

COMMUNITY SAFETY & CORPORATE PLANNING COMMITTEE

(Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority)

14 October 2020

Present:

Councillors Redman (Chair), Colthorpe, Corvid, Eastman (Vice-Chair) and Saywell (vice Radford).

Apologies:

Councillors Doggett, Radford and Trail BEM

In attendance:

Councillors Randall Johnson (Authority Chair) and Wheeler (Authority Vice Chair) in accordance with Standing Order 38(1)

* **CSCPC/9** Minutes

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 16 July 2020 be approved.

* **CSCPC/10** Safer Together Programme Update

The Committee received for information a report of the Director of Service Improvement (CSCPC/20/4) that provided a high level overview of the progress made in respect of the Safer Together Programme.

The key achievements and progress made thus far on the four key workstreams included:

- Service Delivery Operating Model
 - Pay for Availability (P4A) had been implemented with effect from 1 October 2020 with the first group of six stations moving over to the new system. It was anticipated that a second group of stations would move across to P4A from 1 January 2021;
 - Risk Dependent Availability - a schedule for rollout was being considered;
 - Roving appliances – a three phase approach to this had been introduced and the Service was interviewing for Firefighter positions currently to achieve full establishment with rollout aimed to be 1 January 2021;
 - Removal/replacement of P2 appliances and L4P rollout was progressing well with the new 4x4 Ford Rangers (L4Ps) in place at 8 stations with a further 3 vehicles expected shortly;
 - Budleigh Salterton station sale had been completed now;
 - Topsham relocation was progressing well and building works had been commenced;

- Fleet Replacement:
 - The new chassis for Medium Rescue Pumps (MRPs) had been ordered with delivery anticipated for Spring 2021;
 - The Service was now in receipt of all of the All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) which would be rolled out between November 2020 and January 2021;
 - Phase 1 of the Asset Management project was progressing with an upgrade of the functionality on fleet management systems being implemented currently;
- Data and Digital:
 - The Management of Risk Information (MORI) project was progressing again now. The first of the applications to be completed would be the MORI protection app which enabled increased capability for case management in business safety activity;
 - Digital transformation of data architecture also continued;
- People Development:
 - A Watch Manager log book was being developed currently which would be followed for a version for each rank. Work to explore apprenticeships for leadership and management at all levels within the organisation was also being progressed.

The Chair reiterated thanks on behalf of the Committee at this point to all of the staff in the organisation who were going above and beyond the call of duty. The pandemic was ongoing but the Service was working through these difficult times.

The question was raised as to how long it might be before the Service had sufficient and reliable data upon which to measure any improvements to On Call availability. The Director of Service Delivery advised that the Audit & Performance Review Committee had been tasked with setting up a Working Group to look at the new Emergency Response performance measures in future but he acknowledged that the availability of P1 fire appliances was key to this although with rostering of On Call staff under P4A, this may have a negative impact.

Reference was also made to the position on Aggregate Crewing. The Director of Service Delivery advised that this was progressing but the Service wished to move to Asset Based Responding ultimately and was working towards implementation of an upgrade of the mobilisation system to achieve this in conjunction with the supplier.

* **CSCPC/11 Grenfell Recommendations Progress Report**

The Committee received for information a report of the Director of Service Delivery (CSCPC/20/5) that set out the progress made by the Service with implementation of the recommendations arising out of the Grenfell phase 1 Inquiry together with details of the grant funding available to cover this work.

Following publication of the Phase 1 report, there were 44 recommendations made which were divided into two main groups:

- National Fire Chief's Council (NFCC)/legislative changes; and
- Recommendations/improvements for all fire and rescue services and other agencies.

It was noted that 17 of the 44 recommendations made required primary legislation to be enacted and that a consultation was due to commence on a Fire Safety Order during week commencing 21 October 2020. A Building Safety Bill was also expected to become law in January/February 2021. 27 of the 44 recommendations which were sector wide impacted on the competencies of staff and thus the training. Of these, 4 had been completed to date and the remaining 23 were in progress.

In terms of the available funding, grants totalling £0.455m were available, of which £0.256m related to the Protection Uplift Programme Grant. This funding had to be used for a locally agreed, risk based inspection programme to build long term capability within services. It was intended, therefore, that this funding would provide increased resources, upskilling of operational staff and improved competencies, accreditations and training, amongst other matters. The Committee asked to be kept apprised of the levels of competency and qualifications achieved by staff.

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

The Meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 3.06 pm