

Winchester Neighbourhood Wardens and Hampshire Fire and Rescue Partnership Working Agreement

Proposal:

It is proposed that Winchester Neighbourhood Wardens work in conjunction with Hampshire Fire and Rescue with the objective of supporting HFRS in the achievement of service targets relating to arson reduction and fire prevention.

On completion of HFRS training to support this proposal, Winchester Neighbourhood Wardens will have the following specific objectives incorporated into their working role.

Objectives:

1.) To develop and maintain close links with local fire station managers and staff to discuss relevant issues

To support this objective wardens will meet with the relevant Fire Station Manager/s on commencement of post and agree scheduled meetings for sharing and discussing information on a bi-monthly basis.

2.) To identify potential arson targets such as abandoned vehicles, unsecured derelict premises and fly tipping and respond as appropriate.

To support this objective WCC wardens will be required to remove fly tip as and when they come across this or receive information relating to fly tip within Highcliffe and Stanmore. They will also be responsible for ensuring that abandoned vehicles are assessed for fire risk and inform the relevant Council Department/Service of this fact so that the process of removal can be initiated as soon as possible.

As with all incidents the warden deal with on a daily basis, such information will be recorded on daily incident reporting sheets which are then fed into a database. All such information relating to the number of incidents and responses will be available for HFRS as and when required.

3.) To identify hard to reach groups such as the elderly, single parent families and substance dependant individuals; all of whom are at greater risk from fire. To then generate home fire safety check referrals to HFRS.

To support this objective, wardens will be required to familiarise themselves with their environment and the people living within it on commencement of work in the community. They will also be encouraged to make visits to victims of crime and the vulnerable on a regular basis as part of their reassurance role.

4.) To share intelligence on individuals suspected of fire setting with the relevant agencies; e.g. The Police and Fire Service.

As detailed above, Neighbourhood Wardens will be required to complete detailed incident reporting forms relating to incidents and individuals on a daily basis. Information relating to fire setting and individuals suspected of such activity will not only be entered electronically into our database, but will also be submitted as Intelligence reports to North Walls Police if the nature of the intelligence is serious enough to warrant this. Information relating to such individuals will also be submitted to HFRS as an Intelligence report where necessary.

Database print outs relating to all fire related activity/incidents dealt with by the Neighbourhood Wardens will be available to HFRS as and when required.

5.) To explore the possibility of conducting environmental audits in conjunction with HFRS.

On completion of relevant training and the establishment of a good working relationship with HFRS, WCC Wardens will be encouraged to explore the mutual benefits of conducting an environmental audit and liaise with the Police and Fire Service to discuss how this might be initiated.

Support for Winchester Neighbourhood Wardens

To support a close working relationship between HFRS and WCC Neighbourhood Wardens, it is proposed that HFRS seek to assist where able with the following:

- 1.) Access to Winchester group fire stations, these being Alresford, Bishops Waltham, Wickham, North Walls and Waterlooville. Initially, primary contact will be with North Walls fire station only.**
- 2.) Access and utilisation of IT2000 system**
- 3.) Utilisation of premises for training purposes where possible**
- 4.) Utilisation of training resources where possible**
- 5.) To discuss feasibility of utilising office space within New Alresford Fire Station on expansion of Warden Scheme.**

Neighbourhood Services Co-ordinator

Group Manager