



MINUTES

POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR ESSEX AND ESSEX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES BOARD

29 May 2020, 1000am to 1300pm, Teleconference

Present:

Jane Gardner (JG)

Pippa Brent-Isherwood (PBI)

Moria Bruin (MB)

Karl Edwards (KE)

Deputy Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (Chair)

Chief Executive & Monitoring Officer, PFCC's Officer

Director of Operations, ECFRS

Director of Corporate Services, ECFRS

Neil Cross (NC) Finance Director and Section 151 Officer, ECFRS

James Palmer (JP) Ast Director, Head of Prevention & Protection ECFRS

Leanne Little (LL) Performance Analyst, ECFRS

Jo Thornicroft (JTh) Head of Performance & Scrutiny (Fire), PFCC's Office

Claire Putnam (CP) Board Support Officer, PFCC (Minutes)

Apologies:

Roger Hirst (RH) Police, Fire Crime Commissioner (Chair) Rick Hylton (RHY) Deputy Chief Fire Officer, ECFRS

Dave Bill (DB) Director of Innovation, Risk & Development, ECFRS

1 Welcome and apologies

JG welcomed all to the meeting and noted that apologies had been received from RH, RHY and DB. There were no other apologies.

2 Minutes of the last meeting

There being no amendments the minutes of the previous meeting of 30 April 2020 were approved.

There were no matters arising.

3 Action Log

05/20 Performance Report December 2019 - MB and KE to look into a more formal assessment around reporting personal data breaches to the ICO. Paper due back in June 2020 so Action remains open. Update 29 May 2020: JTh also stated that conversations have started with Tracy King around this.

18/20 Budget Review – NC to include a 1 year training history in the report for comparison. Update 30 April: This has been delayed until May so Action to remain open. Update 29 May 2020: This is now included in the report so Action can close.

22/20 & 23/20 Service Response to High Clad Building and Student Accommodation – MB to pull together and collate all professional advice the Service is receiving around the way forward with Clad buildings and to organise a meeting or workshop with the lawyers, professional advisors and the PFCC's office to look at and agree the next steps available and MB to link in with the Protection Board to ensure

resourcing is available to deal with rectifying the issues and to also look at potentially setting up a separate part of the Protection team to take any initiatives forward. Update 29 May 2020: Meetings for both held on 18th May so Action can close.

24/20 Home Safety Visits by Operational Crews - MB to engage with Suzanne Harris in the PFCC's office and put together an Action Plan on the way forward with CSP's. Update 29 May 2020: MB confirmed that she had met with Suzanne Harris, the paper will change to Attendance at CSPs and is on the Forward Plan for June so the Action can close. MB requested a name change of the paper, from Home Safety Visits by Operational Crews to Attendance at Hubs & CSP's, JTh confirmed this will be done.

4 Forward Plan

4.1 JTh confirmed that for June the following is on the Forward Plan; Q4 Performance Report, Grenfell Phase 2 High Level Action Plan Update, On-Call Conversion Programme Update, Training Costs and Attendance at Hubs & CSP's.

5 Budget Review (inc Covid-19) April 20202

- 5.1 NC took the Board through the report and highlighted the following; this is the starting of a new report which is still a work in progress but it is more condensed and the Cambridge Service are using the same financial system although their reporting is slightly more advanced than ECFRS, so NC has been liaising with Cambridge to share knowledge to improve the reporting for ECFRS.
- 5.2 Summary Income and Expenditure Statement for April has been updated to include a column for year to date actuals from prior year for context. Month 1 for expenditure is £251,000 below initial budget. Variances are as follows; £80,000 relates to employment costs which is driven by underspend in areas of Community Safety and Technical Fire Safety both of which are below on head count. Head of Prevention will be joining soon and there is work going on in the Protection arena as well which will utilise some of the grant funding received from the government.
- Non pay costs are £171,000 below budget. £74,000 is support costs made up largely of travel and mileage costs, £94,000 in premises and equipment costs, £60,000 in IT some of which relates to the costs of the control system, £40,000 below in other costs and services. In the Health and Pensions costs there is an adverse figure of £40,000 which is a specific one off cost and not a continuing trend throughout the year.
- 5.4 Operational Income is behind on a number of activities down to timing. The Service will receive additional monies from Business Rates Grant Relief and £150,000 additional funding in the year to what the budget shows. Funding is on track to budget but with Covid-19 there has been an impact on the financials at the county councils and in Essex there is a £40million shortfall, due to pressures on council tax collections.
- 5.5 NC confirmed he has included a cost centre summary in the report which gives oversite of all pay and non-pay, operational income actuals vs budget cost centres across the service which will show where the variances are more efficiently. FTE retirement age table has also been included which shows the risk. MB stated that the figure is length of service so doesn't' include pre-existing military service or pre-existing military pension so there is potential for the figure to be greater. JG stated that is more worrying as if they decided to retire at the same time it would leave a significant shortfall. NC will dig deeper into figures to gain a better understanding.

- 5.6 Grant analysis has also now been included in the report for Operational Income which JG thanked NC for as RH has been asking for this.
- NC updated the Board on the Covid-19 current position, and the Service has now 5.7 received the second tranche, £1.7million of government funding. Overall picture is total additional costs are £657,000 which a large amount is for PPE and there is £400,000 on order from Hunters, 40% of the order has already been received and the remaining is due June and August. The second area of costs has been individual firefighters driving ambulances under secondary contracts. £1million surplus currently on the funding however, haven't seen the costs incurred for body transfers activities or the costs around potentially bringing back retired firefighters. There is also work in progress on the recovery phase and return to work which will have costs associated but NC believes the Service is in a healthy position with the funding received so far and it's unlikely ECFRS will get any further funding. JG stated that as the Service doesn't know what the final position will be it's a good idea to continue as normal until there's a definite indication of any surplus as which point there can be discussions around returning it. MB stated that the test and trace is starting to come into force and if anyone goes to the centre to be tested they will be required to self-isolate for 14 days so that may put the Service into a position of having to use some of the funding. PBI confirmed that this has been discussed at the SGB virtual meeting and Chief Constable Harrington is looking to arrange a meeting (which will include MHCLG) whereby he will be making a strong case for all emergency services to be able to make risk based decisions around this topic.
- NC confirmed that the final capital position was £2.8million vs £5.3million budget and asset protection hasn't hit budget levels. The first Capital Board Meeting has taken place and it was agreed that progress needs to be made in this area and highlights the Capital Budget for next year is £8million, asset protection is £2million which NC doesn't think the Service will get near to, vehicle appliance capital budget is £1.2million and NC is already hearing that the Service won't be able to get the vehicles in this financial year. This will be addressed in the monthly Capital Board Meetings. JG stated that this shows confidence that this shows the level of understanding NC has and is encouraged by what he is trying to achieve and how it's developing.
- Training costs are £800,000 against the budget of £730,000 however £350,000 of that relates to operational training which was budgeted from last year's reserves, but the Service was able to fund it as business as usual budget. So even though it shows an overspend of £100,000 there were savings made in other areas of the Services. Training costs from external providers is £450,000 excluding the operational training items. JG asked KE, the Services training costs have gone up which is what the Board wanted to see but organisational development has significantly declined as has in-house operational training, are the Service ok with that? KE confirmed that this is unfortunately Covid-19 related and will be picked up in the recovery plan. NC also confirmed that there had been specific leadership training that had been budgeted for in the year, however a suitable training provider has not been found so will look to do this in this financial year.
- 5.10 NC gave a brief overview of an interactive tool that will used internally that LL has put together that will show performance and costs on a station by station, month by month basis. JG stated it's a very impressive interactive tool. NC and JTh will discuss what part of this should be brought to P&R and once NC is happy with the visibility of numbers within this JTh will schedule a meeting for NC to run through it with RH.

LL joined the meeting at 10.43am

6. Performance Report April 2020

- 6.1 LL took the Board through the report and highlighted the following; The total number of incidents attended in April 2020 was 1,121 which was more than the previous month. However, following quality assurance of 51 incidents, it is unlikely that the total for the month will be less than April 2018. There was another decrease in the number of special service incidents, and an increase in the number of fires and false alarms. There were 2 fatalities and 8 casualties in April. This focus for this month is on fire fatalities from faulty equipment/appliances. Both attendance targets were met and appliance availability also increased.
- 6.2 JG asked in regard to the fatalities, were these in sheltered accommodation. KE confirmed they were private dwellings where an elderly couple had been hoarding materials and there was an electrical fault with a cable/appliance in their living room and the couple also had mobility issues.. LL confirmed that there had been 2 ADF in self-contained sheltered housing, one of the two incidents had 2 casualties with the cause being careless handling due to sleep/unconsciousness and the other incident was down to a lone gentleman cooking. JTh asked after a serious fire there's normally an After Incident Response to improve awareness around fire safety, so with the current situation, how is this being carried out? JP confirmed a strategic After Incident Response was carried out to see what organisational learning could be taken. The couple who died were known to the Service and Social Care, but unfortunately due to it being a private dwelling the Service had no powers to enter and remove the materials/items being hoarded. MB confirmed that unfortunately hoarding is becoming an increasing trend across the UK and there have been two coroners' letters around invoking new legislation to give powers to enforce entering and removing said items. JG asked if there's anything the PFCC can do to lobby government for powers to remove items being hoarded. MB stated that hoarding is recognised as a psychological disorder and there are a few charitable organisations starting to come through in Essex who are designed to help so there may an opportunity to link those charities in with the High Sheriff's fund. JG will talk to RH about pushing this message in his weekly blog.
- 6.3 April has seen a reduction in RTCs (involving ECFRS) and control measure failures, but increase in accidents, hazards, near misses and RIDDORs
- 6.4 Attendance time for April was 9 minutes 14 seconds which was better than previous month and previous year. JG asked if the Service knew why response time was better, MB confirmed that availability had increased due to Covid-19 although KE stated that there had been a slight decline in availability when Boris Johnson announced the easing of the lockdown.
- 6.5 Every wholetime & day crew station pumping appliance improved on availability, 99.4% vs 97.7% for March and 96% for April 2019. LL stated the Service will be focusing on speed of response to see why stations are and aren't hitting appliance availability. JG asked if the reasons were known for Canvey's availability, MB stated there are ongoing issues and JP confirmed that availability is measured against both pumps. JTh asked if the Service know why Wholetime Day Crewed availability has improved so much, MB confirmed that it's the Covid effect across the board, holidays abroad have been cancelled and training postponed.
- 6.6 MB confirmed that ECFRS had received 7 compliments and 0 complaints for April 2020. JG congratulated the Service.
- 6.7 LL highlighted the following under Health & Safety; There were 14 accidents on duty in April. 8 of these occurred at operational incidents, of which 6 were physical injuries and 2 were personnel feeling unwell. 4 incidents occurred on station premises, 1

during training and 1 at SHQ involving personnel walking into faulty doors. 10 Hazards were reported, of which 7 related to concerns over professional cleaning on whole time stations. 1 concerned vehicles, 1 the collection of laundry and 1 cross border attendance at incidents. There were 6 near miss reports, of which 1 related to PPE, 4 to equipment and one to a member of the public crossing the path of an appliance whilst responding. Both attacks this month were incidents where missiles were thrown at Operational staff but no injuries were received. JG asked where these had happened and MB confirmed firefighters were responding to a traveller site.

- 6.8 Overall increase of 21.5 fte in the month, the apparent spike in Wholetime fte is due to additional costs incurred by EEAS volunteers. 5.0 fte of agency workers takes Support over budget by 4.3 fte's (1.4%). Covid-19 related absence accounted for 70.8% of working days lost to sickness. Musculoskeletal conditions account for 44% of non Covid related lost time followed by Mental Health conditions at 31%. KE updated the Board on the launch of a health and wellbeing pocket card which has a whole directory of support contacts.
- 6.9 67 days unpaid special leave for on-call firefighters is high due to Covid-19 (attributed to 4 crew members, 2 of which were training with other services and 1 was extended parental leave).
- 6.10 There have been 191 Home Safety visits which is lower than April 2019 due to the current pandemic. MB stated that these will start to resume and will be carried out by the Ops Team and a road map is being put together.
- 6.11 There have been 41 referrals to safeguarding, 20 by crews, 8 by social care and 5 by Police.
- 6.12 JG and PBI both stated they are happy with the changes to the report and JG thanked LL for her hard work in not only this report but the section in the Finance report.

LL left the meeting at 11.17am

7 HMICFRS

- 7.1 Nothing to report as awaiting the re-inspection from HMICFRS.
- 7.2 PBI asked if there had been any feedback on HMICFRS re-starting their inspection regime. MB will look into and bring to the next P&R.

Action: 25/20

MB to look into the HMICFRS re-inspection regime and bring an update to next P&R

8. Risk Register Changes (by exception)

- 8.1 KE took the Board through the Register explaining that the Service are continually reviewing the risks especially around the impacts of Covid-19.
- 8.2 SRR150028 and SRR15002 Both these risks concern the risk in delivery of Prevention, Protection and Response. They are currently; SRR150028 There is a risk that, through ineffective planning, the Service fails to deliver its Prevention, Protection and Response activities leading to a loss of trust and confidence by the Essex Communities; and; SRR150002 There is a risk that the Service has a significant failure, loss or reduction of our physical infrastructure, which leads to the Service failing to deliver its Prevention, Protection and Response activities. It was agreed that the control measures for SRR150002 are merged with 150028, and

- SRR150002 is removed, the rationale being that that if the Service plans correctly (i.e. Business Continuity Planning) there wouldn't be a significant failure, loss or reduction in our physical infrastructure.
- 8.3 SRR150018 This risk was recently added to the Strategic Risk Register as a result of the complex issues arising in the On-Call Conversation Programme and remains red.
- 8.4 SRR150026 It was agreed that this would be reviewed by the Director of Corporate Services, with the current risk assessment needing to be lowered from a red risk due to the work already completed as part of the ICT Transformation Programme and the new ways of working which have been incorporated in relation to the Services response to Covid-19.
- 8.5 SRR150027 Operational risk

9. Single Tender Actions (by exception)

9.1 None to report for April, however NC wanted to note that there will be 2 in May, the Estates re-evaluation and the heating and ventilation system at Kelvedon Park. NC will check that a decision sheet has been signed.

10. Quarterly People Report

10.1 This paper has been moved to June's P&R meeting.

11. Quarterly Health & Safety Report

- 11.1 No key issues have been identified this guarter.
- 11.2 There was the RSM risk assured services audit which keeps showing that the Service is lacking in one area. This was looked into to see what was happening and it showed that is wasn't a failure in the safety processes it was that the Service wasn't recording through the L&D system the induction training that new starters had received in a way that RSM wanted. So looking at changing the format to allow it to comply with RSM's regulations of recording.
- 11.3 The current risk management system OSHENS is up for replacement so will be looking at providers.
- 11.4 Health and Safety policy has been updated and is now live. The Health and Safety team were involved in producing national risk assessments around Covid-19 and in addition national risk assessments around return to normality in prevention and protection and national risks assessments around what the Service is doing differently like assisting the ambulance service and participating in the retrieval of fatalities from hospital morgues and the community.
- 11.5 There is still one significant accident investigation still outstanding which is around the industrial chemical spill in Thurrock and a lessons learnt report will be produced however a multi-agency debrief can't progress at this time due to Covid-19.
- 11.6 JG asked in regard to the Health and Safety policy should it come to RH to sign off in the first instance? PBI confirmed that it's the Annual Health and Safety Statement of Content that RH and Jo Turton sign off.
- 11.7 JG stated that there is a lot of good work happening and good news stories coming out so well done to the team.

12. Quarterly Operational Assurance

- 12.1 No key issues have been identified this guarter.
- 12.2 Station audits had stopped for the time being due to Covid-19 and the Service is trying to find a way to safely re-start these.
- 12.3 There were 6 Failure to Respond incidents this quarter where the pagers didn't activate and KE stated that the pagers are old so they are looking into replacements.
- 12.4 Op Assurance oversee the Debriefs and Monitoring Officers and exercises so they're looking at ways to do this remotely due to the current situation to ensure learning is continuing and standards are adhered to.
- 12.5 JG asked that the learnings from the debrief around the industrial chemical spill are shared with the Board. MB stated they have had a service debrief which was completed by an Assistant Chief Officer from Cambridge, however the multi-agency debrief is yet to happen.

13. Dispute Resolution Agreement Update

- 13.1 MB stated that the Dispute Resolution Agreement in place was set out with the FBU and covered March 2017 to March 2020 to take the Service out of an ongoing dispute which centred around control which started in October 2014.
- 13.2 It's now proposed to stop reporting against that document as the time has passed but with the proviso that any commitments that were made in that agreement will be honoured and continued under the IRMP. SLT have agreed this way forward and it was discussed at the FBU GNCC and they have also agreed this course of action.
- 13.3 JG asked from a governance viewpoint, how will the Service know they are being progressed especially around on-call conversions. MB confirmed on-call conversions will still be reported on under the Change Process and since the Dispute Resolution Agreement was put in place the Service has a more robust governance structure, reporting structure and performance structure.
- 13.4 JG stated its progress that the FBU are in agreement but stressed the importance of making sure that the agreements the Service haven't been able to fulfil are tracked if still relevant. MB will re-visit this with DB to ensure this happens.

Action: 26/20

MB to speak with DB to ensure any agreements the Service haven't been able to fulfil are tracked.

14. Protection Improvement Plan

- 14.1 MB confirmed that the Protection Strategy will be presented at the next Strategic Board meeting as there have been some updates and strengthened some areas.
- 14.2 The CRM data management system has slipped slightly to July due to Covid-19 and Civica being unable to deliver training.
- 14.3 JP stated that the Service has produced a plan in regard to how they're going to address the areas of concern raised by HMICFRS and they have received feedback from HMICFRS in terms of more granular tasks and dates that the Service will achieve the milestones put in place.

- 14.4 JP stated that the main concern RH had when he saw the plan was around the timeframes around the Digital Solution and the timeframe that JP put in around completion in a year or two has considerably shortened due to the CRM work taking place and most other projects are on track to deliver if they haven't already delivered against the Protection Improvement Plan.
- 14.5 Key area that needs to move forward is the risk based inspection programme. HMICFRS identified that the Service weren't completing the number of audits that they had committed to do, which is different to them saying the Service weren't doing enough audits. Previous programmed had stated the Service would do in the region of 4,500 audits per year with the capacity to deliver 900. So going forward needed to ensure there was a robust risk based inspection programme.
- 14.6 JP confirmed there are around 34,000 premises within Essex that fall within the scope of the audit and that's within the scope of the regulated re-reformed fire safety order which is referred to as regulated premises. Within the Risk Based Inspection Programme the Service are looking at pre-planned visits and how they are prioritised using the data available.
- 14.7 The Service are looking at 3 areas; the historic risk of fire, the enforcement action which has 5 different areas and the last one is category of premises. All 34,000 premises were then added into the risk model which generated a risk score for all properties, the risk scores were categorised as very high, high, medium and low. Very high risk will have a full audit by a technical fire safety officer on an annual basis, high risk will have an audit by a technical fire safety officer on a 2 yearly basis, medium risk will have a fire safety check by operational crews once every 4 years and low risk will be targeted by the business engagement officer through social media campaigns and working with the Essex Chamber of Commerce and other partners.
- 14.8 There are 1,114 very high risk premises and at the top are high rise buildings of 10 floors or more, there are 2,639 high risk premises and high rise are again at the top of this category, there 16,214 medium risk premises and 13,771 low risk premises.
- 14.9 Capacity was increased within the Technical Fire Safety function at the beginning of this year and they are currently going through training before starting. The number of audits the Service are able to undertake on an annual basis is 2,424 (although there isn't capacity within the current function). The government has released £317,000 of surge funding to enable FRS's to target high rise buildings and equally other high rise premises as well. The plan is to utilise the surge funding in years 1 and 2 to identify the high rise premises and specifically target other high risk properties of there is capacity. Taking our high rise premises and student accommodation that gives capacity within the central function to be able to target the rest of the Risk Based Inspection Programme. Within operational crews there's a capacity to deliver 7,400 per year based on the current arrangements in place.
- 14.10 JP confirmed that the cycle will be reviewed on an annual basis and subject to any new changes or new legislation that comes in this will be an iterative process. PBI stated it was a really good robust piece of work and asked if the model and plan as it currently looks is sustainable and deliverable over the next 2 years because of the surge funding and there's hope that within those 2 years the model will be refined and premises will become better in their own practices that thereafter it will be deliverable or in 2 years' time if every premises stays in the same category will the Service be in the same position where it can't resource without the surge funding. JP confirmed that PBI is correct as the surge funding gives the Service the ability to focus on the high rise premises for 2 years. Then through the process the Service will define what the model looks like and how fire safety is delivered. Need to also look at succession planning with Technical Fire Safety as there's the potential to lose a

significant amount of staff within the next 18 months. So the Head of Function is working through that identifying staff that can go and how to overcome that, the problem being it takes a number of months to get staff qualified to deliver audits. JP wants to be in a position where they are potentially over established to ensure there's always capacity to deliver.

- 14.11 MB confirmed that the surge funding is focused on high rise and clad buildings and legislative changes that will eventually come into practice will change the way this type of premises is looked at.
- 14.12 JTh stated that data sharing with the Police and councils on certain premises that are not reaching their food safety standards and Police are attending because there is anti-social behaviour for example, can that data be fed into this model to flag any premises that aren't following basic rules. JP confirmed that as the evolution of the RBIP will rely on getting good data from partners that the Service trusts which will further refine the model and give a greater level of detail. PBI stated that JP will be joining the Safer Essex Board so start those conversations.
- 14.13 JG stated that there is also a Business Against Crime Board which would be a link into community safety concerns. JG will link JP into that to give a presentation to the Essex Chamber of Commerce and the Federation of Small Businesses.

Action: 27/20

JG to link JP into the Business Against Crime Board to enable him to give a presentation on RBIP

JP said he's also looking to link into the national agenda around the Protection Board that the NFCC have, which will serve to raise the profile of Essex nationally and helps Essex to influence the national direction with protection and equally it means the Service is aware of everything that's happening nationally.

14.14 JP stated that this report underpins the strategy and sets out how the Service expect Protection to look like over the next 4 years and the RBIP is the detail around how this will be delivered. JG asked JP to attach this as an appendix to the Strategy that is going to the Strategic Board in June 2020. MB confirmed this.

15. Covid-19 Recovery Plan

- 15.1 KE took the Board through the Recovery Plan and were asked to note the 3 recommendations within the plan.
- 15.2 Messaging is maintaining the 5 steps, which is stay at home as much as you can, work from home if you are able, limit contact with people, keeping a distance of 2mtrs apart and wash your hands regularly. The biggest cohort of people for the Service is Kelvedon Park and fortunately (due to ventilation and heating works) the building will be out of action for a further 8 weeks which gives time to continue to plan further safety measures.
- 15.3 Business impact assessments with department heads has been completed for all work streams that have been impacted and they've been given a RAG rating and put into a dashboard approach to look at the projects that need to be delivered first.
- 15.4 KE confirmed that a Strategic Covid Recovery Group is being put together to lead on returning people to a safe, healthy, supportive and smarter workplace. Also looking at what has worked well during the pandemic (for example holding meetings via Teams rather than face to face will reduce the risk). There have also been some benefits around the current situation which the Service are taking on board.

- 15.5 Key documents are also being reviewed and posters will be put up around the buildings and stations in regard to the messaging around following the 5 steps which will give reassurance. There's also the potential that the Service will be inspected by the Health and Safety Executive to ensure as an employer ECFRS are complying with all of the social distancing measure and cleaning etc.
- 15.6 This will be a standing agenda item for P&R to give assurance that things are progressing in the way they should.

Action: 28/20

JTh to add the Covid-19 Recovery Plan to the Forward Plan as a standing agenda item.

- 15.7 KE confirmed that there's a draft Terms of Reference in regard to the Covid Recovery Group and one of the key areas is the Critical Incident Team who are looking at how the Service starts to de-escalate from critical incident tasks into recovery tasks.
- 15.8 KE explained that if the Service have contaminated premises through a member of staff who has unknowingly come in to the workplace and then been diagnosed with Covid-19 they had to have a rapid cleaning process and there is a company that offers a dry solution of chlorine that instantly kills the virus on any surfaces and as it isn't a wet solution you don't have to wait for the area to dry. This process is called Fogging.
- 15.9 JG stated that there's a vast amount of work going into recovery and getting the work force back. JG also thanked KE on linking in with PBI and including the PFCC in the recovery details which is important and maybe someone from the PFCC office should sit on the Covid Recovery Group. PBI confirmed it's on the agenda to discuss at a later meeting.

PBI, JP, MB and JTh left the meeting at 12.28pm

16. Q3 Performance Report

16.1 Nothing to report of significance.

17. Any Other Business

- 17.1 Unfortunately due to time constraints the Board weren't able to go through the Deep Dive from 20 May 2020 on Helping the Vulnerable Stay Safe. However, the following points are highlights from the report.
- 17.2 The Service stated that working with their partners, they will; Identify the vulnerable and signpost them to appropriate services. Work directly with vulnerable people to help them to keep themselves safe. Share data and information with partners to support vulnerable people. Use the Services trusted reputation within communities and with the people of Essex to engage with vulnerable and harder to reach people.
- 17.3 ECFRS recognises safeguarding as a high priority for their organisation and takes accountability seriously. To achieve this, we ensure we have robust arrangements in place to provide strong leadership, vision and direction for safeguarding. We have a clear line of accountability for safeguarding within ECFRS. The Community Development & Safeguarding Manager being the professional advisor to the Deputy Chief Fire Officer and a Safeguarding Deputy who reports to the Safeguarding Manager.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12.48pm