.

6.27 **Action: Mr Ford to check data and update KLOEs.**

6.29 **Action: Mr Ford to add trend lines to all charts for future meetings.**

6.30 **Action: Mr Ford all charts/ tables need to have information backdated to either March or January 2016.**

6.31 **Action: Mr Ford to consider the best way of presenting each chart based on Members feedback.**

6.32 **Action: Mr Ford to refine and quantify KPIs for fire types.**

### 7 Briefing from the Area Manager

7.1 The AM presented his report and talked through recent events, highlighting partnership working and reporting on car washing for the FireFighters Charity. Members asked for car wash dates.

7.2 **Action: The ACFO to provide Members with the programme for FireFighter Charity car washes.**

### 8 Issues Raised by Members

8.1 Location of meetings: Slades Farm, Bournemouth was suggested and agreed as an alternative venue by Members, providing there is no charge and ICT is accessible.

8.2 Mrs Taylor to follow up and work with Members to book the venue if the provisions are met.

8.3 **Action: Mrs Taylor to book venue. The preference is for Slades Farm, assuming provisos above.**

### 9 Date of Next Meeting

9.1 The Chairman confirmed with Members the date of the next B & P Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee meeting as 10am on 21 November at a venue to be confirmed.

Meeting closed at 11:58

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