



Minutes

Community Safety Committee

Date: 26 January 2024

Time: 10:30

Venue: Dewsbury Town Hall

Present: Cllr Almas (in the chair), Cllrs Fazal, Garvani, Pollard, Renshaw, Sutcliffe and Zaman

In Attendance:

Apologies: Cllrs Downes, Keith, Kirton and Wood

20 Minutes of the last meeting held on 13 October 2023

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the last meeting held on 13 October 2023 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

21 Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

22 Urgent items

There were no urgent items.

23 Admission of the public

There were no items requiring the exclusion of press and public.

24 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest made in any matter under consideration at the meeting.

25 Performance Against Response Indicators

The Director of Service Delivery presented a report detailing the performance against the performance outcome targets covering the period 1 April 2023 to 31 December 2023.

An updated report was distributed to members to cover the period to 25 January 2024.

Members were pleased to note that the total number of fires is significantly less in West Yorkshire than other districts and that the number of malicious false alarms has reduced. Members were informed that the new false alarm policy, as approved at a previous Community Safety Committee, is due to start in the first week of March 2024 and that communications to local businesses are progressing well.

Members were informed that heat detection devices, which provide early notification of fires, are now installed as part of Safe and Well visits and that every property in West Yorkshire has been risk assessed so Safe and Well visits can be targeted to properties that have not been contacted before.

Members were assured that even though there has been a slight increase in the Road Traffic Collision (RTC) figures, Home Office statistics show that WYFRS have the lowest figures in the service.

Members requested and were given, further information from the report author regarding the following points:

- Incident Response times
- Missing persons and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in place with West Yorkshire Police
- Clarification of the Fire Related Injury and Fatality figures
- Electric Vehicle Fires
- Referral Processes

RESOLVED

That the report be noted

26 Primary Authority Scheme

Members considered a report of the Director of Service Delivery which provided information to Members on the reintroduction of the Primary Authority Scheme (PAS) which was introduced in 2014 and suspended in January 2021.

Members were assured that reactive work had continued during the period of suspension but that the scheme is now being reintroduced to focus on higher risk premises. Members questioned whether there have been any disputes between Fire Services with PAS partnerships and how these are resolved.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted

27 Spotlight On Case Studies

Members considered a report of the Director of Service Delivery which provided examples and updates on the following areas of work which are being undertaken to meet the needs of the communities of West Yorkshire in the delivery of prevention, protection and response activity.

- a) Bradford – Community Bonfire initiatives.
- b) Calderdale – Bonfire Period 2023
- c) Kirklees – BRAKE Road Safety Week
- d) Leeds – Care Leavers Partnership
- e) Wakefield - Working Within the Community to Improve Safety
- f) Youth Interventions Team - Bonfire Period 2023

It was emphasised that the Spotlight Ons are just examples of initiatives going on across all Districts all the time. Members noted the Spotlight On reports and received them positively.

Members requested further involvement in station events and expressed their thanks for being invited to Youth Intervention Team events. Members noted the success of the multi agency approach and welcomed the inclusion of vulnerable young people and care leavers. Members discussed the success of the work done over the bonfire period.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted

28 Contaminants

Members received a presentation by the Operations Support Area Manager providing members with an update of the processes involved in contaminant cleaning and the research work being done in this area.

Members received the presentation positively and discussed the need to ensure the outcome of the introduction of the new cleaning policies is recorded and that there is a service assurance programme to ensure crews are adhering to the policies.

Chair