

Briefing Note: Cllr Matthews – Bury Update

Date: 22nd January 2014 – GM Pete Riley

New Bury Fire Station Update

Moved in 6th July 2012 – now in for 18 months. Fully settled in and operating as a 'community station'. A number of 'snagging issues' are being dealt with by the contractors.

The Community Garden Project is in full swing, with hard landscaping carried out and pathways installed. An outdoor classroom/covered gazebo is due for installation in February, as well as a patio area. Once the construction phase has been completed, soft landscaping will be completed in early spring. Vocational students from Bury College Construction department have made and installed benches in the garden.

Examples of community users include: Asian Women's Group; MS Society; NHS Pennine Care; Probation Services; Radcliffe Children's Centre; Redeeming Our Communities; Communities Group; Bury Beekeeping Club; Community consultation exercises; Disabilities Group; Army Cadets; various partnership groups.

As part of the sustainability strategy it has been built to a high BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) specification.

BREEAM sets the standard for best practice in sustainable building design, construction and operation and has become one of the most comprehensive and widely recognised measures of a building's environmental performance.

Fire Service Corporate Plan - Consultation

Proposals contained in the plan were widely discussed across a number of stakeholders: fire service staff; 'market stall' event in Bury town centre; Community Safety Portfolio; Citizens Panel at Bury FSHQ; and feedback across the Bury Partnership. Further changes to affect Bury are the removal of one of the two fire appliances, confirmed to take place on 3rd February 2014. This has resulted in the redeployment of 6 fire-fighters to other stations across the Brigade. The changes to Ramsbottom have not yet taken place but project work is on-going to develop a new shift system to include the removal of the 2nd appliance, and integration of the retained firefighters with the wholetime crews to yield financial savings.

Significant Community Safety Initiatives

Jewish Community Initiatives and Integration

BM Pete Riley is leading an 'initiative' to promote integration of the Fire Service with Jewish communities across the 3 Boroughs of Bury, Salford and Manchester. There are approximately 5000 Jews in the Borough of Bury (plus 2000 in Salford and 1000 in Manchester). Cultural barriers have previously limited the amount of preventative work we have carried out. We have now created strong links with key bodies such as

the Beth Din (Rabbi Brodie), Jewish Representative Council, Interlink, Heathlands, Jewish Lads and Girls, Hatzola, Link and CST (Community Security Trust). This has enabled us to access many Jewish homes, and we have also delivered messages to the business community on the 'Fire Safety Order'.

We ran a hugely successful Safety Day on 30th June in Prestwich to further promote fire safety in the home and business compliance.

A Jewish cadet scheme for orthodox Jews has also been running at Whitefield Fire Station for the last few months – delivering the ASDAN qualification.

ADAB Partnership

A DVD has been produced in liaison with ADAB, to address specific South Asian fire safety issues. It is being used in a wide variety of ways including through workshops, and during home safety checks which are being conducted by Asian volunteers. The DVD is in 8 languages, to represent the predominant speakers. It has been designed to be rolled out beyond Bury to the remainder of the organisation, and potentially nationally.

ADAB volunteers have been trained to deliver Home Safety Checks and have supported operational personnel on campaigns locally.

Work is on-going to run further workshops in the Asian business sector to address Fire Safety Order requirements.

Bsafe BCool

Following a spate of small fires and anti-social behaviour caused by youths during the summer holidays at Holcombe in Bury, a partnership between the Fire & Rescue Service, Police and Bury Council was formed with a specific remit to educate young people and prevent this type of behaviour. The Bsafe, Bcool partnership targeted year 9 pupils in schools across Bury. The project aimed to encourage them to act responsibly in the community through a series of interactive workshops with each Service.

The key topics studied by teenagers were sex, drugs, alcohol, crime, antisocial behaviour, fire and towards the latter end, cyber bullying. The sessions allowed the respective organisations to provide important information to, and strike up a rapport with, young people across the borough. To assist in promoting the message, the partnership used the skills of Bury College School of Performing Arts who demonstrated some of the effects of anti-social behaviour through expressive dance.

The sessions allowed pupils from schools across Bury to interact and get involved in discussions around safety and personal responsibility and build relationships with their local neighbourhood Police Officers, Fire Service and partners.

The scheme was delivered in October to Year 9 age groups across all the secondary schools in the Borough.

Borough Performance – To the end of Quarter3 2013-14

	Previous Year to Date	Year to Date	Target to Date
Primary Fires	89	72	81
Fatalities	0	1	0
Casualties	8	4	7
Total Deliberate Fires	88	58	98
Accidental fires (dwellings)	35	35	33
Deliberate Primary Fires	23	21	20
Deliberate Secondary Fires (rubbish, etc)	65	37	78
Vehicle Fires	8	6	No Corporate Target
Unwanted Fire Signals	92	66	78
Malicious Calls Attended	6	3	No Corporate Target
The number of incidents involving hostilities towards fire-fighters	1	1	No Corporate Target
Total number of calls to road traffic collisions	32	13	No Corporate Target
Number of people rescued from fires	6	0	No Corporate Target

Home Safety Checks (HSC's)

Borough target: 3286 annually

Total this ¼ : 713

Total for year 2013/14: 2379 (which equates to 72% of target to date).

The overall annual figure will be revised down to 3151 due to the reduction of an appliance and personnel at Bury. Completion to date against revised annual target is 76%.

Borough Manager

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