

## **Salisbury Area Board - Report, 09<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

### **Community Engagement**

Ben Ansell, the CFO of Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service offered the following at the beginning of April 2017:

“1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 marked the first anniversary of the new Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service.

It is sometimes easy to forget just how far we've come in such a relatively short space of time.

Some of these times have been difficult, but I know we've continued to deliver high levels of service to the public and everybody, across all areas of the organisation has played an important part in making this happen.

I am extremely proud of our 'one team' approach, it is the only way we can continue to effectively support our communities, as well working closely with our partners. Being a bigger Service has enabled us to be a stronger partner to other agencies, including the police, our local authorities and health.

A number of schemes are being developed to work with our colleagues in the ambulance service, allowing us to better position ourselves to meet the needs of our communities.

Making financial savings was one of the key drivers for combination, and our savings have been significant, while still being able to invest in the things we need to support our work such as new appliances, prevention activities, new fire helmets, improved ICT and essential improvements to our estate.

Another key part of becoming a combined Service was consolidating our governance arrangements, and a huge amount of work has taken place to deliver this.

I know that there is still much to do to bring together our ways of working and embedding a new combined culture for the Service is not something that will happen overnight.

Indeed, we are now developing our new Community Safety Plan 2017-2021, which will set our direction and aspiration for service delivery across the Bournemouth, Poole, Swindon, Wiltshire and Dorset Areas.”

At primary school level, education advisors visit classes with structured lesson plans that focus on issues such as the work of the Fire & Rescue Service, the dangers of playing with matches, the importance of smoke alarms, having a fire plan, and dialling 999 in an emergency. Older children are also taught why you should never make hoax calls.

Home educated children can also be accommodated, but we try to approach these within groups for a more efficient use of our limited resources



We can also arrange visits to our fire stations or one of our safety centres. For more information or to make a booking for your school or pre-school, please visit our webpage; <https://www.dwfire.org.uk/school-visits/> or email [enquiries@dwfire.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@dwfire.org.uk)

If you need a smoke alarm, some advice or are worried about what you would do in an emergency, contact us for a free Safe and Well visit; <http://www.dwfire.org.uk/safety/safe-and-well-visits/>

As summer inches closer we will start to promote various water safety messages. These include:

### **Key safety tips for staying safe near water**

- Alcohol and swimming do not mix – stay out of the water if you’ve been drinking.
- Always watch your child while at the beach, lake or other natural bodies of water.
- Never let older children swim in unsupervised areas like quarries, canals or ponds.
- Don’t swim near motor boats, jet skis or other power vehicles.
- Never interfere with lifesaving equipment – you might need it yourself.
- Learn to spot and keep away from dangerous water.
- Take safety advice – heed notices which warn you of the danger. See [\*\*national water safety signs\*\*](#) for guidance.
- Children should always visit open water sites with a grown-up.
- Swimming anywhere other than at purpose built and supervised swimming pools is highly dangerous and is not recommended, unless as part of an organised club.

See our website for more information.

### **Response**

#### **Total Fire Calls for Salisbury Fire station; 01/03/17-30/04/17**

#### **March**

| <b>Category</b> | <b>Incidents</b> |
|-----------------|------------------|
| False Alarm     | 33               |
| Fire            | 16               |
| Other           | 0                |
| Special Service | 10               |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>59</b>        |

#### **April**

| <b>Category</b> | <b>Incidents</b> |
|-----------------|------------------|
| False Alarm     | 20               |



|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Fire            | 24        |
| Other           | 0         |
| Special Service | 18        |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>62</b> |

The incidents over these two months includes a wide variety of types of incidents. This includes a fire at a primary school, multiple RTC's, assisting SWASFT with a bariatric patient and gaining access to multiple properties. In April there were a number of low level nuisance fires. We will work with our partners in Wiltshire Police and within the education team in DWFRS to reduce the impact.

**Availability of Wholetime (1<sup>st</sup>) appliance;**

100%

**Availability of On-Call (2<sup>nd</sup>) appliance (January - March 2017);**

March %

| Appliance | Day   | Night | Average |
|-----------|-------|-------|---------|
| 31P2      | 77.67 | 96.37 | 87.06   |

April %

| Appliance | Day   | Night | Average |
|-----------|-------|-------|---------|
| 31P2      | 84.31 | 91.18 | 87.77   |

**On-Call Recruitment**

Recruitment is an ongoing issue. Currently the on-call part of Salisbury have 2 members of their team unavailable due to large training commitments with their primary employer. Despite this they are still maintaining a very good availability of the appliance.

If anyone is interested in becoming an On Call Firefighter, visit the webpage; <https://www.dwfire.org.uk/working-for-us/> or pop in the station for a chat on Monday evenings between 7pm and 9pm (Salisbury) or Wednesday evenings 7pm – 9pm (Wilton).

**Community Safety Plan**

DWFRS Community Safety Plan can be found on the DWFRS website; <http://www.dwfire.org.uk/community-safety-plan/>

**Calls to Fire Alarms**



Responding to automatic fire alarm (AFA) activations that subsequently turn out to be unwanted fire signals has been identified as a major draw on our resources, resulting in an inappropriate use of emergency crews and equipment.

Last year the service has received over **5,800** alarm calls, however we did not necessarily attend all of these.

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