

Update for Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board

Update from	Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service
Date of Area Board Meeting	Wednesday 30 May 2012

Headlines

How Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service delivers its emergency response is set to change, with a number of proposals now being consulted upon.

In common with other public sector organisations, the Service faces a significant cut in its Government funding over the next few years, with the need to save £1.8 million by the end of 2014.

In response to this, and also the opportunities presented by the Localism Act, a number of projects have been underway since last April to look at all parts of the organisation and to identify ways of working differently.

While a number of proposals have come out of this process, the Service has been keen to ensure that it:

- Keeps all 24 of its existing fire stations;
- Maintains fire cover across Wiltshire and Swindon, with no increase in response times;
- Keeps all of its existing fire engines;
- Is ‘at the heart of the community, for the community’;
- Works more closely with its partners; and
- Uses the skills of its existing staff in a better way.

Four of the projects concentrated specifically on how emergencies are responded to, and the recommendations from these were presented to staff in a series of briefings during February. In addition, a 12-week public consultation started on 5 March, allowing as many people as possible to have their say.

To get involved in the consultation process, please visit www.wiltsfire.gov.uk and click on the ‘Have your say’ link. Alternatively, email consultation@wiltsfire.gov.uk or call 01380 731114.

Future Events/Dates for the diary

- On May 23rd The Olympic Torch will go past the fire station in Drove Rd. Swindon. The station will be having a short open day from 11:00 until 14:00. Anyone who would like to visit and have a look around would be very welcome. Should you require any more information please contact Watch Manager Gregg Izon of Green Watch Swindon on greg.izon@wiltsfire.gov.uk or alternatively 01793 401200.
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