



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE  
FIRE AND RESCUE  
AUTHORITY**

Item 12
---------

MEETING	Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority
DATE OF MEETING	15 December 2016
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Service Performance Report – 1 April to 30 September 2016
STATUS OF REPORT	For open publication
PURPOSE OF REPORT	For information and approval
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>The Finance and Audit Committee and Local Performance and Scrutiny Committees provide for the quarterly scrutiny and assurance of performance for their respective areas of responsibility. To support a wider overview of Service performance for the Authority, this paper sets out performance for the first six months of 2016/17. In terms of overall performance, good progress is being made across the Service against all strategic priorities and convergence work is progressing well. A good framework of governance is in place that has also been evidenced by both our internal and external auditors. Key investment needs emerging from the local scrutiny of performance are being incorporated within the draft medium term finance strategy. This is being discussed by Members at the Policy and Resources Committee and will be the subject of an all Member seminar on the 25 January 2017.</p>
RISK ASSESSMENT	Failure to implement effective governance arrangements may present significant risks to the reputation of Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority.
COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	None for the purposes of this report.
BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	None for the purposes of this report

**NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED**

Item: Service Performance 1 April - 30 Sept 2016

Meeting Date: 15 December 2016

RECOMMENDATIONS	1. Members are asked to note the Service Performance for 1 April to 30 September 2016.
BACKGROUND PAPERS	None associated with this report.
APPENDICES	Appendix A – Performance by Key Line of Enquiry covering the period 1 April to 30 September 2016
REPORT ORIGINATOR	Name: ACFO Mick Stead Tel: 01722 691068 Email: michael.stead@dwfire.org.uk

**NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED**

## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 In line with the agreed governance arrangements, Service performance is scrutinised by Members through the Finance & Audit Committee and the Local Performance Committees. These Performance management arrangements also include the requirement for the Authority to be provided with a Service wide six-monthly performance overview against the agreed Key Lines of Enquiry. This is the first Service performance overview report and it is anticipated that the next report will be incorporated within the Authority's annual report. This paper will be supported by a presentation from the Chief Fire Officer at the meeting.

## 2 Key Lines of Enquiry

- 2.1 Members have previously agreed that the reporting and scrutinising of performance should be based on the four strategic priorities defined within the Community Safety Plan. Under these arrangements, the Local Performance & Scrutiny Committees consider and scrutinise performance against the first three priorities, which are:
1. Help you to make safer and healthier choices
  2. Protect you and the environment from harm
  3. Be there when you need us
- 2.2 The Finance and Audit Committee review performance against the last priority, namely
4. Making every penny count
- 2.3 As Members are aware each of the strategic priorities is supported by four Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOE). The KLOE's pose specific questions against which performance is appraised using performance indicators and commentary provided by Senior Officers. Each KLOE has a baseline assessment against three levels – *Developing*, *Established* and *Advanced*. For priorities one, two and three, Members approved these baseline assessments at each of the respective meetings of the Local Performance and Scrutiny Committees in late August and early September. For priority four, they were approved at the meeting of the Finance and Audit Committee on the 21 September 2016.
- 2.4 As well as providing this corporate overview and the quarterly reports to respective Committees (which is available on our website or in paper upon request from Democratic Services), Members are supported with a detailed on-line performance dashboard and access to the wider performance management system through the website. The Head of Strategic Planning would be happy to provide any specific support to Members in the use of this system (Contact Bob Ford 01722 691094 [robert.ford@dwfire.org.uk](mailto:robert.ford@dwfire.org.uk))

**3 Planned alignment to the revised inspection regime**

- 3.1 The approach to managing performance through Service wide priorities and the KLOE framework puts the Authority in a strong position for reporting against future inspection regimes. When details of this regime become clearer after the Policing and Crime Bill has received royal assent, Officers will be in a good position to align our internal performance framework with the KLOEs set out by the inspectorate. The Chairman is closely engaged in this emerging work as part of her role at the national level
- 3.2 In addition, by March 2017 the new Service will be in a position to set smart corporate targets for incorporation within the next Community Safety Plan.

**4 Conclusion**

- 4.1 Local Performance and Scrutiny Committees are an innovative and effective way of monitoring performance across a large fire and rescue service area whilst maintaining a local focus. They help foster local accountability and allow for service delivery to be tailored to local needs and expectations. The work of the Finance and Audit Committee allows the Authority to fulfil its wider corporate role in terms of audit, governance and financial management and provide assurance against the remaining priority, 'Making every Penny Count'. The Service has a sound and transparent performance framework in place that can be aligned to the inspection regime when this becomes clearer during 2017.
- 4.2 In terms of overall performance, good progress is being made across the Service against all strategic priorities. Strategic priorities continue to be delivered and convergence work is progressing well. A good framework of governance is in place, which is evidenced by both our internal and external auditors.
- 4.3 Key investment needs emerging from the local scrutiny of performance are being incorporated within the draft medium term finance strategy. This is being discussed by Members at the Policy and Resources Committee and will be the subject of an all Member seminar on the 25 January 2017.

**BENJAMIN ANSELL**

Chief Fire Officer

15 December 2016