



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Fire & Rescue Service

Creating Safer Communities

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham
Fire and Rescue Authority
Community Safety Committee

PREVENTION ACTIVITIES: INTELLIGENCE LED WORKING

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

Date: 12 January 2018

Purpose of Report:

To update Members with regard to how data is utilised to ensure an intelligence led approach to the delivery of prevention activities.

CONTACT OFFICER

Name : Daniel Quinn
Area Manager Service Delivery

Tel : 07967 690752

Email : dan.quinn@notts-fire.gov.uk

Media Enquiries Contact : Therese Easom
(0115) 967 0880 therese.easom@notts-fire.gov.uk

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS) is currently reviewing the way it uses performance data to drive its organisational functions. A service level performance framework is currently being developed that will integrate many forms of performance data to drive business improvement. This project is likely to be delivered in 2018.
- 1.2 The Prevention Department has always relied on incident data to direct its ways of working. Various changes to IT systems in past years have required Prevention to work closely with the performance team to identify and access usable data, which will hopefully be made easier with the introduction of a performance framework.
- 1.3 The need to refocus prevention activities in a more intelligence led way has required key improvements during 2017 in the way data is used to inform decision making.

2. REPORT

- 2.1 A key area for improvement in the Prevention department in 2017 has been to develop an intelligence led, evidence based approach to community engagement, specifically in relation to the direction and delivery of prevention activities.
- 2.2 In August 2016, a member of the District Prevention team and the Corporate Performance Information Officer started work on an interim solution to provide performance information for the Prevention Department.
- 2.3 Subsequently the Incident Report System Query Tool (IRSQT) was developed. This system enables complex data to be presented in an easy to use format. It details all qualitative incident data which is enriched with quantitative data from the Incident Recording System (IRS). The resulting information gives prevention staff a rich picture of incident trends, types and geography.
- 2.4 The IRSQT also provides a means of highlighting potential issues through a 'Top 5s' display. This enables priority areas to be easily identified by the highest number of incidents, and gives the reasons why. For example, the system can identify the area of the county that has the highest number of dwellings fires. This information can then be broken down into causes, such as cooking, smoking, candles etc. This allows for an appropriate and targeted intervention to be delivered.
- 2.5 Over the last six months a new 'performance cycle' has been developed within the Prevention department. At the start of each quarter a Service-wide Incident Performance report is produced. This indicates the areas of incident activity. The positive trends are defined as areas that have recorded a notable decline in incident activity, the areas of concern that have seen an increase in incident type.

- 2.6 The Prevention team District Prevention Officers (DPO's) use this information to produce station level plans for each station across the county. From this, an Incident Reduction Plan (IRP) is produced to ensure the appropriate prevention activities are undertaken across the quarter, relevant to each station area.
- 2.7 Each station then has an IRP defined as a Community Safety Area (sub-divided into wards for wholtime stations and watches). This helps promote overall ownership of prevention initiatives and of specific local issues. It also helps provide 'points of contact' for partners and members of the community.
- 2.8 Every quarter, each station now has access to the County Incident Performance report to enable them to review the Service-wide picture and their station level Prevention Plan. The IRSQT is now available on our internal intranet and is accessible to all staff.
- 2.9 In terms of overall prevention work, key staff and departments now have multiple ways to receive and access incident performance data which ensures a more intelligence led approach in the delivery of prevention activities.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report, however there is a potential for wider financial efficiencies to be realised.
- 3.2 Some incident activity is related to deliberate fire setting. Therefore, one of the key priorities is to deliver prevention activities to reduce this. A reduction in this incident type will see a reduction in the number of emergency incidents the Service responds to. This has the potential to realise a direct cost saving for the Service.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no human resource or learning and development implications arising from the report.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

An equality impact assessment has not been undertaken because the purpose of this report is to provide a general update with regards to ongoing and planned Prevention activities.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the Service to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the

exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area.

- 6.2 NFRS works proactively with partners such as the Police to reduce incidents of deliberate fire setting (arson). The ability to do this is influenced by the ability to use data therefore this approach should contribute to any reduction in deliberate fire setting and the associated reported crimes.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Beyond the statutory prevention duty under the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 (which is specifically aimed at fire prevention) there are no legal implications arising from this report.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The use of data and analysis ensures that the service can act quickly and efficiently to identify incident hot spots and deliver the appropriate intervention. This should reduce the risk to communities through targeted prevention activities.
- 8.2 The use of historical and seasonal data means the service can predict patterns of incident spikes and as such, deliver the appropriate intervention in a proactive way, which can lead to a reduction in emergency call outs, thus promoting safer communities.

9. COLLABORATION IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Partnership data is used when creating each of the plans. This is obtained through sources such as the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Analysts and the Road Safety Partnership.
- 9.2 When delivering prevention activities, other partners who have mutual interests in a safety campaign, i.e. the reduction of ASB or safer driving, are always approached to discuss the possibility of a joint intervention.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members note the contents of this report.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION (OTHER THAN PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS)

None.

John Buckley
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER