



Minutes

Community Safety Committee

Date: 13 January 2023

Time: 10:30

Venue: FSHQ

Present: Councillors G Almas (in the chair), R Ahmed, M S Fazal, C Keith, M Midgley, M Pervaiz, M Pollard, K Renshaw, and R Wood

In Attendance:

Apologies: Cllrs P Harrand and D Kirton

20 Minutes of the last meeting held on 28 October 2022

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the last meeting held on 28 October 2022 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

21 Matters arising

None

22 Urgent items

None

23 Admission of the public

There were no items which required exclusion of public and press

24 Declarations of interest

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

25 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 were being undertaken to meet the needs of the communities of West Yorkshire in the delivery of prevention, protection and response activity.

- a) Bradford – Bradford City Stay Safe
- b) Calderdale – Union Street, Halifax
- c) Kirklees – National Road Safety Week
- d) Leeds – Supporting and Engaging Communities
- e) Wakefield – Road Safety Initiatives for Young Drivers
- f) Youth Interventions – Get started with Boxing

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. The Chair gave thanks to the District Managers for their hard work within the local communities and thanked them for attending today's meeting. Members also passed on their thanks for the continued excellent collaborative work with partner agencies going on across all districts.

Members were assured that data recording and analysis are improving, and that data is looked at regularly within formal monthly meetings and daily catch ups and good practice is shared regularly around all districts.

Following the recent tragic fatality involving a young person driving a high powered rental vehicle there was a member query regarding initiatives planned within this area.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted

26 Performance Against PMI Targets 2022/23

Members received a report of the Director of Service Delivery which advised of the performance against the performance outcome targets for 1 April 2022 – 9 December 2022.

Members were provided with additional updated figures up to and including 12 January 2023.

It was noted that total activity was outside target but that this has been caused by the extreme summer heatwave and that it is anticipated that the target will be met by year end.

Members raised and received clarification on the following specific issues;

- Wildfires – there has been a Lead Wildfire Officer appointed, working alongside 12 nationally trained wildfire officers who are engaging well with landowners. New equipment has been purchased and the service has an excellent working relationship with Yorkshire Water for sharing good practice and equipment.
- Ambulance waiting times – WYFRS has an excellent relationship with the Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) and have access to a direct line to the major trauma

department who triage and prioritise calls. WYFRS have on rare occasions transported a patient to A&E, where ambulance waiting times have been unavoidably excessive, but a fire appliance has never been kept waiting at A&E.

- Safe and Well Visits – these have been going ahead since the end of the pandemic and a new scheme for referrals of a wider range of vulnerable people is being piloted in Leeds and Wakefield, using a new data package.
- Cost of Living Crisis – all dwelling fires are investigated but as yet there has been no significant increase in figures that can be attributed to the current cost of living crisis. However, there has been an increase in fires relating to lithium batteries, both nationally and within West Yorkshire.
- Enforcement, restriction and prohibition notices – these were explained to members and the differences were clarified.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted

27 West Yorkshire Resilience Forum Update

Members considered a report from the Deputy Chief Fire Officer and the Director of Service Delivery which updated members on the activities undertaken by the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum over the past 12 months.

Members were advised that The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 requires that in every Police force area a Local Resilience Forum (LRF) must operate. In West Yorkshire this forum is referred to as the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum (WYRF) and is branded as 'West Yorkshire Prepared'.

The report detailed the purpose of LRFs;

- To provide a local forum for local resilience issues
- To help co-ordinate risk assessment through the production of the Community Risk Register
- To facilitate Category 1 and 2 responders in the delivery of their CCA duties
- To help deliver government policy by co-ordinating responses to government initiatives
- To help determine a procedure for the formation of a Strategic Co-ordinating Group (SCG) by the relevant local responders at the time of an emergency.

Members were pleased to note that since the pandemic more focus has been placed on Local Resilience Forums resulting in the publication of the Government's LRF paper and more investment in the form of grant funding. The involvement of the LRFs in Operation London Bridge were clarified.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted

28 Bonfire Report 2022

The Deputy Chief Fire Officer presented a report informing members of the events leading up to and throughout the bonfire period. The report detailed the extensive prevention activity carried out within each District, including Community Awareness Initiatives, Youth Education Provision, Environmental Visual Audits (EVAs), Intelligence sharing with partner agencies, District Community Engagement, Selling of Fireworks, the Corporate Communications campaign, which included the internal and external websites, printed material and social media.

Members were advised the use of testing the sale of fireworks to underage people was successful and identified several outlets. WYFRS will work with the police to prosecute these vendors.

It was noted that the use of the 6 “fire cars” in place of fire appliances for small fires was successful

Members were pleased to note that both the number of total incidents and attacks on Firefighters were down on previous years and requested that this is better reflected in the data by changing the name of the category “other”

RESOLVED

That the report be noted

Chair