



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE
AUTHORITY**

Item 21/24

MEETING	Dorset Local Performance & Scrutiny Committee
DATE OF MEETING	26 August 2021
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Performance report for quarter 1
STATUS OF REPORT	For open publication
PURPOSE OF REPORT	For consideration and scrutiny
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	This paper sets out the performance achieved for the first quarter covering the period 1 April to 30 June 2021. The report outlines performance against the key lines of enquiry against the Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) methodology. As Members would expect there are number of aspects of the Service’s work in prevention and protection that have been adversely impacted by the national pandemic. All statutory responsibilities are still being fulfilled and emergency response arrangements remain strong. There are no significant issues arising from this report.
RISK ASSESSMENT	There are no significant risks arising from this report. Performance remains good with no significant issues to raise with Members.
COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	Performance remains good and there are no significant adverse community issues arising from this report.
BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	None for the purposes of this report
RECOMMENDATION	Members are asked to scrutinise and comment upon performance of the Service period, 1 April to 30 June 2021.
BACKGROUND PAPERS	https://dwfrs.dashboard.cammsgroup.co.uk/#/

APPENDICES	None
REPORT ORIGINATOR AND CONTACT	Name: Area Manager, Seth Why Email: seth.why@dwfire.org.uk Tel: 07785 388741

1. Introduction

- 1.1 As Members are aware, the Service's performance is reviewed against the strategic priorities set out in the Community Safety Plan. This Committee oversees the performance against Priorities 1, 2 and 3 - *making safer and healthier choices, protecting you and the environment from harm and being there when you need us*, with the Local Performance and Scrutiny Committees scrutinising service delivery performance at a local level.
- 1.2 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 a set of KLOEs.
- 1.3 The Service revised its KLOEs with effect from 1 April 2021 to align to the methodology within the three pillars of HMICFRS's methodology: Effectiveness, Efficiency and People.
- 1.4 This alignment is designed to provide evidence of the Service's performance against the methodology and to allow Members to monitor and scrutinise the Service's performance to ensure it continues to achieve the overall HMICFRS rating of 'good'.
- 1.5 A baseline assessment for each KLOE has been undertaken against the HMICFRS methodology and 'good' rating. The evidence collected for each has been assessed against three levels – requires improvement, good, or outstanding to determine the overall level of performance and where improvement actions are required.
- 1.6 This report sets out the performance for quarter 1, 2021-2022 and will be supported by the attendance of key Officers at the meeting to answer any specific points Members may wish to raise.

2. Quarterly performance summary

- 2.1 KLOE 1: How well do we understand the risk of fire and other emergencies?

Availability and attendance of wholetime appliances across the Dorset group remains good and in line with the corporate target.

Whilst the availability of on-call appliances continues to be good and stable, there are several initiatives underway to improve this further including an increased recruitment campaign and targeted 'Have a Go days'. We continue to listen and support our staff to maximise our on-call retention.

The Service is developing a station risk profile document to support stations in better understanding the demands, risks and challenges at a local level. This will

enable them to set in place interventions of each risk which will feed into a station action plan.

A new initiative to train firefighters in fire safety is currently being trialled. This will allow the fire safety team to focus their expertise on higher risk properties in Dorset.

2.2 KLOE 2: How effective are we at preventing fires and other risks?

Increasing partnership referrals remains a key focus for the Safe & Well Team, particularly from hospitals and health care organisations. The Service is progressing with several new partners across Dorset in various stages of development. These are Nature Care Solutions, Nurse Plus, Tricuro, Arbri, Angel Holistic Care and NHS Mental Health Care Services.

Social distancing measures have impacted delivery of face-to-face prevention work during this quarter, including on education, youth interventions and road safety. Teams have adapted to new ways of working to deliver our key safety messages such as the virtual Safe Drive Stay Alive and virtual fire safety lessons. Social media is used to maintain engagement with the wider public promoting key safety messages. Stations continue to support promoting key safety messages.

The Service is developing an evaluation of our prevention activities to measure the impact they are having on preventing fires and other risks. Alongside this is the value for money framework which provides evidence of the Service, partner, and wider societal savings from our prevention interventions.

Our integrated approach to firesetting behaviour centred on key risk groups and areas has proven successful and we remain one of the lowest for deliberate fires in England.

2.3 KLOE 3: How effective are we at protecting the public through the regulation of fire safety?

Progress against the Service's programme of fire safety audits at high-risk premises with sleeping risk continues. Our focus is on high-rise residential buildings. We share risk information with Prevention and Operational colleagues to improve the safety of residents in these buildings.

The Service is revising its risk-based inspection programme for non-domestic buildings. This will include assessing the premises inspected compared to premises where incidents are occurring to ensure effective targeting. This work is on track to be delivered in time to start on 1 April 2021.

From April 2020, a new strategy was implemented for automatic fire alarms at commercial premises only, whereby the Service will no longer attend between the hours of 8am and 6pm. There is a significant reduction in the number of unwanted automatic fire alarms attended compared to the previous year across

the Service. Across the Dorset Group this delivered cashable savings of £3,250 for on-call attendance and six wholetime attendance hours saved.

2.4 KLOE 4: How effective are we at responding to fires and other emergencies?

The Service continues to be effective in evaluating and improving operational performance. Following an incident, where necessary, a structured debrief report captures any learning to share across the organisation, and where appropriate is taken to a cross-departmental group for consideration of any further action required.

Alongside this the Service continues to align with national guidance and oversee any further work necessary to strengthen its compliance against these standards.

2.5 KLOE 5: How well prepared are we to respond to major and multi-agency incidents?

The Service continues to work closely with Local Resilience Forums to capture community risks. The Service is no longer in major incident status for the coronavirus pandemic, but we continue to maintain our robust infection, protection, and control arrangements for the safety of public and staff. The Service continues to play a key role in all Strategic Coordinating and Tactical Coordinating Groups that are now in place for exiting the European Union and other localised risks.

Service exercise governance continues to be strengthened via a programme of exercising, including at our highest risk Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) sites. The development of specific tactical response plans continues for these COMAH sites to ensure clear guidance in the event of an incident at one of these sites.

3. Summary and key points

3.1 The use of KLOEs is an innovative approach to reporting performance. This approach provides a structured means for Members to receive performance information within a wider context.

3.2 There are no new significant issues to raise with Members at this time and good progress is being made.

3.3 The quarter 2 performance report for 2021-2022 will be provided to the Dorset Local Performance & Scrutiny Committee on the 25 November 2021.

3.4 Members can also view Key Performance Indicators via the on the online dashboard [here](#).

August 2021