

Minutes

Community Safety Committee

Date: 6 February 2026

Time: 10:30

Venue: FSHQ

Present:

Councillor Keith (in the chair) Councillors Burke, Dickenson, Hall, Renshaw, (as a sub for Cllr Tudor) Salam, Sutcliffe and Wood

Apologies: Councillor Ahmed, O'Donovan and Tudor,

19.Minutes of the last meeting held on 3 October 2025

Resolved

That the Minutes of the last meeting held on 3 October 2025 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

20.Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

21.Urgent items

There were no urgent items

22.Admission of the public

There were no items requiring exclusion of the press or public

23.Declarations of interest

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

24.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 2025 to 31 December 2025

An updated report of figures to date was provided for Members.

Members thanked the report author for the thorough report and welcomed the reduction in the Safe and Well waiting list. Members discussed the statistic showing there are more incidents per day in the Leeds district, which can be attributed to the high population. Members requested further information on the impact Vision Zero has made and welcomed that it has resulted in better partnerships, collaborative working, and aligning the work of all services to the National Strategy. Members discussed the age range of drivers rescued at Road Traffic Accidents (RTAs) and the impact the use of unsafe, poor quality electrical goods has on the statistics.

Resolved

That the report be noted

25. Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)

The Director of Service Delivery presented a report informing Members of the on going work in relation to Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) and the issues Fire and Rescue Services (FRS) are encountering, including information particular to planning applications for BESS sites within West Yorkshire

Members thanked the report author for the detailed informative report and commented on the importance of recognising that BESS are here to stay and the need to work collaboratively with local planning authorities.

Members expressed grave concerns regarding the planning process and the lack of legislation to allow FRS input and discussed the options available to them to lobby for changes to the regulations.

Members were interested to learn about the ongoing research and development into fire extinguishing products and pleased to hear that WYFRS Firefighters are receiving ongoing training in relation to this type of self-sustaining fire. Members are aware of the huge technological developments in battery production and storage but concerned to learn about air pollution and contaminated fire water run off having a long term impact on the environment following lithium-ion battery fires.

Members sought confirmation that FRSs are represented in the House of Commons and that the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) have national workstreams in place.

Resolved

That the report be noted

26. 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 – Immersive Training for Bradford Firefighters
- b) Calderdale – District Road Show
- c) Kirklees – Road Safety Week
- d) Leeds – Electrical Safety
- e) Wakefield – Working with the Community to Improve Safety
- f) Youth Intervention Team – Re  Action Illingworth

It was emphasised that the Spotlight Ons are just examples of initiatives going on across all Districts all the time and new initiatives are rolled out across the whole Service.

Members noted the Spotlight On reports and received them positively.

Resolved

That the report be noted.

Chair