



WOKING JOINT COMMITTEE

DATE: 28 JUNE 2017
LEAD OFFICER: PAULA HARTWELL BOROUGH COMMANDER FOR WOKING, SURREY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
SUBJECT: SURREY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17
AREA: WOKING

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

This report outlines the major strands of activity undertaken within Woking area by the Surrey Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) teams based at Woking Fire Station during 2016 - 17.

It contains information on the various activities undertaken by the Borough team to reduce the risk from fire, water and road traffic incidents to the residents of Woking Borough, including direct contact, public education programmes and campaigns. Relevant County wide activity is also included.

Appendix 1 is provided to report on specific Key Performance Indicators for SFRS.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Woking Joint Committee is asked to:

- (i) Recognise the achievements of SFRS teams both within Woking across the County this year and support their commitment in further identifying and improving initiatives to reduce risk and make Woking Borough safer especially for those more vulnerable within the community.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

SFRS dedicate a great deal of time in supporting the safety of members of Woking's Communities. It is important to appreciate that the requirement for and themes of initiatives will change to meet identified needs within the community, for which continued support throughout the year and into the future is essential to allow maximum effect.

In June 2016, following completion of the move across from the old Fire Station at Cawsey Way into the new building on Goldsworth Road without incurrance of any negative impact on operational availability and services, it is important to recognise

that this was largely due to the dedication and professionalism of the entire Woking Team and that their contributions were key in making the move as seamless as possible for the Woking Borough.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

1.1 Surrey Fire and Rescue Service report annually to the Woking Joint Committee. The annual report for 2016/17 is appended as **Appendix 1**.

1.2 SFRS as part of The Emergency Services Collaboration Programme with Surrey and Sussex Police, East and West Sussex Fire and Rescue and South East Coast Ambulance, has continued to work on a range of outcome focused projects with the joint aims of sustainably improving service to the public, reducing costs and increasing resilience, reducing overlap in service provision and responding to the changing patterns in demand.

The National Joint Council (NJC) Emergency Medical Response (EMR) Trials commenced on 23rd September 2015, under which SFRS respond to some types of medical emergency in support of South East Coast Ambulance, was extended to 21 March 2017 and has since been extended again to be reviewed in June 2017.

1.3 SFRS continue to provide several Community initiatives which are available to all Boroughs with the aim to reduce road traffic collisions, fire setting and anti-social behaviour – and improve fire safety awareness. A brief report on activity in this area for Woking Borough is included in the analysis below.

2. ANALYSIS:

2.1. Appendix 1 reports on the Key Performance Indicators and targets for SFRS and Woking Borough. The report shows that Woking has achieved the majority of targets throughout the year (where applicable) and in particular has achieved an increase in the number of Safe and Well Visits undertaken within the Borough (these visits encompass a one stop shop approach, also offering services of partner agencies to address the health and safety of residents in all areas as well as fire).

2.2. It is positive to note that despite a slight increase in the number of accidental dwelling fires occurring in the Borough, all fires attended were confined to room of origin. Direct and rapid intervention by SFRS fire-fighting teams have prevented the spread of these fires and further loss and damage to properties.

2.3. There is a small increase in the number of false alarms attended caused by automatic fire alarms (AFA's) the majority occurred in the first 3 quarters of the reporting year.

2.4. Quarter 4 saw the introduction of new SFRS policy, changing how we respond to AFA's at shops, schools, workplaces, factories, warehouses, hostels, hotels, public buildings, licensed premises and other premises open to the public. We now call question night and day, to establish if there is a genuine emergency or in fact a false alarm. If a false alarm is confirmed, we will no longer automatically send a fire engine. However, if we are in any doubt at all, we will always attend. Subsequently there was a drop in calls of this nature in quarter 4. Further reductions are expected for 2017-18 which will ensure SFRS appliances are available for genuine emergencies, and reduce unnecessary blue light journeys putting public and staff at increased risk.

2.5. Report on attendance to SFRS county wide initiatives available to Woking Borough:

Initiative	Woking Borough participation 2016/17
Safe Drive Stay Alive – Road safety awareness for young drivers or those approaching driving age	769 attendees
Fire wise – referrals for intervention for young persons with fascination for fire.	3 case referrals
YES – Youth engagement scheme – helping young persons at risk of exclusion in need of intervention	10 referrals made – 6 invited to taster of which 4 attended. 2 persons completed the course.
Junior citizens programme	1129 children over 10 day period in March

During the year Personnel at Woking fire station have undertaken numerous visits with community groups of all ages – key fire safety awareness work is continually undertaken with school children, local activity groups such as cubs, Brownies, Sea-cadets and Youth Clubs in many parishes. Key fire safety work on a daily basis is ongoing to identify and assist those in the community more vulnerable to fire and deliver Safe and Well Visits.

2.6. The levels reported for the Co-responding trial and Gaining Entry do not have targets and it should be noted that the commencement of the co-responding trial was upon completion of extensive arrangements providing Immediate Emergency Care Responder Training (IECR) and equipping each front line vehicle with a trauma bag and defibrillator. (Defibrillators are also at all fire stations in the county). This trial is still in development with discussion ongoing between NJC, FRS and FBU nationally.

3. OPTIONS:

3.1 This report is for information.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

4.1 The internal management team of Surrey Fire and Rescue are consulted on the Woking Station Plan.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 The majority of work is undertaken within mainstream resources.

5.2 Collaboration work funded initially via Fire and Rescue Authority Transformation Fund.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT:

6.1 Surrey Fire and Rescue Service aim to minimise risk to the population within all areas of their role. This report is for information.

7. LOCALISM:

- 7.1 SFRS will continue to analyse historical data and work with partner agencies to identify areas of vulnerable people, carrying out Safe and Well Visits with the aim of reducing fires and increasing awareness of actions to take in the event of fire and providing information to assist in all areas of living well.
- 7.2 We will continue to work with community leaders and partners to improve our awareness of cultural needs, improving partnership working and increasing the use of the SFRS volunteer service.
- 7.3 We will continue to attend and contribute to the Woking JAG terms of reference to address community safety issues within our remit.

8. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

- 8.1 SFRS will always support the Equalities Act 2010

9. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Crime and Disorder	No significant implications arising from this report
Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	No significant implications arising from this report
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications arising from this report
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	No significant implications arising from this report
Public Health	No significant implications arising from this report
Human Resource/Training and Development	No significant implications arising from this report

10. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

10.1 There has been continued positive work by the Surrey Fire and Rescue Service in Woking. The Joint Committee are asked to:

- (i) Recognise the achievements of SFRS both within the Woking Borough and County wide for 2016-17. To support their commitment to further reduce risk going forward by making Woking Borough safer through analysis of historical data and local knowledge, identifying areas, groups and individuals who may be more vulnerable to risk of fire or in need of intervention assistance. Working with partners to ensure members of the community are aware, and receive the assistance needed to live safely.
- (ii) Recognise the standard achieved in Borough KPI's (Appendix1)

11. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- 11.1 Surrey Fire and Rescue Service will continue to keep Members regularly updated on future progress through the Community Safety Task Group and will attend/report on related matters at JAG meetings.
- 11.2 Members are warmly welcomed to attend Woking Fire Station open day scheduled for 2nd September 2017.

Contact Officer:

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Consulted:

Surrey Fire and Rescue Senior Management Team.

Annexes:

End of year report 2016-17 - Appendix 1

Sources/background papers: N/A

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