

Service Targets April to August 2019

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

For further information about this report please contact Rod Hammerton, Chief Fire Officer, on 01743 260201 or Andy Johnson, Deputy Chief Fire Officer, on 01743 260196.

1 Purpose of Report

This report presents a summary of the Service's performance from April to August 2019.

2 Recommendations

The Standards, Audit and Performance Committee is asked to note the report.

3 Performance Review

As noted by Members when this year's targets were set, meeting them is expected to be very challenging, but the Service has made a good start with working towards them during the first five months.

The Service is seeing improved performance over last year's performance, resulting in it predicting that it is currently on track to meet five of the seven Service Delivery annual targets set.

The two targets where the Service is currently predicting it may not meet the annual targets relate to 'Response Time' and 'Fires confined to the room of origin'. Members will receive a presentation looking at the Service's performance against the Response Standard, which will provide detail on the data quality issues the Service experienced with this measure during April and May.

Although the 'Fires confined to the room of origin' measure is currently approximately 4.3% short of the annual target, with the peak of the agricultural fires typically occurring during June and July, it is likely that this level of performance will improve during the remainder of the year, possibly resulting in the target ultimately being met.

In relation to the eighth measure, 'Value for Money', the external auditors presented their findings at this committee's last meeting and gave the Service an unqualified Value for Money statement for 2018/19. This target has therefore been met for the current year.

Detailed performance data and summary comments on the performance against each measure is provided in the attached appendix.

4 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5 Legal Comment

Section 21 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 provides the statutory authority for the Fire Service National Framework and requires fire and rescue authorities to have regard to the Framework in carrying out their functions. Members should have due regard to the Framework and, in particular, paragraph 2.8 in relation to the publication of performance information:

'Fire and rescue authorities must make their communities aware of how they can access comparable data and information on their performance'.

6 Initial Impact Assessment

This report contains merely statements of fact and historical data. An Initial Impact Assessment is not, therefore, required.

7 Equality Impact Assessment

There are no equality or diversity implications arising from this report. An Equality Impact Assessment is not, therefore, required.

8 Appendix

Service Targets
Summary Performance April to August 2019

9 Background Papers

There are no background papers associated with this report.

Service Targets
Summary Performance April to August 2019

Aims	Measure and Target	Performance to date April to June 2019	Predicted Pass: ✓ Fail: ✗
1. To be there when you need us in an emergency with a professional and well-equipped team	1a. The first fire engine will arrive at an emergency incident with at least 4 firefighters within 15 minutes on 89% of occasions	86.8%	✗
	<p>Comments</p> <p>Following a statistical assurance process, undertaken for the data collected during April and May, the current performance against this measure stands at 86.8% which, although a slight improvement on the same period last year, is still 2.2% short of the target for the year. Members will receive a presentation from the Head of Operational Risk, outlining the work being undertaken in this area.</p>		
2. To reduce the number of fires in our community	2a. All accidental fires will be reduced to not more than 433 fires during 2019/20	168	✓
	<p>Comments</p> <p>With 78 fewer accidental fires during the year to date, compared to the same period last year, this is an excellent start to the year and puts the Service on track to meet the annual target.</p> <p>Most accidental fires are categorised as ‘accidental dwelling fires’ (45.8%), with vehicle fires comprising the next largest accidental fire category at 25.3% of the total, with 2/3 of these relating to cars, rather than any other type of vehicle. This type of fire can often be difficult to categorise as accidental, due to the nature and level of damage experienced once a fire starts in them.</p>		

	2b. Accidental dwelling fires (ADF) to be reduced to not more than 186 during 2019/20	70	✓
<p>Comments</p> <p>The performance achieved for the first five months is significantly improved on last year, with 28 fewer fires over the same period, and is an excellent start against the challenging target set for this year.</p> <p>The main cause of these fires continues to be faulty electrics/appliances and cooking, which continues previous year's trends.</p>			
	2c. Deliberate fires will be reduced to not more than 547 fires during 2019/20	176	✓
<p>Comments</p> <p>The performance achieved for the first five months of this year is further improvement on the excellent performance from last year, with 30 fewer deliberate fires over the same period and is continuing the promising start against this year's target.</p>			

3. To reduce the number of fire related deaths and serious injuries	3a. Fire related deaths and serious injuries in the community will be reduced to not more than 16 during 2019/20	4	✓
	Comments <p>With one additional serious fire injury in July, the Service has now experienced 2 fire fatalities and two serious injuries during the current year. The Service therefore remains well on track to meet this year's annual target.</p>		
	3b. Injuries sustained to staff through firefighting will be reduced to not more than 21 injuries during 2019/20	7	✓
	Comments <p>With no additional injuries incurred during July or August, the seven injuries reported in the previous report to members is the same figure achieved for the year to date. Only three of the seven injuries were sustained during operational incidents, with the other four occurring during training events. None of the injuries sustained have resulted in absence from work or required reporting through the RIDDOR process.</p> <p>With such small numbers of injuries, it is difficult to identify any specific trends. However, every incident is used to inform on how our current practices and processes can be improved.</p>		
4. To deliver a fire and rescue service, which provides value for money for our community now and into the future	4a. Fire and heat damage emanating from accidental fires in domestic dwellings and regulated business will be confined to the room of origin on not less than 89.5% of occasions during 2019/20	85.2%	✘
	Comments <p>86 of the 101 incidents relevant to this indicator, were confined to the room of origin, resulting in the current 85.2% Service performance for the year to date. Although this is currently approximately 4.3% short of the annual target, with the peak of the agricultural fires typically occurring during June and July, it is likely that this level of performance will improve during the remainder of the year, possibly resulting in the target ultimately being met.</p>		

	4b. To obtain an unqualified Value for Money (VFM) conclusion from External Audit	Achieved	✓
<p>Comments The Auditors of the Service presented their findings at this committee's last meeting and gave the Service an unqualified Value for Money statement for 2018/19. This target has therefore been met.</p>			