

At a meeting of the HAMPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY
PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held at Hampshire Fire
and Rescue Service Headquarters, Eastleigh
on 14 October 2014

PRESENT:

Councillors: Keith Chapman (Chairman); Ann Briggs, Mark Cooper; Jane Frankum;
Frank Pearce (Vice Chairman); David Simpson; Mark Staplehurst and John Wall

31 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Adam Carew.

32 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were mindful of their duty to disclose at the meeting any disclosable pecuniary interest they had in any matter on the agenda for the meeting, where that interest was not already entered in the Authority's register of interests, and their ability to disclose any other pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any such matter that they might have wished to disclose.

No interests were declared under this item.

33 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes of the previous Committee held on 22 October 2013 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

34 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman confirmed that Hampshire had won the World Rescue Championships and the team were congratulated for their success.

35 DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations received for this meeting.

36 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS MONITORING REPORT

The Committee considered a report from the Chief Officer, which provided an update on how the Authority performed against its key performance indicators in the financial year ending 31 March 2014 and quarter three to date 2014/15 (April to December) (Item 6 in the Minute Book).

The officer summarised the report and took Members through the updated Appendix A to the report, which included the Family Group as a comparison in the charts. In particular, it was highlighted that Co-Responder Calls had increased and continued to provide a very valuable service supporting the Ambulance Service, being one of the busiest and most successful schemes in the country.

On page 9 (Accidental Dwelling Fires) it was noted that the trend was going in the right direction and approximately 30% of incidents required no fire-fighting action at the scene. It was agreed that it was important to look at trends across different groups and areas in order to find the best way of preventing accidents happening.

On page 11 of the Appendix (Deliberate Secondary Fires) it was noted that there was an apparent increase for 2013/14 due to the overly sharp decrease in 2012/13 as a result of bad weather. ***It was agreed that in future reports, definitions of what was classed as a primary and secondary fire would be included for reference.***

When looking at sickness on page 17, it was agreed that sickness data from other authorities would be included for information at the next meeting.

RESOLVED:

- a) The Committee endorsed the performance report and the strategies to meet the targets.

37 UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF THE RISK REVIEW PROJECT

The Committee considered a report from the Chief Officer in relation to the risk review project (Item 7 in the Minute Book).

The Area Manager confirmed effective arrangements and progress in project governance arrangements and project delivery. It was highlighted that a cross-party sounding board from Corporate Management Team (CMT) was part of overall governance arrangement. It was anticipated that proposals would be ready for final sign-off by early 2016, and that a public consultation would likely form part of this in the autumn of 2015. A full timeline was highlighted in Appendix A.

RESOLVED:

- a) The Committee endorsed the governance arrangements, timeline and approach for the project reporting to the Fire Authority in September 2015; and
- b) The Committee endorsed and supported the proactive approach to engage stakeholders at an early stage to shape the options that will be

taken forward by the Service from the Risk Review.

38 SAFEGUARDING

The Committee considered a report from the Chief Officer, explored the position of HFRS following assessment by the safeguarding lead in Hampshire (Item 8 in the Minute Book).

It was agreed that effective policies and procedures were essential to have in place to protect both children and adults. Audits had been carried out, and results on both had come back very positive, although action plans had been put in place to ensure continuous improvement. A Pan-Hampshire group was in place, which encompassed Health, Social Care and Safeguarding Leads, and a dedicated Safeguarding Lead had been appointed on a twelve-month secondment to the Service.

RESOLVED:

- a) The Committee acknowledged and accepted the current position and progress regarding Safeguarding.

39 ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014

The Committee considered a report from the Chief Officer, which contained the Annual Report for the Service, highlighting the performance for the financial year 2013/14.

It was confirmed that comments were being awaited from the Chairman, which would be included in the final document.

Some Members commented that the document could be produced more economically due to the amount of 'white space' and colour included, making it expensive to print. It was also felt that the "rough" appearance of the graphs made the statistics look approximate. It was agreed however, that the overall look was a lot more people friendly and contemporary, and had been well received by people of all ages. It was agreed that Members' feedback would be taken on board when finalising the document.