

**AGENDA ITEM 8**

Essex Police and Crime Panel	<b>EPCP/ /18</b>
Date: 6 December2018	

**The Fire and Rescue Service Half Year Performance Report 2018/19 and the October 2018 Performance Summary**

Report by the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner to the Panel

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**1. Purpose of report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Panel with the Service's Half Year Performance Report for 2018/19, and the October 2018 Monthly Performance Summary. The reports cover a wide range of the service's work.

**2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 The Panel is invited to note the content of the reports, identifying any areas that require further clarification or comment.

**3. Background**

- 3.1 In terms of performance headlines from the last six months:
- The Service attended 184 more incidents in the first six months of 2018/19 compared with the same period the previous year. This represents a 2% increase. Within this, there was a 7% rise in the number of fires and a 5% rise in the volume of false alarms, but an 8% reduction in the delivery of special services.
  - Primary and secondary fires increased by 6% and 8% respectively, however the county saw a 3% reduction in the volume of accidental dwelling fires during this period.
  - Whole-time and day crew availability improved on both the same time last year and the previous six-month period. As at the end of September 2018, performance in this area was above target. On call availability remained more challenging, however, at 74.9% against a target of 90%.
  - There were seven attacks on fire service personnel between April and September 2018 compared with 11 during the same period in 2017 (a 36% reduction). We are hopeful that new legislation and tougher sentencing for those convicted of attacking emergency services personnel will reduce this figure further going forward.

3.2 In terms of performance during October 2018, it should be noted that:

- The number of incidents attended in October 2018 was 3% lower than during October 2017, and 5% lower than during the previous month.
- Fire calls were settling back to a more normal pattern after a very busy summer. The number of fires attended by the service during October 2018 was 18% lower than the previous month. The number of primary and secondary fires attended in October fell by 14% and 21% respectively compared with September. However, we continued to see a steady increase in the number of false alarms.
- Whole time and day crew availability remained above target and continued the steady improvement that has been observed since December 2017. On call availability remained a challenge though, due to difficulties in attracting on call fire fighters coupled with a high fall-out rate. The Service is actively looking at ways to address this, including through increased engagement with businesses in target areas.

Attachments:

Appendix 1: ECFRS Half Year Performance Summary

Appendix 2: Monthly Performance Summary October 2018