

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 30 July 2015

The Chairman announced that the press and members of the public were permitted to film and broadcast the meeting. Those remaining at the meeting were consenting to being filmed and recorded, and to the possible use of those images and recording for broadcasting purposes.

PRESENT:

Councillors: Keith Chapman (Chairman); Ann Briggs; Adam Carew; Mark Cooper; Jane Frankum; Frank Pearce (Vice Chairman); and John Wall.

Councillor Chris Carter, Chairman of the Fire Authority.

59 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Simpson.

60 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.

61 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes of the previous Committee held on 19 May 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. At the request of the Chairman of the Fire Authority, and in relation to Minute 56, it was confirmed that the leaflet relating to reducing fire risks in the home would be circulated to all Fire Authority Members.

62 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chairman's announcements.

63 DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations received for this meeting.

64 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS MONITORING REPORT

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

The report was summarised and Members were taken through Appendix A to the report, and trends relating to the statistics were explained to the Committee. The trend between levels of rainfall and the number of primary and secondary fires was highlighted, and Members noted the reduction in rainfall between January 2015 to May 2015 which had led to an increase in the number of fires, compared to the previous year.

It was noted that the number of co-responder calls remained at a high level in 2014/15 compared to previous years, which reflected the increasing number of retained fire stations to be included in the co-responder scheme. It was explained that occasionally a co-responder call has come from out of County, but these are funded by that particular County. All Co-Responder calls are paid for by South Central Ambulance not by HFRS. In relation to the number of fire fatalities on page 8 of the Appendix, it was confirmed that there were no fire fatalities so far for the financial year April 2015 to March 2016, with a significant reduction in fire casualties since March 2015.

Trends relating to the decrease in numbers of deliberate primary and secondary fires were explained to Members, and changing behavioural traits of the public were discussed in relation to this.

Member questions relating to the response standards to incidents were answered, and it was noted that the location of the fire could disproportionately affect the overall figure as a quick response time was achievable in urban areas due to the location of 'wholetime' fire stations with permanent operational personnel, compared to rural areas where personnel were 'on-call'.

In relation to performance monitoring of sickness on page 17 of the Appendix, Members noted that the HR Committee were continuing to monitor work to decrease sickness levels.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee endorse the performance report and the strategies to meet the targets.

65 RISK REVIEW PROCESS

The Committee considered a report from the Chief Officer in relation to the Risk Review process and how the Project Team will deliver the draft

proposals to the Full Authority (Item 7 in the Minute Book).

The report was introduced and the background to the Risk Review process was highlighted, as well as the timeline for the formal consultation (Appendix 2 to Item 7 in the Minute Book). It was confirmed that approval would be sought from the Full Authority to formally consult on draft proposals at its next meeting on the 9 September 2015. It was noted that an external provider would run the formal consultation process, and in answer to Member queries, the cost of this could be discussed further at a future meeting.

The different project stages of the Risk Review Process were highlighted to Members and questions relating to engagement with internal stakeholders were raised. Members noted the extensive engagement on the draft proposals with each of the 52 fire stations in Hampshire, resulting in 103 feedback responses, from both stations as a whole, as well as contributions received from individual firefighters.

In terms of engagement with Members, the Chairman highlighted the informal Risk Review briefing for all Fire Authority Members, which would take place prior to the September Full Authority meeting, and also the opportunity for Members to attend separate '1-2-1' briefings with officers. Members were appreciative of this extensive engagement process and thanked officers.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the Committee agree the process used to develop the draft proposals.
- b) That the Committee agree the performance indicators that would evaluate the outcome of the Risk Review project.

66 SERVICE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Committee received a report from the Chief Officer, regarding the Service Improvement Plan 2015-2020 (Item 8 in the Minute Book).

The report was introduced, and it was highlighted that revisions to the current Plan, which was approved in 2013, would reflect changes since its implementation to ensure the continued delivery of savings and improvements.

Members raised questions relating to the draft revised Plan (Appendix A to Item 8 in the Minute Book), and it was confirmed that wherever possible, the use of bulleted lists to identify information in future reports would be displayed in an alternative format for clarity.

Revisions to strengthen key performance indicators were also highlighted to Members. Members discussed the changes to the Service Plan, and agreed to review the Service Plan annually.

It was confirmed that a separate report on the Service Improvement Plan 2015- 2020 would be brought to the next meeting of the Full Authority on the 9 September 2015.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the Committee support the revised Service Improvement plan 'Safer and Stronger' priorities as detailed in Appendix A of the report, including extending its duration to the financial year 2020/21.
- b) That the Committee RECOMMENDS approval of the Service Improvement Plan to the Fire Authority at its meeting on the 9 September 2015.

67 HFRS/IWFRS – DDiP (DELIVERING DIFFERENTLY IN PARTNERSHIP) – STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

The committee considered a report from the Chief Officer, which provided an update on the progress of the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service/Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service – Delivering Differently in Partnership implementation project (Item 9 in the Minute Book).

The report was summarised and the background to the project was briefly outlined. Members were supportive of the continuation of the partnership as it continued to evolve, and the Chairman congratulated officers involved for their continuing good work.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee support the continuation of the HFRS/IWFRS Delivering Differently in Partnership implementation project, based on its current and projected progress and performance.