

**M. Pearson
CLERK TO THE AUTHORITY**

**To: Members of the Community Safety
and Corporate Planning Committee
(see below)**

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COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CORPORATE PLANNING COMMITTEE
(Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority)

Wednesday 25 June 2014

A meeting of the Community Safety and Corporate Planning Committee will be held on the above date, **commencing at 10:00 hours in Conference Room B in Somerset House, Service Headquarters** to consider the following matters.

M. Pearson
Clerk to the Authority

AGENDA

PLEASE REFER TO THE NOTES AT THE END OF THE AGENDA LISTING SHEETS

1. **Election of Chair**
2. **Apologies**
3. **Minutes** of the meeting held on 7 February 2014 attached (Page 4).
4. **Items Requiring Urgent Attention**

Items which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be considered at the meeting as matters of urgency.

5. **Election of Vice Chair**

PART 1 – OPEN COMMITTEE

6. **Planning Process for the Corporate Plan (CP2)**

Presentation to be given at the meeting by the Area Manager – Data Analysis and Systems Development - on the planning process for CP2.

7. **Home Fire Safety Visits**

Presentation to be given at the meeting by the Director of Operations on the position in respect of Home Fire safety Visits.

8. **Update on Community Safety Investment**

Report of the Director of Operations (CSCPC/14/3) attached (page 6).

MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO SIGN THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Membership:-

Councillors Bown, Mrs. L Bowyer, Colthorpe, Eastman, Ellery, Owen, Prior-Sankey

NOTES	
1.	<p><u>Access to Information</u></p> <p>Any person wishing to inspect any minutes, reports or lists of background papers relating to any item on this agenda should contact the person listed in the "Please ask for" section at the top of this agenda.</p>
2.	<p><u>Reporting of Meetings</u></p> <p>Any person attending a meeting may report (film, photograph or make an audio recording) on any part of the meeting which is open to the public – unless there is good reason not to do so, as directed by the Chairman - and use any communication method, including the internet and social media (Facebook, Twitter etc.), to publish, post or otherwise share the report. The Authority accepts no liability for the content or accuracy of any such report, which should not be construed as representing the official, Authority record of the meeting. Similarly, any views expressed in such reports should not be interpreted as representing the views of the Authority. Flash photography is not permitted and any filming must be done as unobtrusively as possible from a single fixed position without the use of any additional lighting; focusing only on those actively participating in the meeting and having regard also to the wishes of any member of the public present who may not wish to be filmed. As a matter of courtesy, anyone wishing to film proceedings is asked to advise the Chairman or the Democratic Services Officer in attendance so that all those present may be made aware that is happening.</p>
3.	<p><u>Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (Authority Members only)</u></p> <p>If you have any disclosable pecuniary interests (as defined by Regulations) in any item(s) to be considered at this meeting then, unless you have previously obtained a dispensation from the Authority's Monitoring Officer, you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) disclose any such interest at the time of commencement of consideration of the item in which you have the interest or, if later, as soon as it becomes apparent to you that you have such an interest; (b) leave the meeting room during consideration of the item in which you have such an interest, taking no part in any discussion or decision thereon; and (c) not seek to influence improperly any decision on the matter in which you have such an interest. <p>If the interest is sensitive (as agreed with the Monitoring Officer), you need not disclose the nature of the interest but merely that you have a disclosable pecuniary interest of a sensitive nature. You must still follow (b) and (c) above.</p>
4.	<p><u>Part 2 Reports</u></p> <p>Members are reminded that any Part 2 reports as circulated with the agenda for this meeting contain exempt information and should therefore be treated accordingly. They should not be disclosed or passed on to any other person(s). Members are also reminded of the need to dispose of such reports carefully and are therefore invited to return them to the Committee Secretary at the conclusion of the meeting for disposal.</p>
5.	<p><u>Substitute Members (Committee Meetings only)</u></p> <p>Members are reminded that, in accordance with Standing Order 35, the Clerk (or his representative) must be advised of any substitution prior to the start of the meeting. Members are also reminded that substitutions are not permitted for full Authority meetings.</p>

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CORPORATE PLANNING COMMITTEE

(Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority)

7 February 2014

Present:-

Councillors Eastman (Chairman), Bown, Mrs.Bowyer, Colthorpe, Ellery, Owen and Prior-Sankey.

Apologies:-

None

***CSCPC/14. Minutes**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2013 be signed as a correct record.

***CSCPC/15. Safe South West - Work Programme**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Operations (CSCPC/14/1) that updated the Committee on the work programme that had been developed for SAFE (Safety, Advice, Funding and Education) South West, the charitable arm that had been set up by the Service with the purpose of accessing otherwise unobtainable funds to promote community safety activities.

A presentation was given at the meeting by the Community Safety Support Manager, Anne Harrison-Bailey and the Charity's Co-Ordinator, Steve Smith, on the progress made to date in respect of the Charity's work. It was noted that the Charity had already had some success in respect of attracting funding for projects, notably from the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner's small grants fund for training staff to undertake interventions within an Adult Firesetters programme and also for training for Flood Wardens (Minute *CSCP/17 below also refers). It was felt that the profile of the Charity had been raised and that progress could now be made as a result of the funding generated.

***CSCPC/16. Specialist Rescue Capabilities**

In view of the recent incidence of flooding within the Somerset Levels and the need to deploy operational staff to deal with this from the Service's boat rescue teams, this item was **DEFERRED** to a future meeting.

***CSCPC/17. Preparing for and Responding to Flooding Incidents**

The Committee received for information a report of the Director of Operations (CSCPC/14/2) that set out information in respect of the Service's response to the increased number of flood related incidents within Devon and Somerset.

The Community Safety Manager updated the Committee on the current position in respect of the flooding on the Somerset Levels. He stated that a Strategic Command Group had been established together with a Tactical Co-ordination Group to implement the decisions made. Briefings were sent out every 12 hours to update the position.

The Service was receiving assistance from the National Resilience Assurance Team together with specialist advice from other organisations in respect of the response provided to the villages of Muchelney and Moorland in particular. Reference was made to the cost of the Service's response to the flooding and how this may be reclaimed from Government in due course. It was noted that there may be European funding available for extreme emergency funding and the Service was urged to pursue this.

The Community Safety Support Manager made reference to work being undertaken on community resilience in Somerset in conjunction with the Local Resilience Forum (LRF). This was aimed at empowering communities and individuals with resources and other support to facilitate their response to and recovery from emergencies. It was hoped that this Project would empower communities to protect their property and that the training for Flood Wardens would be one of the mechanisms that would assist in achieving this aim.

The Committee also received a presentation given at the meeting by the SAFE South West Charity's Co-ordinator in respect of the Flood Warden Training Programme that had developed utilising funding received from the National Lottery and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). It was noted that a pilot project had been established in Cornwall and it was hoped that this could now be extended to other communities within the South West.

***CSCPC/18. Networked Fire Control Services Partnership (NFCSP) - Update**

The Committee received for information a presentation given by the Director of Operations that covered, amongst other things:

- An overview of the history behind the Partnership and the establishment of the New Dimensions project, which was set up to look at resilience in the light of a major terrorist attack and funded by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG);
- The issues emanating from the New Dimensions Project, namely the identification of inefficient communications between fire control rooms, the resulting decision to reduce the number of Fire Control rooms, and the inability of individual fire and rescue services to track assets deployed;
- The above issues led to the introduction of Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) to the cabs of fire appliances which provided specific information at the touch of a button to fire crews in respect of maps, chemical data, crash recovery, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPS) and Operational Risk Information Systems (ORIS), together with the establishment of Airwave – a new digital communications system;
- The introduction of “status messaging” via the MDTs in 2012 to provide more detailed information to the Service in respect of the position on an incident to which an appliance had been mobilised (such as “mobile to, in attendance”, etc.) and also to cut down on the amount of radio traffic;
- Details of the new FORTEK system that had been developed as a result of central government funding for a collaborative approach to Fire Control with Wiltshire, Dorset and Hampshire Fire and Rescue Services which would go live in Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service in October 2014.

***DENOTES DELEGATED MATTER WITH POWER TO ACT**

The meeting started at 10.00hours and finished at 11.20hours

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	CSCPC/14/3
MEETING	COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CORPORATE PLANNING COMMITTEE
DATE OF MEETING	25 JUNE 2014
LEAD OFFICER	ACFO, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
SUBJECT OF REPORT	Update on Investment in Community Safety
RECOMMENDATIONS	<i>That the report be noted.</i>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>On 10 July 2013, the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority (Minute DSFRA/20 refers) approved an additional £450,000 of funding to support increased Community Safety activity as part of the proposals within the Corporate Plan.</p> <p>This report provides a summary of the activities funded by this investment and the proposed investment of the remaining balance.</p>
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	There are no additional resource implications as a result of this paper.
EQUALITY RISKS AND BENEFITS ANALYSIS (ERBA)	The Corporate Plan proposal was subject to an equality risks and benefits analysis.
APPENDICES	A – Details of Activities
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS	Minutes of the Fire and Rescue Authority meeting held on 10 July 2013

1 **INTRODUCTION**

1.1 On 10 July 2013, the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority (Minute DSFRA/20 refers) approved an additional £450,000 of funding to invest into Community Safety activity as part of the 2013-14 Corporate Plan proposals. This investment was agreed in order to deliver:

- Improved community safety within the communities where changes to crewing arrangements had been agreed;
- Cost effective initiatives and partnership working to assist in recognising targeted and vulnerable groups within the community, and
- Sustainable relationships and activities that create an ongoing legacy of safety for the communities of Devon and Somerset.

1.2 This paper provides a summary of the projects that have been supported by this investment.

2. **DETAILS OF ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE SERVICE**

2.1 Agreement to funding for any proposed initiative was subject to a detailed business case to be submitted by Group Commanders. Each business case was subject to scrutiny against its ability to meet the delivery criteria outlined in paragraph 1.1.

2.2 Details of the initiatives implemented by Groups are as follow:

2.2.1 West Devon Group

The Group Management Team identified initiatives and closer partnership working to improve safety and to address the changes to crewing arrangements. Their proposals were to:

- Deliver additional Home Safety Visits to all properties that would now be outside a 10 minute response area for Plympton and Plymstock;
- To secure the placement of a Watch Manager within the Plymouth City Council Housing Team;
- To secure the placement of a Station Manager within the Plymouth City Council Emergency Planning Team;
- To secure a seconded position of a Watch Manager within the Plymouth & Devon Racial Equality Council.

2.2.2 South Devon Group

The Group Management Team identified two key areas of support to enhance the safety of the residents within the community. Their proposals were to:

- Create a Community Risk Reduction Officer role based at a Firefighters level who is able to focus on the needs of the community, identifying people, businesses and properties that present a risk;
- Create a Community Risk and Resilience Team with two Advocate positions working to promote the safety of those properties directly affected by the crewing changes in Torquay;

2.2.3 Central North Group

The Group Management Team identified two key areas of support to enhance the safety of the residents within the community. The proposals were to:

- Deliver additional Home Safety Visits to all properties that would now be outside a 10 minute response area for Ilfracombe;
- Support 'One Ilfracombe' - the community budget project, a concept that brings together partners to pool activities and spend in key targeted areas in order to improve the outcomes across the whole community;
- Secure the employment of Advocates to support the delivery of community safety objectives as identified within the Ilfracombe Local Community Plan;
- Refurbish the existing estate of Ilfracombe Fire Station to provide secure access and facilities to support the multi-agency Town Team.

2.2.4 Somerset West Group

The Group Management Team identified three key areas of support to enhance the safety of the residents within the community. The proposals were to:

- Deliver additional Home Safety Visits to all properties affected by changes to the crewing arrangements at Taunton;
- Support the Somerset Rural Communities Council (SRCC) Village Agents scheme for 2 years (13/14 & 14/15);
- Support the 12 month secondment of a Watch Manager to the Somerset County Council Project Team for the 'Troubled Families' initiative.

3. **PROPOSED FUTURE ACTIVITY**

- 3.1 The balance of the fund remaining at this time has been ring-fenced to support an improved service wide approach to the delivery of home safety visits.
- 3.2 In light of the increase in fire related deaths and injuries across the service area in 2013/14, a review of the home safety check process was initiated. Research provides evidence that home safety visits can reduce the incidence of dwelling fires and the related deaths and injuries.
- 3.3 The Service has set an ambitious target of increasing the number of annual completed home safety visits from its current level of around 4,000 per year to an eventual target of 30,000 per year. Both our own and external research suggests that such an approach could lead to the reduction of an additional 3 lives saved per year and a reduction of 23 injuries per year.
- 3.4 To support this ambitious increase, the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority at its meeting on 29 May 2014 (Minute DSFRA/9 refers) approved the use of an additional £100,000 in the form of a ring-fenced reserve. There will be a need for the Service to work even more closely with existing and new partners in order to provide home safety visits for those most at risk in our communities. Delivery of this additional workload will require the Service to increase activity across the whole process of home safety checks. This will require the investment from the balance of the original £450,000, the additional £100,000 agreed for the 2014/15 along with the realignment of existing resources.

4 **CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 The Authority's decision to invest in Community Safety has enabled the Service to develop a broad range of initiatives that reach into the community and direct resources to those most at risk from fires and other emergencies. The Service will closely monitor the outcomes from this investment and report the results to the Authority.

5 **RECOMMENDATION**

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Authority note the content of this report.

TREVOR STRATFORD
ACFO, Director of Operations

DETAILS OF INVESTMENT INITIATIVES BY AREA AND GROUP COMMANDS

1. Western Command

West Devon Group

1.1. Additional Home Safety Visits

The Group Management Team identified that there were 80 residential premises now outside the 10 minute response time following the changes to the crewing arrangements.

Home Safety Visits have been recognised in identifying and reducing the risk within each domestic property, having a life span of up to 7 years through the provision of advice and education, a smoke detector and additional equipment as necessary.

Cost of initiative - £1,204

1.2. Placement within Plymouth City Council Housing Team

Plymouth experiences significant problems with poor housing, deprivation and affordability. There is a high level of private renting of Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO) which are recognised as having a higher frequency of fires than any other type of property.

A secondment within this team will present greater data sharing opportunities for significant target groups and embed the availability of a Home Safety Visit within a key partner agency. Benefits identified include;

- Improved management of Licensed and Unlicensed HMO's
- Improved data sharing leading to improved access to high risk groups.
- An increase in the number of Home Safety Visits for a target / vulnerable group
- Reduced risk to Firefighters through risk reduction activities

The Housing Team have agreed to share the costs for this placement at Watch Manager level and therefore will cost £18,047 (50% of true cost of £36,094).

1.3. Placement within the Plymouth City Council Emergency Planning Team

The placement of Station Manager within the Emergency Planning Team was agreed with a member of the Executive Board, with the following benefits recognised as being;

- The delivery of shared corporate goals.
- Improved data sharing opportunities identifying high risk groups.
- An increase in the delivery of Home Safety Visits for target/vulnerable groups.
- A natural overlap of mutual areas of interest in community resilience and pre-planning in mitigating any natural emergency.

The costs associated with supporting this role are £38,633

1.4. Seconded position of a Watch Manager the Plymouth & Devon Racial Equality Council.

This secondment offers the Service further access to those suffering from racial equality issues and other vulnerable groups within the community.

The role is specific in the type of person able to effectively deliver in this vital area for the Service and there has been an increase in terms of awareness and engagement within groups that have historically been very difficult to engage. Improvements will be delivered through;

- Generating greater inequality awareness training to schools and our own organisation
- Supporting Step up to Respect Festival.
- Supporting the set-up of a Kurdish centre in Plymouth.
- Supporting Life Skills for those with a Learning Disability (999 DVD).
- Supporting the Services strategic direction on equality and diversity.

Cost of initiative - £49,000

The total bid from the West Devon Group is £106,884.

South Devon Group

1.5. Community Risk Reduction Officer

A role will be based at a Firefighters level with the ability to;

- Focus on the needs of the community, identifying people, businesses and properties that present a risk.
- Build strong links with other service providers, statutory and voluntary sector.
- Arrange and carry out targeted enhanced Home Safety Visits.
- AFA reduction and the targeting of repeat offenders - supporting a further cost saving initiative and Corporate Proposal.
- Deliver safety advice to businesses and residents.

Cost of initiative - £38,633

1.6. Community Risk and Resilience Team

These roles provides for Advocates to work on the following to promote the safety of those properties directly affected by crewing changes through;

- Conducting enhanced Home Fire Safety visits.
- Targeted campaigns emanating from intelligence led data.
- Delivering safety training for partners to conduct Home Safety Visits.
- Liaison and networking with partner agencies.
- Delivering schools talks.
- Delivering community action events

Cost of initiative £46,360

The total bid from the South Devon Group is £84,993

2. Central Command

Central North Group

2.1. The One Ilfracombe (community budget project) is a new concept that brings together partners to pool activities and spend in key targeted areas on improving the outcomes across the whole community.

The main focus for the Service is the development of the Town Team, a multi-agency approach to the delivery of public and voluntary services within Ilfracombe.

The proposed actions focused on

- The employment of Advocates to support in the delivery of community safety objectives identified within the Ilfracombe Local Community Plan. These persons are being trained as part of the multi-agency Town Team in providing a daily link for the Service with One Ilfracombe.
- The refurbishment of the existing estate of Ilfracombe Fire Station to provide secure access and facilities to support the multi-agency Town Team.
- In addition to this, an additional 312 Home Safety visits will be delivered to those properties impacted by the changes at the station.

The total bid from the West Devon Group is £57,700

3. Somerset Command

Somerset West Group

3.1. The Group Management Team submitted four bids for support and following careful discussion and consideration, three bids were agreed. The successful bids were;

- A funding request to support the Village Agents scheme for 2 years (2013/14 & 2014/15), run by the Somerset Rural Communities Council (SRCC), a crucial support network that Somerset Command work closely with in targeting and reaching the most vulnerable and at risk members of our remoter communities.

Cost of initiative - £50,000

- A 12 month secondment of a Watch Manager to the Somerset County Council Project Team of the National 'Troubled Families' initiative. It is well understood that the majority of public services (including ourselves) generally coming into contact with the same families either through emergency incidents or other types of service support.

Cost of initiative - £49,000

- Deliver additional Home Safety Visits to all properties affected by changes to the crewing arrangements at Taunton

Cost of initiative - £5,285

The total bids from Somerset Command is £104,285.