



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE  
FIRE AND RESCUE  
AUTHORITY**

**Minutes of the Wiltshire Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee  
held on 27 May 2021 at 10:00am in Service Headquarters, Salisbury.**

Members present:

Cllr Paul Oatway (Chair)  
Cllr Pip Ridout  
Cllr Bob Jones  
Cllr Kelvin Nash

Officer attendance:

Director of Community Safety Assistant Chief Fire Officer (ACFO), Andy Cole  
Area Manager (AM), Seth Why  
Group Manager (GM), Wayne Presley  
Democratic Services, Gemma Kelly  
Democratic Services (SH), Stephanie Howard

**21/09 Welcome**

21/09.1 The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed Members.

**21/10 Apologies**

21/10.1 No apologies were received.

**21/11 Code of Conduct and Declarations of Interest**

21/11.1 The Chair asked the meeting for any disclosures of pecuniary interests under the Localism Act. There were no disclosures.

**21/12 Review and approve minutes of the Wiltshire LPS meeting on 25 February 2021**

21/12.1 The Chair asked Members to review and approve the minutes from the last meeting.

21/12.2 **RESOLVED: the minutes were confirmed without amendment and signed by the Chair as a true and correct record of the meeting.**

**21/13 Action progress report**

21/13.1 Steph Howard took Members through the Action Progress report. There are two outstanding actions.

21/13.2 Action 292 to ensure Members are informed and invited to all relevant events is in progress. Processes are being developed and once current restrictions allow, more opportunities will be available.

21/13.3 Action 302 is outstanding for Cllr Oatway in relation to obtaining funding for courses from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). Cllr Oatway updated that the meeting has not taken place with the outgoing PCC and this will be scheduled with the new incoming PCC after the summer election which is taking place on the 19 August. Steph Howard updated that action 302 can be closed and is superseded by action 315.

21/13.4 **RESOLVED: Members noted the actions and comments.**

**21/14 Performance monitoring and briefing**

21/14.1 Group Manager (GM) Presley delivered the Group 2 performance presentation as per the link below. Discussions were noted as follows:

[Wiltshire LPS Presentation Q4](#)

**21/14.2 Priority one - making safer and healthier choices**

Cllr Nash queried how the positive increase of response availability corresponds to targets and what the target is. ACFO Cole confirmed that a target of 100% would be unachievable and therefore we are working toward 80%. With regards to a national benchmark, there are inconsistencies in how this figure is obtained and therefore national statistics are not available. Cllr Oatway confirmed there are other considerations such as Wiltshire's geography and how response times are measured which vary across the national picture.

21/14.3 Cllr Nash asked for advance notice of social media campaigns in order that members can assist in sharing of these. ACFO Cole confirmed there is a Calendar of Events which will assist Members and he will share this.

21/14.4 **ACTION: Democratic Services to share Calendar of Events with Members.**

- 21/14.5 Cllr Jones inquired if the fire safety education programme is a stand alone programme for schools or whether this can be pushed out to other groups such as scouts. ACFO Cole confirmed that this is available standalone and has been adopted nationally. Cllr Ridout confirmed the importance of re-engagement with youths and would like to take this to an Area Board. AM Why confirmed the Hazard House is available to download online along with road safety and health and fitness programmes on the Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service website.
- 21/14.6 Cllr Oatway queried whether the 'Safe Drive Stay Alive' roadshows are a combined effort with partners. ACFO confirmed the roadshows are delivered via the Road Safety Partnership which the service sit on. AM Why confirmed the inter-agency working with Police and Local Authority partners on the Road Safety Partnership. Cllr Ridout expressed the need for wider promotion of these campaigns.
- 21/14.7 **Priority 3 - being there when you need us**  
 With regards to quarter 4 response figures Cllr Jones queried whether there is any expectation of a reduction in statistics when on-call firefighters return to substantive roles. ACFO Cole noted the difference nationally in how response times are measured and services employing a range of measures from the time of the call or the time of the appliance leaving the station. GM Presley confirmed that a review of on-call availability is underway along with initiatives for succession planning and availability.
- 21/14.8 Cllr Oatway noted the Q2 figure of 64.9% for on-call appliance availability. It is confirmed this is a seasonal trend.
- 21/14.9 In relation to the operational competencies data for wholetime firefighters, ACFO Cole noted few wholetime figures are below 100% which can be attributed to a reduction in training capacity. Training is considered on a case by case basis at the current time due to restrictions. Cllr Nash noted this and suggested a contextual narrative be added to the statistics if this data is published. ACFO Cole confirmed this data is only published in the papers for this meeting.
- 21/14.10 Operational Effectiveness Database continues to be effective and there are not confirmed fire deaths although three incidents await a coroner's verdict.
- 21/14.11 **Dema`nd summary**  
 Cllr Nash queried what Special Service incidents are – GM Presley confirmed Special Service incidents fall into many different categories depending upon the nature of the incidents, ranging from road traffic collision, flooding, animal rescue or assisting other agencies
- 21/14.12 **RESOLVED: Members scrutinised and commented upon the performance for period 1 January 2021 to 31 March 2021.**

**21/15 Technical rescue verbal update / AOB**

21/15.1 ACFO Cole provided an overview of the decision made and updated that a transition plan is in place. Stratton station have been trained as required with assistance of crews from Trowbridge and Chippenham. A consolidation period will follow before the capability is removed from Trowbridge and Chippenham. Cllr Oatway confirmed he would like this to remain on the agenda going forward due to the level of interest and would also like statistics brought to the meeting between LPS for water related incidents. Cllr Jones suggested that unless any issues are identified this should be limited to the agenda for the next two quarters, this is agreed by Members.

21/15.2 **ACTION: AM Why to include water related incident data for future performance reports.**

**21/16 Matters raised by Members (agreed with the Chair)**

21/16.1 Cllr Nash discussed the change in format of the Wiltshire area boards from six to four per year and suggested Members tie in with these more. Cllr Ridout agreed and further suggested an input at the Youth Themed area board.

**21/17 Date of Next meeting**

21/17.1 The Chair confirmed the date of the next Wiltshire Local Performance and Scrutiny Committee meeting as 2 September 2021 from 10:00am.

The meeting closed at 10:55

*Signed:* \_\_\_\_\_