



Minutes

Community Safety Committee

Date: 29 March 2019

Time: 10.30 am

Venue: Fire and Rescue Headquarters, Birkenshaw

Present: Councillor G Almas (in the chair), P Harrand, J Hughes, R Hunt, M Pervaiz, C Pillai, M Pollard, A Tait and A Wenham

In Attendance: None

Apologies: Councillors D O'Donovan and J Lennox

33 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the last meeting held on 25 January 2019 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

34 Urgent items

None.

35 Admission of the public

There were no items which required the exclusion of the public and press.

36 Declarations of interest

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

37 District Risk Reduction performance management targets 2019 – 20

The Director of Service Delivery submitted a report which advised of the provisional performance management targets (outcomes) for 2019 – 20.

The target setting methodology was based on the average three-year performance across a number of key performance indicators and Members were advised that a new Gaining Entry – Cause for concern protocol which set out the support that West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service would give to Yorkshire Ambulance Service, as agreed by the Authority's Executive Committee and subsequently adopted by the Tri-service Collaboration Board, would impact on the total number of incidents attended. Due to the difficulty in estimating the number of calls for assistance under the new protocol, this had not been factored into the projected targets for 2019 – 20. These calls would be monitored separately and reported in normal incident activity.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

38 District Action Plans 2018 – 19 – final update

The Director of Service Delivery submitted a report which invited Members to note the final update against each District Action Plan for 2018 – 19.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

39 Service Delivery Spotlight On case study

Members received a report from the Director of Service Delivery which gave detail of how the service met the service delivery needs of vulnerable and at risk groups or individuals. The spotlight in this report focussed on;

- The Bikerlite programme

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

40 Safeguarding report 2018

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer and Director of Service Delivery which advised of the safeguarding activity undertaken during 2018 together with a summary of the 112 cases that had generated a cause for concern.

It was further reported that 57 of the cases had been identified as requiring safeguarding and had been referred to the relevant local authority safeguarding team and 50 cases had been identified as vulnerable individuals who required additional support from West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service.

The annual figures had highlighted a development need in terms of the identification of a cause for concern. It had been anticipated that the Safe and Well training may have led to a reduction in the numbers of Causes for Concern being raised and new training modules were being developed around risk assessment and decision-making to be followed by specific safeguarding training during the course of 2019 – 20.

Members were advised that safeguarding would be the subject of a formal external audit and was subject to continual monitoring by internal audit officers.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

41 Provision of smoke and heat detection equipment

The Director of Service Delivery submitted a report which advised Members of the changes that would be made towards improving the standard and location of fire detection equipment installed as part of the Safe and Well home visit programme in response to both advances in technology and recommendations from the National Fire Chiefs' Council.

It was reported that the effect of the recommendations and technological advances would be likely to increase the number of smoke detectors being fitted in properties and would include more advanced equipment. Provision in the capital budget was expected to cover the cost of the revised programme but Members were advised that this would be reviewed mid-way through 2019 – 20 with approval sought at that time as appropriate for an increase to the budget.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

42 Emollient skin products project

Members received a report of the Director of Service Delivery which advised of the progress of the emollient skin product project which aimed to raise awareness amongst health and care professionals and the public around the fire risks associated with the use of the products.

A project team had been established in October 2017 following three fatalities where smoking and the use of paraffin-based products had been linked to the cause of fire. Members were advised that specific training on the use of emollients had been delivered as part of the Safe and Well programme and, of the 1176 cases identified around the use of the products, 400 were for people who required high risk intervention.

The project also included the following;

- provision of labelling and training of pharmacists who dispensed emollient creams
- awareness raising presentations for relevant partners
- adoption of a recommendation to the National Fire Chiefs' Council to establish a national working group on the subject led by West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service officer
- fire testing which had identified fabric care recommendations and risk of fire associated with low or non-paraffin based products

- adoption of recommendations to the Commission on Human Medicines to work with manufacturers and other stakeholders, and
- social media and press campaigns

It was reported that a toolkit of resources was being developed for use by other fire and rescue services nationally and a full evaluation of the project would be carried out to assess the outcomes and impact of the toolkit.

Costs associated with the project were being met from within the approved revenue budget.

RESOLVED

- a) That the report be noted;
- b) That the emollient skin products project continues to be supported; and
- c) That officers working closely on the project be congratulated on the success of the programme.

43 Cost recovery update – Primary Authority scheme

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Service Delivery which provided an update on the cost recovery status of the Primary Authority scheme as requested at the 25 January 2019 meeting of this Committee.

Members were advised that costs were being recovered on an hour for hour basis and contributions were being made towards overhead costs. Exact figures invoiced, however, were not available pending the resolution of outstanding issues related to the application of VAT and advice from HMRC.

RESOLVED

- a) That the report be noted; and
- b) That an update report on the outstanding issues relating to the application of VAT on recharge invoices be submitted at the earliest opportunity and, in any event, prior to the next scheduled annual update.

44 West Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum update

The Director of Service Delivery submitted a report which advised of the activities undertaken by the West Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum during the preceding 12-month period.

In addition to routine resilience work it was reported that the significant workload had been the planning activity in respect of the potential for a No Deal EU exit.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

45 District Action Plans 2019 – 20

Members were invited to approve the District Action Plans for 2019 – 20 which set out the strategic objectives and actions for each District in support of Your Fire and Rescue Service objectives.

RESOLVED

That, subject to inclusion of a standard approach to hoarding, the District Action Plans 2019 - 20 be approved.

Chair