



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE  
FIRE AND RESCUE  
AUTHORITY**

Item 06

MEETING	Wiltshire Local Performance & Scrutiny Committee
DATE OF MEETING	3 March 2017
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Performance for 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter – 1 October 2016 to 31 December 2016
STATUS OF REPORT	For open publication
PURPOSE OF REPORT	For information and approval
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	The concept of Local Performance and Scrutiny Committees was approved by Members at the Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority Meeting on 23 June 2016. The principle was to provide a mechanism for ensuring local accountability, focus and on-going support for matters relating to the geographical areas of the five constituent local authorities. This paper sets out the performance achieved for 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter covering the period 1 October 2016 to 31 December 2016.
RISK ASSESSMENT	Failure to fully consider, develop and implement legal and effective governance arrangements will present significant risks to the Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority. Amongst these risks are legal compliance, effective leadership and clarity of relationships between Members and officers.
COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	The Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority previously agreed that the governance arrangements should include Performance and Scrutiny Committees based upon the geography of the constituent authorities. These are innovative arrangements and they are designed to ensure that within a larger combined authority there is a clear focus and greater local accountability.
BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	There are no budgetary implications arising from this report
RECOMMENDATIONS	Members are asked to scrutinise and approve performance for 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter

BACKGROUND PAPERS	None
APPENDICES	Appendix A – Performance Report for 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter
REPORT ORIGINATOR AND CONTACT	Gus Cuthbert, Area Commander Wiltshire Tel: 01722 691226

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 At their meeting on 23 June 2016 Members of the Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority approved the process for running Local Performance and Scrutiny Committees. The principle was to provide a mechanism for ensuring local accountability, focus and on-going support for matters relating to the geographical areas of the five constituent local authorities.
- 1.2 This meeting also approved the agenda for the running of these Local Performance & Scrutiny Committee Meetings. This agenda explains that performance for each quarter will be scrutinised and approved by Members.

## 2. Key Lines of Enquiry

- 2.1 The formation of Local Performance and Scrutiny Committees is an innovative concept, which is intended to ensure local accountability and performance monitoring within a larger fire and rescue authority.
- 2.2 Members of the Fire and Rescue Authority have previously decided that reporting and scrutinising performance should be based around the four strategic priorities. Local Performance & Scrutiny Committees review and scrutinise performance against the following three priorities, while Finance and Audit review performance against the fourth priority – Making every penny count:
  - Help you to make safer and healthier choices
  - Protect you and the environment from harm
  - Be there when you need us
- 2.3 Part of this innovative approach to reporting and scrutiny has been to anchor reporting to specific Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOEs). Each of the Strategic Priorities is supported by 4 KLOEs, which are designed to pose specific questions, which in answering, provide Members with an evidence base to explain what has been put in place to deliver the priorities and show how Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service is changing and saving the lives of residents in Bournemouth, Poole, Dorset, Swindon and Wiltshire.
- 2.4 A baseline assessment has been completed against each KLOE and the evidence collected for each KLOEs has been assessed against three levels – Developing, Established and Advanced to determine the overall level of performance that has been achieved. The baseline assessment was approved by Members at the meeting of the Wiltshire Local Performance & Scrutiny Committee held on 1 September 2016.
- 2.5 At that meeting, Members approved the evidence base and assessment level and agreed that the assessment would be reviewed after one year. This assessment explains and

outlines to residents, partners and the wider community what is being done to improve the safety and well-being of all our communities.

### 3. Quarterly Reporting

- 3.1 The evidence supporting the baseline assessment of each KLOE is, by its nature, mostly generic. It is important therefore that each Local Performance & Scrutiny Committee also receives a quarterly report which is an update on the specific activities and outcomes that have been achieved within the Area. These outcomes will be explained in the Area Commanders report aligned to the three priorities. A narrative for each KLOE will be provided in the accompanying report supported by Key Performance Indicators.
- 3.2 To effectively report on performance at a local level, Members will be aware that we have developed an electronic performance monitoring and assurance system. This provides for line of sight, integration and interrogation from workplace to Fire Authority Level. The Cycle report is a key part of Local Performance and Scrutiny Meetings and provides local communities with the means of understanding and engaging in scrutinising performance at a local level.
- 3.3 Members also have access to a dedicated Members Dashboard, accessed through our website. Details of the dashboard and log on details have been circulated to Members.
- 3.4 Over time, it is anticipated that Members will prefer to use the Members Dashboard as the sole means of reporting and scrutinising of performance and it is also anticipated that a dedicated view will be created so that residents, partners and the wider community can also review performance in this way.
- 3.5 Current Standing Orders require the formal publication of a written report prior to each meeting of the Local Performance & Scrutiny Committee and Appendix A contains the quarterly report on performance for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter (1 October 2016 – 31 December 2016).

### 4. Conclusion

- 4.1 The use of Local Performance & Scrutiny Committees is an innovative approach to reporting performance across a large fire and rescue service. It is anticipated that the innovative approach adopted will provide an effective and efficient means for Members to hold officers to account and also provide our local communities with a simple way of understanding performance so that they can also engage and scrutinise the performance of their local services.

**Gus Cuthbert**

Area Commander Wiltshire

February 2017