



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE
AUTHORITY**

**DRAFT Minutes of the
Swindon Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee
held at 10:00 hours on Thursday 4 October 2018 at the
Westlea Community Fire Station, The Chesters, Stonehill Green
Westlea SN5 7DB**

These are draft minutes prepared by officers to be approved by the Swindon LPS Committee at their next meeting.

Members present: Cllr Abdul Amin; Cllr Brian Mattock; Cllr Garry Perkins

Officer attendance: Director of Community Safety, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, James Mahoney; Group Manager (GM), Glyn Moody; Democratic Services Officer, Mrs Marianne Taylor

Observers: Communities Programme Manager, GM Katie Cornhill; Service Delivery Administrator, Ms Frances Brooke-Harte; Representative from the Swindon Advertiser, Mr Aled Thomas

18/19 Election of Chairman

18/19.1 The Director of Community Safety, ACFO Jim Mahoney, opened the meeting and asked Members for their nominations for the role of chairman. Cllr Garry Perkins was nominated seconded and agreed as Chairman.

18/19.2 **RESOLVED: Cllr Perkins be the Chairman of the Swindon Local Performance & Scrutiny Committee.**

18/20 Welcome

18/20.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed attendees including observers GM Katie Cornhill, Ms Frances Brooke-Harte and Mr Aled Thomas.

18/21 Apologies

18/21.1 Apologies were received from Area Manager (AM) Byron Standen and AM Seth Why.

18/22 Code of Conduct, Declarations of Interest and Notifications of Any Other Business

18/22.1 The Chairman asked the meeting for any disclosures of pecuniary interests under the localism act. There were no disclosures.

18/23 Public Questions

18/23.1 A member of the press, Mr Aled Thomas, was present. When asked he confirmed he had no questions. Democratic Services had not received any public questions prior to the meeting.

18/24 Review and approve Minutes of the Swindon LPS meeting on 17 May 2018

18/24.1 The Chairman asked Members to review and approve the minutes from the last meeting.

18/24.2 **RESOLVED: Minutes were approved and signed as an accurate record with no amendments.**

18/25 Action Progress

18/25.1 The Democratic Services Officer, Mrs Marianne Taylor, advised Members that since the last meeting all actions had been progressed and two were pending input from various Officers and Members.

18/25.2 Mrs Taylor confirmed to Members that, subject to Members contentment with responses in the Quarter1 performance presentation, all outstanding actions had been completed and would be removed from the Action Progress Report.

18/25.3 **RESOLVED: Members noted the actions.**

18/26 Performance monitoring and briefing

- 18/26.1 AM Standen having provided his apologies, GM Glyn Moody took Members through the 1st Quarter's Performance Report for Swindon Local Performance & Scrutiny (Appendix A) covering the period 1 April to 30 June.
- 18/26.2 The three priorities that AM Standen has responsibility for in his area are:
Priority 1 Help you make safer and healthier choices
Priority 2 Protect you and the environment from harm; and
Priority 3 Be there when you need us.
- Priority 1**
- 18/26.3 GM Moody updated Members on the achievements of the Broadgreen project advising that initiatives included English as a second language (ESL), and community engagement events, took place. He further advised that the Service was considering running a similar project in areas outside of Broadgreen to include asylum seekers and child immigrants.
- 18/26.4 Cllr Abdul Amin advised the meeting that the community of Broadgreen were very grateful for the support received from the Service and other agencies immediately after the incident and during the project.
- 18/26.5 GM Moody confirmed to Members that Safe & Well (S&W) advisors were focussing on the most vulnerable groups with high risk elements; to support this work firefighters also undertook S&W visits. He added that using Pinpoint (a data capture system) prioritised those at greatest risk.
- 18/26.6 The Chairman outlined the significance of funding restrictions and the impact on early interventions. ACFO Mahoney advised Members of the range of sources that provided information to Pinpoint. He added that the Service was now able to quantify the savings to the public purse.
- 18/26.7 GM Moody advised Members that Stratton Fire Station had an open day which was well attended. He confirmed that a Junior Good Citizen (JGC) event took place celebrating 30 years, which some Members attended. GM Moody added that JGC was designed to help year six (age 10 & 11) students avoid putting themselves at risk of accident or injury by raising their awareness of risky situations.
- 18/26.8 GM Moody confirmed Safe Drive Stay Alive (SDSA) events had taken place recently with good attendance from local schools. GM Moody added that the Service was grateful for the contribution toward SDSA events from Swindon Borough Council (SBC); he advised Members that SDSA cost about £8k each time. GM Moody further confirmed the receipt of funding from ARVAL Ltd.
- 18/26.9 Members suggested that some Parish Councils may be willing to help with funding for future SDSA events and that GM Moody should contact SBC to learn how best to do this. Members discussed other avenues of funding to provide support for this much need activity.

- 18/26.10 **ACTION: GM Moody to approach SBC to investigate engagement with Parishes Councils (PC) via PC Chairs' meetings with the aim of providing a presentation and requesting support.**
- Priority 2**
- 18/26.11 GM Moody confirmed that Safeguarding referrals had been made and two were about children. He added that hoarding was still an issue, both locally and nationally, and a significant fire risk. GM Moody further added that most safeguarding referrals were made by Operational Staff.
- 18/26.12 GM Moody took Members through the statistics for building regulations, audits, licensing and complaints. He added that there had been two significant fires in commercial premises, one of which was at an unlicensed waste site.
- 18/26.13 GM Moody confirmed to Members that a local resilience forum (LRF) exercise took place in June which was successfully completed, following its delay from March. GM Moody further confirmed that the multi-agency search and rescue exercise provided many insights and learning opportunities.
- 18/26.14 GM Moody advised Members that the Red Cross work out of Swindon Fire Station, with a good working relationship which worked well as the Red Cross provided support at incidents and provided advice to members of the public affected by them. GM Moody advised that the local Red Cross service achieved an award following their humanitarian assistance at the Grenfell Tower incident.
- Priority 3**
- 18/26.15 GM Moody took Members through the figures for response and competencies and confirmed to Members that the majority of accidental dwelling fires were still caused by kitchen fires. He added that contributing factors are housing, age and vulnerability.
- 18/26.16 GM Moody confirmed to Members that members of the public had been very supportive in relation to a recent house fire by helping to create fire breaks and removing wooden fencing panels. He added that another fire had resulted in a complaint from a member of the public regarding firefighting tactics but that it had been resolved successfully.
- 18/26.17 GM Moody advised Members that he anticipated an increase in deliberate fires over quarter two, much of which will be due to the long spell of hot weather experienced over the summer months.
- 18/26.18 GM Moody advised Members that a multi-agency exercise took place in Swindon, with the support of Honda UK using modern cars which they had 'scrapped'. GM Moody added it was an excellent opportunity for understanding any changes in design and access to vehicles, and in the use of Service equipment. He further added that the exercise included the use of a drone.

18/26.19 **RESOLVED: Members noted the Quarter 1 report.**

18/27 LPS Working Group Terms of Reference – nominated deputy

18/27.1 The Director of Community Safety, ACFO Jim Mahoney advised Members of the working group which had been agreed along with the terms of reference and its purpose, which was to ensure the right balance between the level of detail reported and the ability of Local Performance & Scrutiny (LPS) Committees to appropriately scrutinise, and be assured of, Service performance against key indicators within the three priorities (1, 2 & 3).

18/27.2 ACFO Mahoney advised Members that at the Finance & Governance meeting of 31 July Members agreed that there should be a nominated deputy to cover should the Chairman of any of the LPS Committees not be available to attend the working group meetings.

18/27.3 Members discussed the working group's requirements and proposed and agreed Cllr Brian Mattock as the nominated Member to deputise at LPS working group meetings for the Swindon LPS Chairman, Cllr Garry Perkins.

18/22.4 **RESOLVED: Cllr Brian Mattock be the nominated substitute to attend the LPS working group if the Chairman was not available.**

18/28 Issues raised by Members (agreed with chairman)

18/28.1 There were no issues raised by Members.

18/29 Date of Next Meeting

18/29.1 The Chairman confirmed the date of the next Swindon Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee meeting as Wednesday 7 November 2018 at 10am at the Westlea Community Fire Station, Swindon.

Meeting Closed 11:20hrs

Signed: _____