

**REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER
FOR PUBLIC PROTECTION AND PFI
TO THE MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL
ON WEDNESDAY, 8 JULY 2015**

Report from Fire and Rescue Service:

Strategic partnership (Delivering differently in partnership - DDiP)

It has been three months since the start of the strategic partnership with Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service and the local senior officer for the Isle of Wight (Mick Keenan) is pleased to report that project progress and service improvements are continuing, particularly in the following areas:

Response standards in relation to incidents,- improvement has been made in to critical incidents, and as a result of changes to crewing levels an increase of an average 15 per cent has also been achieved.

Financial savings – the proposed first year savings of £300k, identified within DDiP, has been achieved.

Integration and communication – chief fire officer Dave Curry has met with all staff and a timetable for future regular meetings from other members of Hants Fire, senior management team is in place. These have already identified areas for joint working and best practice. Isle of Wight crews have visited many Hampshire fire stations and also Hampshire Fire Authority to demonstrate how we use Cobra cold cutting techniques to fight fires.

Work is underway on the first of several project products to align procedures and support services such as fleet management and training.

People

This last quarter has seen some positive but also very sad news.

After 40 years of service to fire and rescue and the community Phil Selby sadly passed away on 10 June. Phil was well known for his person-centred community work which was recognised at the Lord-Lieutenant's Awards in 2014. His sad passing was widely reported in the media.

On a happier note, firefighter Sean Harrison was recognised in the Queen's birthday honours list and was awarded an MBE for his service to the community.

As a result of the new partnership with Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, one of our firefighters ,Alan Jones, from Newport has been chosen as part of a team to visit Oregon USA as part of an exchange agreement to look at wildfire firefighting techniques. This will help improve the service understanding of dealing with large forest type fire incidents.

The Princes Trust team programme which supports 17 to 25 year olds is underway in conjunction with Hampshire. The programme is based at Cowes fire station and supports community based projects alongside age UK.

Recruitment for retained Firefighters is taking place across the Island and we are hoping to attract a total of 14 recruits for six stations, with a course due to start towards the end of the year.

Community Safety

Tracey Webb from the road safety team has been working with the Isle of Wight College Performing Arts Course tutor and students to develop and deliver a Theatre in Education event for Year 6 students; this will be delivered across all primary schools on the Island. The event is a short interactive play with an engagement session at the end to raise awareness of road safety for young roads users as pedestrians, cyclists and passengers in vehicles.

The fire service is part of the partnership approach to My Life a Full Life (MLAFL) Powered by Vanguard. The service looks to support public, private and voluntary sector colleagues to deliver a person centred approach to care in the community.

Operational Incidents

The service has successfully dealt with a number of incidents across the Island. Three of these were of particular interest to local media, one was an attached garage in Shanklin with the other two in Ryde; one being a fire involving a commercial premise which affected a gas main and spread to the roof, with the other in a bungalow. Whilst there was some damage to property, the incidents were successfully dealt with. No injuries were reported in relation to staff or members of the public.

Report from Public Health:

Dental Survey

A short report is available on the innovative model used by the Isle of Wight Council to commission the current dental survey of Year 1. The process is being expertly managed by the Head of Commission Support for Public Health at the Isle of Wight Council. It was a pilot and quite a bold step in the world of dental epidemiology. I am really pleased to report that it is going really well, mostly due to the officers' and the council's commitment to finding a way of working which would deliver good data in the most effective and efficient way.

Research and Evaluation

Connecting people is a powerful way of helping people with long term conditions to stay healthy and improve the way they manage their illness. Our research on the Isle of Wight has been using a social networking 'tool' EU-GENIE to help people with a

long term condition to expand and develop their support networks, gain access to the support and advice they need, and give them information to make behavioural changes.

Researcher Liz James from NIHR CLAHRC Wessex was invited along with her research colleague Chad Oatley from the Isle of Wight Council to explain their research on how using social networking can help people self-manage their condition. The South East Coast Public Health Forum is made up from leaders in public health from the South East of England, which includes doctors, clinicians and public health experts from the local councils. There are many people living in that part of England, with an older population who have long term conditions. Long term conditions can refer to any number of things including diabetes, breathing conditions (COPD) or kidney disease.

Liz and Chad were invited to speak at the forum event in Crawley by Dr Fahang Tahzib, a consultant in Public Health having seen them present at a public health conference at Warwick University. There was a great deal of interest shown in the EU-GENIE project and we hope to be able to spread its benefits further into our south coast communities.

Drugs and Alcohol

In an effort to increase the profile and knowledge of the range of treatments for alcohol problems within primary care services the council was able to apply for, and received, funding from the Wessex Academic Science Network to deliver an RCGP Certificate in the Management of Alcohol Problems in Primary Care training day to local GPs and specialist nurses on Thursday 23 April at Newclose Cricket Pavilion. Sixteen local GPs and three specialist nurses attended with feedback from the event being very positive.

The new improved BBV screening service by pharmacists that automatically refers clients to relevant specialist clinicians using PharmOutcomes has been shortlisted for a Pharmaceutical Care Award. Presentations will be made on 18 of June at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society London and a decision will be made on the day as to the winner.

Sexual Health

On 18 March and 16 April, Public Health successfully held two training evenings on emergency contraception with over 40 community pharmacists attending. The training evenings provided updates around emergency contraception including 72 hour and 120 hour emergency hormonal contraception, sexual health services, child sexual exploitation, safeguarding and consultation skills.

Physical Activity

The Walking Challenge seems to be a great success thus far with over 70 teams Island-wide taking part. We have also started a 'Midday Mile' walk every Wednesday at lunch time which seems to be popular and other organisations from the Island have been taking part in this.

Report from Environmental Health and Trading Standards

Environmental Health - General

The first two major events of the year, Old Gaffers and Isle of Wight Festival have come and gone without any major concerns.

Nearly 50,000 people attended this year's Isle of Wight Festival. In total there were five complaints regarding noise, which mostly related to Thursday night. Generally the event was incident free both on and outside the event.

The next couple of months will be an extremely busy time for the service with at least one large event taking place each weekend from now through to Bestival at the beginning of September. These events include:

Doorstep Crime

Over the past two months the Service has received over 30 calls concerning doorstep sellers in various parts of the Island.

The service working in partnership with the police intend to work on an awareness raising campaign in the media to encourage residents to notify one of services whilst the traders are in their area. A seminar will be taking place on Wednesday 22 July at the Riverside Centre on protecting vulnerable residents from door step crime and scams. Partner agencies between 10am and 12 noon, and an open session for residents between 2pm and 4pm. Elected members are welcome to attend both sessions. To book a place please email trading.standards@iow.gov.uk

Should any elected members be approached by residents or businesses concerning rogue traders please ask them to telephone trading standards on 823370.

Community Safety

The Accredited Community Support officers are now part of regulatory services and will continue to work in partnership with other council departments and the police in reducing crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour.

Report from PFI contract management

The works by Island Roads (IR) on footways and carriageways has increased significantly during recent months. A number of larger schemes have been substantially completed. The quality of the works is being increasingly noted by the independent certifier. For larger schemes IR has commenced a better programme of regular resident update bulletins and these have been welcomed by affected residents and business.

There has been joint engagement between officers of the council and island roads with a number of local communities to discuss traffic management issues and to try

to prioritise works that may be possible from a community preference perspective and given constraints on finance. This has resulted in the IR staff who are engaged in the core investment programme (CIP) being able to design in any services adjustments to reduce subsequent cost if traffic management works cannot be funded before the CIP programme.

Atkins has been assisting the contract management team in reviewing a number of historic ex highway department policies and I envisage bringing these to the Executive for adoption in the near future.

Totland seawall

The contractor appointed to undertake the works to the Totland seawall commenced mobilisation during the first week of July.

Councillor Phil Jordan
Executive Member for Public Protection and PFI