



Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service Briefing for Community Area Board & Localities November 2015

Fire & Rescue Service confirms move to community campus in April 2016

The new Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service will occupy part of the Five Rivers Community Campus in Salisbury, following the signing of a lease with owners Wiltshire Council.

The campus will be home to the Service's 'strategic hub', providing:

- A central workplace for its management team and some support functions;
- A number of flexible working options for the new Service personnel, as part of the wider approach to working across Wiltshire and Dorset; and
- A meeting place for teams, departments and the new Fire Authority.

Darran Gunter, Chief Fire Officer (Designate) for Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service, said: "Since we started on the road to combination, we have been clear that we would need some sort of central 'hub' in the Salisbury area to serve the new organisation. We are delighted to have reached agreement with Wiltshire Council over the use of Five Rivers, and we can now focus on getting the accommodation ready for 1 April 2016, when the new Service comes into being."

He added: "The costs of establishing the new hub are being met from a Transformation Grant from the Government, which is also covering other set-up costs such as consolidating our ICT systems. It is important to state that the hub is not a new headquarters; we want to change the way that we work, to reflect how we will have staff across two counties, and that means moving away from the traditional structures of the past."

Alongside work to progress the new Salisbury hub, a detailed review of the whole Service estate across Wiltshire and Dorset is underway. As such, no decisions have yet been made about the long-term futures of any existing premises.

Mr Gunter said: "It is important to emphasise that we are still in the process of determining which members of staff might be relocated to Salisbury from other parts of Wiltshire and Dorset. It is not a case of just moving a set of offices from one place to another. As the new organisational structure is agreed, it will become clear which functions will need to be based at the hub and where we will be able to explore alternative ways of working, such as home working or focused team office days."

For the latest up-to-date information on fires; operational incidents and community safety advice visit <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk>

[Michael FRANKLIN](#)

[Partnerships & Community Engagement Manager \(Wiltshire Council area\)](#)

[November 2015](#)