

Minutes

Community Safety

Date: 12 July 2024

Time: 10:30

Venue: Dewsbury Town Hall

Present:

Councillor Keith (in the chair), Councillors Addy, Ahmed, Ali, Dickenson, Hall, Sutcliffe and Wood

Apologies:

Councillors Bruce, Bryan and Burke

1. Minutes of the last meeting held on 22 March 2024

Resolved

That the Minutes of the last meeting held on 22 March 2024 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Urgent items

There were no urgent items

4. Admission of the public

There were no items requiring exclusion of the press or public

5. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest made in any matter under consideration at the meeting.

6. Performance Against Response Indicators

The Director of Service Delivery presented a report detailing the performance against the performance outcome targets covering the period 1 April 2024 to 11 June 2024. An updated report was distributed to members to cover the period to 11 July 2024. Members discussed prison cell fires and water safety campaigns.

Resolved

That the report be noted

7. Arson Convictions

Members considered a report of the Director of Service Delivery providing an update on the arson convictions for the year 2023 - 24, where the Fire Investigation Team from West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (WYFRS) provided expert witness statements to the Crown Prosecution Service.

It was noted that the Fire Investigation Officers (FIOs) investigated the origin, cause, and development of fire in 180 incidents and for 57 of them the Fire Investigation Unit (FIU) supplied West Yorkshire Police with expert witness statements.

Members discussed the variance in penalties for successful convictions which is outside of WYFRS control and thanked the FIU for its hard work in providing the required evidence to secure the successful convictions.

Resolved

That the report be noted

8. Spotlight Ons

Members considered a report of the Director of Service Delivery which provided examples and updates on the following areas of work which are being undertaken to meet the needs of the communities of West Yorkshire in the delivery of prevention, protection and response activity.

- a) Bradford – E-bikes and E-scooters
- b) Calderdale – North East Collaboration
- c) Kirklees – Wildfire Community Engagement Day
- d) Leeds – ESOL Students
- e) Wakefield – Working within the Community
- f) Youth Interventions Team – Reaction

It was emphasised that the Spotlight Ons are just examples of initiatives going on across all Districts all the time. Members noted the Spotlight On reports and received them positively and are looking forward to being involved in more community events during the WYFRS 50th Anniversary year. Members also particularly mentioned the excellent work done with young people and thanked the youth intervention team for their outstanding efforts.

Members discussed the dangers associated with all forms of lithium battery.

Resolved

That the report be noted

Chair