



WOKING JOINT COMMITTEE

DATE: 20 JUNE 2018
LEAD OFFICER: GARETH ARNOLD, BOROUGH COMMANDER FOR WOKING, SURREY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

SUBJECT: SURREY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18

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 2017-18.

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.

Targets show either green or red. Green relates to targets achieved. Red relates to targets not met.

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

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community, for which continued support throughout the year and into the future is essential to allow maximum effect.

Woking SFRS team have delivered over 100 fire safety advice and information events, local schools, scouting groups, public events and visits to the vulnerable and diverse members of our community and engagement with other council/public groups and initiatives will continue to be positively supported by our team.

Engagement, advice and being public facing and visible in our community is key to providing education of the risks. Our Safe and well visits to the homes of the public allow specific advice and help on the wellbeing and safety. Using data shared under governance from your partners we are able to target the most vulnerable members of our community. This allows SFRS resources to be correctly deployed in work outside of operational duties.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 Surrey Fire and Rescue Service report annually to the Woking Joint Committee. The annual report for 2017-18 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.
- 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. Woking has seen a slight increase in the number of accidental dwelling fires occurring in the Borough, 98% 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. Woking has seen an increase in deliberate fire setting 72. Going forward I will be targeting and working to understand and reduce these fires. Many are linked to other incidents, such as anti-social behaviours. Appendix 1 has more detail

- 2.4. Woking has seen a decrease in the number of false alarms attended caused by automatic fire alarms (AFA's)

SFRS policy changed April 2017 on 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 2017-18. Further reductions are expected for 2018-19 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 2017/18
<p>Safe Drive Stay Alive – Road safety awareness for young drivers or those approaching driving age</p> <p>Appendix 2</p>	<p>Pupils from across the Borough attended</p> <p>947 bookings Woking</p> <p>793 Attendees</p>
<p>Fire wise – referrals for intervention for young persons with fascination for fire.</p>	<p>2 case referrals</p>
<p>YES – Youth engagement scheme – helping young persons at risk of exclusion in need of intervention</p>	<p>1 referral made – 1 invited to taster of which 0 attended. 0 persons completed the course. (10 referrals 2016/17)</p>
<p>Junior Citizens. – Led by Borough/District council, Surrey Police – Surrey Fire set is delivered by SFRS Volunteers.</p> <p>Appendix 2</p>	<p>1, 129 attendees from Woking Borough.</p> <p>Total SCC Borough's 7,075.</p> <p>Woking 3rd Highest attendance/engagement.</p>
<p>Community campaigns</p>	<p>Over 100</p>

During the year Personnel at Woking fire station have undertaken numerous visits with community groups of all ages – key fire safety awareness work is

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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.

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 Borough 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. (We continue to work closely with many agencies and partners to ensure our data is current and correct)

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 2017-18. 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.

Contact Officer:

Gareth Arnold, Woking Borough Commander – 01737 242444

Consulted:

Surrey Fire and Rescue Senior Management Team.

Annexes:

End of year report 2017-18 - Appendix 1

Sources/background papers: N/A

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