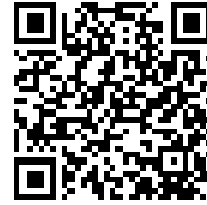


**To: All Members of the Performance & Scrutiny
Committee
(and any other Members who may wish to attend)**



**J. Henshaw
LLB (Hons)
Clerk to the Authority**

The Protocol and Procedure for visitors attending meetings of Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority can be found by clicking [here](http://www.merseyfire.gov.uk) or on the Authority's website:

<http://www.merseyfire.gov.uk> - About Us > Fire Authority.

Tel: 0151 296 4000
Extn: 4113 Kelly Kellaway

Your ref:

Our ref HP/NP

Date: 25 August 2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **PERFORMANCE & SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE** to be held at **1.00 pm** on **THURSDAY, 3RD SEPTEMBER, 2015** in the
Liverpool Suite at Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bridle Road,
Bootle.

Yours faithfully,



Clerk to the Authority

Encl.

This page is intentionally left blank

MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

PERFORMANCE & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

3 SEPTEMBER 2015

AGENDA

Members

Councillors Robbie Ayres (Chair), Ray Halpin,
Jimmy Mahon, Barbara Murray, Jean Stapleton,
Sharon Sullivan and Lesley Rennie;
and Anthony Boyle (Independent Person)

1. Preliminary matters

Members are requested to consider the identification of:

- a) declarations of interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the Agenda
- b) any additional items of business which the Chair has determined should be considered as matters of urgency; and
- c) items of business which may require the exclusion of the press and public during consideration thereof because of the possibility of the disclosure of exempt information.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 5 - 8)

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 23rd July 2015, are submitted for approval as a correct record and for signature by the Chair.

3. Merseyside Health And Wellbeing Partnership (Pages 9 - 14)

(CFO/076/15)

To consider Report CFO/076/15 of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer, concerning a review of the work currently being undertaken between Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority (MFRA) and Health Partners.

4. Presentation - Care Act: Safeguarding Adults

To consider a presentation from Duncan Robinson – Liverpool City Council Solicitor, concerning the Care Act and Safeguarding Adults.

5. Standing Item: Forward Work Plan (Pages 15 - 22)

To evaluate the questions for scrutiny contained in the forward work plan and consider;

- a) Any feedback from Members and Lead Members on the scrutiny work they are currently involved in, and
- b) Any scrutiny questions that Members feel should be dealt with under a different priority, and
- c) Any questions that Members feel should be added to the forward work plan and the priority of that same question.

If any Members have queries, comments or require additional information relating to any item on the agenda please contact Committee Services and we will endeavour to provide the information you require for the meeting. Of course this does not affect the right of any Member to raise questions in the meeting itself but it may assist Members in their consideration of an item if additional information is available.

Refreshments

Any Members attending on Authority business straight from work or for long periods of time, and require a sandwich, please contact Democratic Services, prior to your arrival, for arrangements to be made.

MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

PERFORMANCE & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

23 JULY 2015

MINUTES

Present: Cllr Robbie Ayres (Chair), Cllrs Ray Halpin, Jimmy Mahon, Jean Stapleton, Marianne Welsh and Anthony Boyle

Also Present:

Apologies of absence were received from:
Barbara Murray, Sharon Sullivan and Lesley Rennie

1. Preliminary matters

Members considered the identification of declarations of interest, any urgent additional items, and any business that may require the exclusion of the press and public.

Resolved that:

- a) no declarations of interest were made by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the Agenda
- b) no additional items of business to be considered as matters of urgency were determined by the Chair; and
- c) no items of business required the exclusion of the press and public during consideration thereof because of the possibility of the disclosure of exempt information.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 21st May 2015 were approved as an accurate record and signed accordingly by the Chair.

3. Forward Work Plan For The Performance & Scrutiny Committee For 2015/16

Members considered report CFO/066/15 concerning the draft Forward Work Plan (FWP) for the Performance & Scrutiny Committee for 2015/16.

No amendments or additions to the forward work plan were identified. Members were advised that a single-status meeting of the Performance and Scrutiny

Committee for consideration of the Care agenda had been confirmed for 3rd September 2015.

Resolved that:

The Forward Work Plan for the Performance and Scrutiny Committee for the municipal year 2015/16 be approved.

4. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15

Members considered Report CFO/063/15 of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer concerning an update on the progress made against the Equality and Diversity Action Plan 2013/16.

The Committee also considered the measures being introduced to reduce risk to vulnerable people in Merseyside including the introduction of various assistive technologies such as isolation switches on cookers, and Wi-Fi heat alarms.

Resolved that:

The content of the Equality and Diversity Annual Report be noted.

5. MERSEYSIDE FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY (MFRA) ENGAGEMENT PRINCIPLES AND COMMITMENTS

Members considered report CFO/047/15 of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer concerning the progress made in relation to staff engagement following the outcomes of the 2014 Staff Survey.

Members considered the Authority's engagement principles and the commitments for staff engagement. The Committee heard how the Lead Member for Strategy and Performance, Cllr Barbara Murray, had been instrumental in forming the engagement principles in conjunction with staff from all areas of the Authority.

In scrutinising the report, Members were keen to identify that there is a period of change ahead, not just in relation to cuts to funding but also as an example the probable changes to the governance of the City Region which is likely to impact on the Authority. The committee identified a need to keep all staff engaged and informed of any changes that had to be made and explain the reasons for the change in full.

Resolved that:

The MFRA Engagement Principles and Commitments be noted and endorsed.

6. Performance Against New AFA Protocol

Members considered report CFO/064/15 of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer concerning the performance of the new Automatic Fire Alarm (AFA) Policy since its introduction in October 2012.

Members were reminded of the changes made since the introduction of the new AFA Policy in two stages. Initially not responding to AFA actuations during the day without confirmation of an actual fire and in the second stage expanding this to include not responding during the night. Following consultation and concerns raised by stakeholders certain types of properties were exempt from the policy and any actuation of an AFA would always elicit a full attendance from crews.

The committee considered that, nearly two years since first implementing these measures, it is now only exempted properties that give rise to Unwanted Fire Signals (UwFS).

Members scrutinised the targeted approach to repeat offenders to be adopted and the implications this might have. They also examined in depth the implications there may be arising from introducing a policy for charging to recover costs for attending UwFS. It was considered that a policy for charging would not be unreasonable in the current climate of cuts but that this would need further scrutiny.

Resolved that:

- a) The progress of the new AFA Policy in improving the Service's performance in reducing Unwanted Fire Signals (UwFS), be noted; and
- b) The rationale of the risk assessment that underpins the protocol, be noted; and
- c) The targeted approach to be adopted in relation to prolific offenders, be noted; and
- d) A review to consider the experience of other Fire and Rescue Authorities who have adopted a charging policy in respect of the potential to positively influence repeat offenders and the financial impact to those Authorities, by the Performance and Scrutiny Committee be commissioned.

Close

Date of next meeting Thursday, 3 September 2015

Signed: _____

Date: _____

This page is intentionally left blank

MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

REVIEW REPORT TO THE

PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

3 SEPTEMBER 2015

SUBJECT: MERSEYSIDE HEALTH AND WELLBEING
PARTNERSHIP

REPORT NUMBER: [CFO/076/15](#)

APPENDICES:

REPORTING OFFICER: DEPUTY CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: JAMES BERRY
TEL: 4711

OFFICERS CONSULTED: KEVIN JOHNSON- HOME SAFETY MANAGER
WM MARK JONES- PREVENTION

Purpose of Report

1. To request that Members review the work currently being undertaken between Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority (MFRA) and Health Partners.

Introduction and Background

2. Since 1999, MFRA has been carrying out interventions in people's homes to identify and reduce risk and to provide relevant advice on actions to take in the event of fire.
3. These interventions have reduced due to the financial challenges faced by MFRA however the Service has still delivered over 50,000 Home Fire Safety Checks (HFSC) across Merseyside during 2014-15.
4. Although other factors have no doubt also been involved, this approach has resulted in a reduction in risk and a significant reduction in demand for MFRA to respond to incidents, including a reduction in the number of deaths and injuries from accidental fires in the home (although it should be noted that during 2015 the figure appears to be rising in the context of certain vulnerable groups which is being carefully monitored).

5. This proactive approach to risk management is seen as best practice across the public sector and local and national health partners (including Simon Stevens NHS CEO and Duncan Selbie Public Health England CEO) are starting to recognise the potential that exists within the Fire Sector.
6. Following a local fire and health summit Merseyside & Cheshire Fire Rescue Services are engaging with health partners and have established a number of task and finish groups to consider specific areas such as falls prevention, vulnerability to crime, hospital discharges, smoking and alcohol referral pathways and increasing awareness of and access to cancer screening services.
7. As a result of this Summit, a more holistic approach to vulnerability will be introduced with the development of a 'Safe and Well' visit, maintaining a focus on those more at risk from fire – those over 65 and living alone.
8. It is envisaged that through their interactions with people in their own homes, and with the necessary additional awareness training, Fire and Rescue Service staff and Fire Support Network volunteers will be able to identify and act upon a wider range of risks that predispose people to a number of health issues that can significantly reduce life expectancy and/or quality of life.
9. Consequently, the following principles are proposed as a basis for discussion for adoption or implementation by MFRA:
 - That MFRA should consider extending its current approach to safety in the home to include risk factors that impact on health and wellbeing and which lead to an increase in demand for health, local authority and Fire and Rescue Services.
 - The content of a 'Safe and Well' visit in Merseyside should be co-designed through discussions with health and local authority colleagues and should be based on information regarding local risks and demand.
 - When considering risk factors other than fire, the process should not be confined to merely signposting to other agencies, but also to if and how these may be mitigated during the initial visit.
10. Wherever possible the approach adopted by MFRA should:
 - Reflect local need
 - Provide a light touch health check of vulnerable individuals
 - Identify risk while in the home;
 - Provide concise advice;
 - Provide appropriate risk reduction equipment;
 - Refer to specialist advice and support where appropriate.
- To ensure that referrals to specialist advice and support are limited to those in need of such assistance; health and local authority colleagues

should support MFRA staff in training and raising awareness of their staff, where necessary.

- Consistent referral pathways into specialist services should be developed across Merseyside. However it is recognised that due to the number and nature of organisations involved absolute consistency is, at this stage, an aspiration.
11. CFOA have provided strategic guidance on how individual FRA's develop local approaches to deliver "Safe and Well" visits which will significantly widen the scope and value of interventions completed by MFRS staff. Following the local fire and health summit, Merseyside and Cheshire Fire and Rescue Services are engaging with health partners and have established a number of task and finish groups to look at specific areas, such as falls prevention, vulnerability to crime, hospital discharges, smoking and alcohol referral pathways and increasing awareness of and access to cancer screening services.
 12. This approach has the potential to unlock significant capacity and savings by targeted early prevention, resulting in the improved quality of life where the greatest impact can be made, reducing demand on local NHS and other services.
 13. It is estimated that upwards of 30,000 more people than would normally be expected to die as a result of winter weather, with the biggest cohort being women living alone over 75 and the majority of excess deaths in owner occupied houses.
 14. Using the data currently available through the release of NHS Exeter Data, MFRA can identify those people and put in place specific interventions and strategies which, if taken forward with sufficient pace, would make a difference this winter.

Equality and Diversity Implications

15. By taking a whole system approach centred on peoples' needs, the Authority and our partners will make every contact count irrespective of which service it is from.
16. The risk based approach detailed within the Authority's new Home Safety Strategy ensures that the most vulnerable people across Merseyside are targeted – older people, people with adult social care needs and those in areas of deprivation.

Staff Implications

17. MFRA will create a Vulnerable Persons Team, with appropriate specialist skills that will adopt the holistic 'Safe and Well' visit, liaising with health partners, particularly in response to the discharging of potentially at risk individuals from hospital back into their home environment.

18. Staff will be encouraged to support the development of the Safe and Well visit based on their training, skills and knowledge of working with vulnerable people.
19. There may be a need to make changes to staff Terms and Conditions and levels of remuneration. If so this will be referred through local Joint Secretary mechanisms.

Legal Implications

20. It is important to note that NHS partners have been asked to provide certain indemnities in respect of any work undertaken on their behalf. Furthermore this must be a commissioned service from NHS England and others in order to ensure that this does not impinge upon current resources of MFRA.

Financial Implications & Value for Money

21. There are potential financial implications associated with this report as MFRA may be commissioned by health partners in the future. This will be explored through the work streams created through the Health Summit and in conjunction with Public Health colleagues and Clinical Commissioners.

Risk Management, Health & Safety, and Environmental Implications

22. The development of the Safe and Well visit will create opportunities to develop a more holistic risk management approach which could extend to health determinants and safety related issues.

Contribution to Our Mission: *Safer Stronger Communities – Safe Effective Firefighters*

23. The high profile delivery of ‘Safe and Well’ visits in Merseyside will contribute to the understanding and tackling of the wider social determinants of health.
24. This approach will contribute to the creation of Safer Stronger Communities.

Recommendation

25. That Members:
 - a) Support the development of the ‘Safe and Well’ visit and recognise the potential impact that it may have when tackling wider health determinants.
 - b) Explore the potential opportunities that such an approach could have with regard to targeted health interventions. These interventions may tackle issues such as; social isolation, mental health, slips trips and falls, hospital discharge, through signposting, referrals or direct bridging.
 - c) Review the development of local partnerships within Merseyside which encourage local action(s) to prevent or reduce service demand and improve the quality of life of persons with acute or chronic conditions.
-

BACKGROUND PAPERS

N/A

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

HFSC	Home Fire Safety Check
MFRS	Merseyside Fire and Rescue Association
NHS	National Health Service
SMG	Strategic Management Group

This page is intentionally left blank

FORWARD WORK PLAN FOR PERFORMANCE & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2015/16

ITEM FOR SCRUTINY	REASON FOR SCRUTINY	DETAIL OF SCRUTINY	SCHEDULED FOR REPORTING	ASSOCIATED AUTHORITY AIMS	RESPONSIBLE LEAD MEMBER/ OFFICER
Performance Against New AFA Protocol	To review performance against the new AFA Protocol and scrutinise the impact that the introduction of the new Policy has had on attendance at UwFS.	Report to be produced at the request of the Performance & Scrutiny Committee to scrutinise the rationale underpinning the introduction of the Policy and the subsequent impact its introduction has had on attendance at UwFS and appliance availability.	Performance & Scrutiny Committee 23rd July 2015	Aim – Excellent Prevention & Protection	Lead Member for Community Risk Management – Cllr Jimmy Mahon AM James Berry – Community Risk Management
Fire & Health Exploring opportunities for collaboration. Understanding the potential implications of the Care Act 2015.	To scrutinise ways in which MFRA can work alongside partners from the health and care arena, to enable the Authority to play a wider role in the general health and wellbeing of the community; and mitigate some of the potential issues arising from the	Representatives from the health and care sectors, be invited to attend a special meeting of the Performance & Scrutiny Committee, to look at how they and the Authority might work together to address some of the issues arising from the Care Act 2015, moving forward.	Performance & Scrutiny Committee 3rd September 2015 (single status meeting)	Aim – Excellent Prevention & Protection	Lead Member for Community Risk Management – Cllr Jimmy Mahon AM James Berry – Community Risk Management

	Care Act 2015 in relation to prevention activity and protecting the most vulnerable.				
Fire Control and the Mobilisation Process	To review the process for the mobilisation of resources to incidents	Requested by the Performance & Scrutiny Committee. Report to be produced in consultation with the relevant Lead Member regarding the mobilisation of the Authority's resources. The report be accompanied by a presentation to explain the mobilisation process and the role of Fire Control.	Performance & Scrutiny Committee 5th November 2015	Aim – Excellent Operational Preparedness	Lead Member for Operational Preparedness – Cllr Lesley Rennie AM Nick Searle – Operational Preparedness
Implementation of the Management Review	To scrutinise and monitor the implementation of the recent Management Review, to identify any shortfalls and issues regarding officer capacity.	Report to be produced regarding the implementation of the Management Review, to enable any shortfalls and any issues with regards to officer capacity to be identified.	Performance & Scrutiny Committee 5th November 2015	Relevant to all Aims	DCFO Phil Garrigan

ITEM FOR SCRUTINY	REASON FOR SCRUTINY	DETAIL OF SCRUTINY	SCHEDULED FOR REPORTING	ASSOCIATED AUTHORITY AIMS	RESPONSIBLE LEAD MEMBER/ OFFICER
How effective is our Consultation Process?	To review our current consultation process and identify any possible improvements.	Report to be produced in consultation with the relevant Lead Member regarding the public consultation process in relation to the merger of Fire Stations, to enable any lessons learnt to be identified and considered for future consultations. To consider if any further scrutiny is required in this regard.	Performance & Scrutiny Committee 5th November 2015 (deferred from last year's FwP – awaiting conclusion of the Wirral Consultation process)	Aim – Excellent People	Lead Member Strategy & Performance – Cllr Barbara Murray Deb Appleton – Director of Strategy & Performance
Progress against Staff Engagement Commitments	To scrutinise how the Authority is progressing against its Staff Engagements Commitments, devised in response to some of the main issues raised by staff during the staff survey and focus groups	Report to be produced in consultation with the relevant Lead Member, to monitor progress against the Authority's Staff Engagement Commitments; and to enable Members to identify any further improvements/ avenues for engagement with staff.	Performance & Scrutiny Committee 12 th January 2016	Aim – Excellent People	Lead Member Strategy & Performance – Cllr Barbara Murray Deb Appleton – Director of Strategy & Performance

How well do we work with our Partners?	To establish how well we work with our major partners and how our partnership arrangements can be sustained moving forward, following reductions in resources and changes to service delivery.	A report be produced highlighting the partnerships which add the most value to the work of the Authority and how well we work with those partners to achieve meaningful outcomes; and how the Authority can continue to facilitate those partnerships in the face of significant reductions in resources and changes to service delivery.	Performance & Scrutiny Committee 12th January 2016 (Deferred from last year's FwP and amended to reflect challenges in terms of facilitating partnerships, moving forward)	Relevant to all Aims	Involvement from all Lead Members and Support Officers
Implementation of New HR Policies	To monitor the implementation of the new suite of HR Policies and Procedures around Conduct and Capability; and scrutinise the impact that their introduction has had on absence levels.	Report to be produced in consultation with the relevant Lead Member, regarding the implementation of the new suite of HR Policies and Procedures around Conduct and Capability and highlighting the impact that their introduction may have had on absence levels.	Performance & Scrutiny Committee 17th March 2016	Aim – Excellent People	Lead Member People & Organisational Development – Cllr Sharon Sullivan Director of People & Organisational Development – Nick Mernock

STANDING ITEMS	REASON FOR SCRUTINY	DETAIL OF SCRUTINY	SCHEDULED FOR REPORTING	ASSOCIATED AUTHORITY AIMS	RESPONSIBLE LEAD MEMBER/ OFFICER
Function Updates (rotating)	To enable scrutiny of activity and performance within each of the following functions:	<p>Reports and Presentations concerning Functional Updates to be provided at meetings as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Safety • Protection • Road Safety • Arson & ASB Reduction • Children & Young People • 	<p>Performance & Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>23rd July 2015</p> <p>5th November 2015</p> <p>12th January 2016</p> <p>17th March 2016</p> <p>19th May 2016</p>	Relevant to all Aims	<p>Lead Member for Community Risk Management – Cllr Jimmy Mahon</p> <p>AM James Berry – Community Risk Management</p>
Performance Update Against Service Delivery Plan	To enable regular scrutiny of performance against the Authority's Service Delivery Plan.	<p>Reports and Presentations concerning to be provided at meetings as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Quarter • 2nd Quarter • 3rd Quarter • Final Year End Update 	<p>Performance & Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>5th November 2015</p> <p>12th January 2016</p> <p>17th March 2016</p> <p>19th May 2016</p>	Relevant to all Aims	Deb Appleton – Director of Strategy & Performance

Review Forward Work Plan	To ensure that the Forward Work Plan remains current and in line with the Strategic Direction of the Authority.	To be included as a Standing Item on each agenda of the Committee.		Relevant to all Aims	Performance & Scrutiny Committee

ANNUAL/ BI-ANNUAL ITEMS	REASON FOR SCRUTINY	DETAIL OF SCRUTINY	SCHEDULED FOR REPORTING	ASSOCIATED AUTHORITY AIMS	RESPONSIBLE LEAD MEMBER/ OFFICER
Progress Against Equality & Diversity Action Plan	To enable regular scrutiny of progress against the Equality & Diversity Action Plan.	Reports produced bi-annually, in consultation with the Lead Member for Strategy & Performance	Performance & Scrutiny Committee 12th January 2016 and 19th May 2016	Aim – Excellent People	Lead Member – Strategy & Performance – Cllr Barbara Murray Deb Appleton – Director of Strategy & Performance
Environmental Performance	To enable regular scrutiny of performance in relation to Environmental targets.	Reports produced bi-annually, in consultation with the Lead Member for Finance, Assets & Efficiency	Performance & Scrutiny Committee 17th March 2016	Relevant to all Aims	Lead Member Finance, Assets & Efficiency – Cllr Jean Stapleton John McNeil – AM: Strategic Change and Resources
Health, Safety & Welfare Annual Report	To enable regular scrutiny of performance in relation to Health, Safety and Welfare matters.	Report produced annually/ bi-annually, in consultation with the Lead Member for Operational Response (whose remit covers Health and Safety)	Performance & Scrutiny Committee 5th November 2015	Relevant to all Aims	Lead Member Operational Response – Cllr Ray Halpin AM Dave Mottram – Operational Response

This page is intentionally left blank