

Minutes

Community Safety Committee

Date: 11 October 2024

Time: 10:30

Venue: FSHQ

Present:

Councillor Keith (in the chair) Councillors Ahmed, Ali, Bruce, Burke, Hall, Sutcliffe and Wood

Apologies:

Councillor Bryan

9. Minutes of the last meeting held on 12 July 2024

Resolved

That the Minutes of the last meeting held on 12 July 2024 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

10. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

11. Urgent items

There were no urgent items

12. Admission of the public

There were no items requiring exclusion of the press or public

13. Declarations of interest

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

14. 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 to 11 September 2024. Members were provided with an updated summary report to cover the period 1 April to 11 October 2024.

Members noted that there appears to be more reports relating to animal and water rescues, but it was confirmed that there has not been any trends identified as yet.

Resolved

That the report be noted

15. Youth Interventions Annual Report

The Director of Service Delivery presented a report detailing the work done by the Youth Interventions Team.

Members welcomed the report and were pleased to learn of the in depth excellent work done by the Youth Intervention Team (YIT), despite the financial restraints. Members passed their congratulations to the team and requested that future budget setting should take into account the excellent lifesaving work achieved. Members were advised that the future of the YIT was currently under re-evaluation due to year on year changes to grants received but that the team had recently been increased from 4 to 8 established posts, by utilising cost recovery realised from the changes to the Automated Fire Alarms (AFA) policies.

Members raised the dangers of E-Bikes and were advised that the YIT use a 2 tier approach in their training, focusing on the highway code and safe use of equipment, including battery storage and charging.

Resolved

That the report be noted

16. Firefighter Safety at Public Order Incidents

The Director of Service Delivery presented a report detailing the response to the recent public order incidents.

Members commented that the duty of care is for the Fire Fighters who attend these incidents and members were grateful to receive assurances that training and protocols are in place to protect staff on the ground and the service is well prepared.

Members were informed that the facilities for training are shared across multi agency sites. Members welcomed the outstanding response from WYFRS and West Yorkshire Police (WYP).

Resolved

That the report be noted

17. Quality of Service Surveys 2023/24

The Head of Corporate Services presented a report detailing the feedback from the quality of service surveys completed in 2023/24 for both incidents and safe and well visits.

Members requested the background of the questionnaire and asked if the format of the questionnaire could be amended in any way.

Resolved

That the report be noted

18. West Yorkshire Resilience Forum Annual Report 2023/24

The Director of Service Delivery presented a report detailing the work of the Local Resilience Forum.

Members were pleased to note the very positive feedback received from the newly appointed Parliamentary Secretary in the Cabinet Office following the severe weather training exercise completed in September 2024. Members were further pleased to note the recognition given by the HMICFRS Inspectors to WYFRS membership of the West Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum (WY LRF) as an active and valued member.

Resolved

That the report be noted

19. Spotlight Ons

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 – Homeless Outreach Partnership
- b) Calderdale – Walking Buses
- c) Kirklees – Mirfield Respect Programme
- d) Leeds – Cycle Courier Scheme
- e) Wakefield – Working within the Community
- f) Youth Interventions Team – Water Safety

It was emphasised that the Spotlight Ons are just examples of initiatives going on across all Districts all the time. Members noted the Spotlight On reports and received them positively.

Members commented on the dangers of lithium-ion batteries and the proliferation of related fires at waste disposal units. Members queried if Deliveroo and similar organisations take any responsibility for their delivery drivers and noted that many are living in houses of multiple occupation (HMOs) meaning joint storage of their e-bikes. Members were advised that the body is currently under review.

Members discussed the model used for the walking buses initiative which has been successful due to the multi partnership involvement. Members noted that the success of these is dependent upon on the infrastructure of individual schools and noted that in depth local knowledge is required. Members discussed the issue of unsafe parking around schools.

Members welcomed the 999 call training and suggested this should be included in the curriculum of all schools and colleges and discussed the encouragement given to young people to anonymously report dangerous activities.

Resolved

That the report be noted

Chair