

## **Southern Area Board Report, May 26<sup>th</sup> 2016**

The combination is now complete and Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service now officially exists.

There is still a lot of work to be done to align systems and processes but you should not have noticed any change in response - apart from the different logos on the fire engines.

There have been a number of thatch fires recently with the cold snap that came back to bite us. These types of fire can be particularly devastating to the property owners if the fire takes hold as unless swift action to either stop the fire or save the house contents is made, they can lose everything. There is specific safety advice on our new website for thatch owners - <http://www.dwfire.org.uk/safety/thatched-properties/>

### **Fire Calls for Salisbury Fire station;**

I am unable to give the number of turnout times met by the appliances as this information is not yet available. The standards are 2 minutes for WDS and 5 minutes for On-Call.

<b>Category</b>	<b>31P1 WDS</b>	<b>31P2 RDS</b>
False Alarm	32	2
Fire	22	5
Other	13	8
Special Service	12	
<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>15</b>

Some of these calls will be duplicate due to both appliances attending a call together.

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

100%

### **Availability of RDS (2<sup>nd</sup>) appliance (April 2016);**

<b>Appliance</b>	<b>Day (06:00 - 18:00)</b>	<b>Night (18:00 - 06:00)</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>% Available</b>	<b>70.90%</b>	<b>96.25%</b>	<b>83.58%</b>



At Salisbury there are currently 17 staff members, but only 13 Full Time Equivalents.

The "Difficult Hours" for On-Call cover tends to be 0700 to 1800hrs weekdays, and weekends from 1800hrs Friday until 1800 hours Sunday. For Salisbury daytime availability is difficult due to staff working or on shift work, and therefore not on call. It may be also due to employers not allowing staff to respond from work due to a financial penalty or drop in output.

Working with the section commander I will be starting a proactive recruitment campaign to recruit more staff. Vacancies are currently advertised on the new service website at <http://www.dwfire.org.uk/> however a more focussed local effort will be made.

### **Community Contact Work**

The station continues to attend events and schools to give input, advice and education. If you would like the attendance of the fire service at an event, please contact me in the first instance.

There is a Salamander course programmed for August at Salisbury Fire Station. Further details of the Salamander programme - <http://www.dwfire.org.uk/education/youth-engagement-programmes/salamander/>

Full figures should be available for all station activities at the next board meeting once the new reporting software is completed.

All operational staff are to undertake training to be able to undertake the new Safe and Well visits. A Safe and Well visit is **FREE** and normally last about one hour covering topics such as:

- Using electricity safely
- Cooking safely
- Making an escape plan
- What to do if there is a fire
- Keeping children safe
- Good practice – night time routine and other points relevant to you
- Identifying and discussing any further support you may need if necessary

If you have thatch property, are living alone, have a young family, are over 65 or a smoker please get in contact with us. We want to help make you safer in your own home. If you or someone you know has mobility or sight and hearing impairments please suggest a Safe and Well visit.

Visit <http://www.dwfire.org.uk/news/new-name-new-contact-details-same-service/> to book one.



## Future reports

For future meetings it is my intention to give;

- Percentage of turnout times and attendance times met,
- Number, type and causes of incidents identifying underlying trends
- Actions carried out and ongoing to reduce incidents
- Community contact and engagement work
- Safe and Well visits including Home Safety Checks

I would also ask what you would require as reasonable information for future board meetings. It would not be appropriate to supply specific incident details, but information towards, for example local priorities.

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