



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE
AUTHORITY**

Item 08

MEETING	Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority
DATE OF MEETING	23 June 2016
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Safety Centre Update
STATUS OF REPORT	For publication
PURPOSE OF REPORT	For information
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	The Safety Centre delivery is subject to a comprehensive project plan which has been approved by the Safety Centre Working Group who monitors progress against its timeline. The key areas within the project plan - lease arrangements, planning arrangements, procurement for design and build, partnering and sponsorship - are all in progress and on target to deliver on time and within budget.
RISK ASSESSMENT	None associated with this report
COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	None associated with this report
BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	None associated with this report
RECOMMENDATIONS	This report has been provided for information purposes and Members are asked to note the contents of the report.
BACKGROUND PAPERS	None associated with this report
APPENDICES	None associated with this report
REPORT ORIGINATOR AND CONTACT	AM J Mahoney james.mahoney@wiltsfire.gov.uk 01722 691387 / 07850945317

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members on the progress towards delivering the Wiltshire Safety Centre.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Wiltshire Safety Centre is a well established project working towards developing a new Safety Centre on the Swindon / Wiltshire border that will be operated by the SafeWise charity.
- 2.2 A Safety Centre Working Group has been established to provide political oversight and its terms of reference have been approved by the Policy and Resources Committee (P&R).
- 2.3 The Safety centre Working Group monitors the project plan and provide assurance to P&R that the project is on track and that risks and issues are managed.

3. Legal position

- 3.1 Whilst Heads of Terms have been agreed and formally signed, the Agreement for Lease and the Lease are currently with the service legal team.
- 3.2 The fine details of the legal agreements are currently the subject of scrutiny to ensure their appropriateness.

4. Planning

- 4.1 There are three key areas associated with planning in regard to the Safety centre: change of use, the refurbishment and site access.
- 4.2 These are made all the more complex by the site being within an area of outstanding natural beauty (AONB) and issues associated with the preferred access point to the site.
- 4.3 As part of our approach to community engagement the project team has met with parish councillors. The key issues arising from this meeting are concerns over traffic and access. This will therefore need to be a focus of the pre-planning.
- 4.4 The project team have commissioned the Pegasus Group to manage the planning process. Pegasus is a professional planning consultancy who is also responsible for the wider Science Museum Group (SMG) development activities which ensures a high degree of alignment and consistency with the existing and proposed development.
- 4.5 The Pegasus Group's professional advice has been to develop a pre-application which covers off those areas noted in 4.1 to include the various options for access that are available to us.

- 4.6 The draft pre-application will be available by 20 June and the Safety Centre project board will sign it off at their meeting on that date.
- 4.7 It is expected that a full planning application will then be submitted within 20 weeks (this time frame is driven by the planning authority and is out of our control).
- 4.8 This approach to planning is the one presenting least risk to the project and which maximises our chances of a successful application.
- 4.9 The full application will include:
- A Highways report
 - A planning statement
 - A design and access statement
 - Architectural drawings (of existing and proposed development)
 - An ecology report
- 4.10 Work is already underway to prepare these reports and the whole planning process is on target within the project plan.

5. **Procurement**

- 5.1 The main procurement exercise is centred on the refurbishment of Hangar C3 including the design and build of the Safety Centre within.
- 5.2 A procurement framework has been identified which is a two phase process that begins with inviting expressions of interest from the 10 companies within the framework agreement.
- 5.3 The identification of this framework (South West Construction) means that the actual procurement process schedule has been moved to September 2016 to align with vacant possession of the Hangar by April 2017.
- 5.4 The experienced safety centre design company Paragon Creative have been appointed as design consultants to create the visitor experience interior design element to align with the construction procurement timescales.

6. **Partnering**

- 6.1 A successful stakeholder event was held in May which was attended by over 130 people who were interested in the project. The event was supported by our existing partners, police and both Wiltshire and Swindon Borough Council. As a result new opportunities are now being explored with Oxfordshire and Berkshire Fire and Rescue Services and Thames Valley Police.

- 6.2 Two trustees have been identified to join the SafeWise existing board, confirmation of the invitation to the board will be discussed at the next SafeWise trustee board meeting on the 1st of July.

7. **Sponsorship**

- 7.1 Discussions continue with the potential 'Headline' Sponsors which include Nationwide, Honda, BMW and Arval supported by recommendations by the Business West Influence Board all of which were represented at the Stakeholder event in May.
- 7.2 A sponsor engagement event will be held at Swindon Fire Station in Autumn 2016 to enthuse and engage with our potential sponsors and identify their potential commitment for sponsoring SafeWise following the go live in 2018 and provision of goods and expertise as part of the build project.

8. **Conclusion**

- 8.1 The Safety Centre delivery is subject to a comprehensive project plan which has been approved by the Safety Centre Working Group who monitors progress against its timeline.
- 8.2 The overarching project plan remains on target and within budget and is progressing well.

J Mahoney
Area Manager