



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Fire & Rescue Service
Creating Safer Communities

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham
Fire and Rescue Authority

POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE OUTCOMES

Report of the Chair of the Policy and Strategy Committee

Agenda No:

Date: 17 September 2010

Purpose of Report:

To report to Members the business and actions of the Policy and Strategy Committee meeting of Friday 30 July 2010.

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1. BACKGROUND

As part of the revised Governance arrangements the Authority has delegated key responsibilities for policy and strategy to the Policy and Strategy Committee. As part of those delegated responsibilities, the Chair of the Policy and Strategy Committee and the Management lead report to the Authority on its business and actions as agreed at Fire and Rescue Authority meeting on 1 June 2007.

2. REPORT

- 2.1 The minutes of the Policy and Strategy Committee meeting of Friday 30 July 2010 are attached to this report at Appendix A. The following summarises the main points of the papers discussed at the meeting.
- 2.2 The Committee were in receipt of two reports, the first of which was concerning governance monitoring, which provided an update on attendance by Councillors following the implementation of the revised governance arrangements in April 2006. It was resolved:
- that a further report be submitted by the Chief Fire Officer to the next meeting of this Committee relating to the attendance of councillors at committees and at Councillors' seminar days, where less than 70% attendance (coloured red on the report) had been achieved, exploring options to improve the figures;
 - that the Chief Fire Officer write to individual Councillors to inform them of their personal attendance;
 - that meeting attendance analysis be updated and continue to be reported at twelve monthly intervals to this Committee, including an additional column relating to the attendance of substitutes.
- 2.3 The Committee were then asked to consider excluding the public from the meeting during consideration of the remaining two items, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the basis that, having regard to all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. This was agreed and the Committee went on to consider a report regarding a secondment opportunity.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All financial implications were considered as part of the original reports submitted to the Policy and Strategy Committee.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

All human resources and learning and development implications were considered as part of the original reports submitted to the Policy and Strategy Committee.

5. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An initial equality impact assessment has identified no specific aspects relating to a disproportionate effect in respect of the key equality strands.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

There are no crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The Service's performance in relation to matters addressed through Policy and Strategy Committee is scrutinised through a range of audit processes. The Service needs to continue to perform well in these areas as external scrutiny through Comprehensive Performance Assessment and auditors' judgement is key to future Service delivery.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members note the contents of this report and the business undertaken by the Policy and Strategy Committee.

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

None.

Councillor Darrell Pulk
CHAIR OF POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE

APPENDIX A



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of meeting held on **30 JULY 2010** at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge from 10.05 am to 11.05 am.

Membership

	Councillor D Pulk	(Chair)
	Councillor S Carroll	(substitute for Councillor Wood)
	Councillor B Cooper	
^	Councillor B Cross	
^	Councillor T Pettengell	
	Councillor K Rigby	
^	Councillor M Wood	

Members absent are marked ^

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Cross and from Councillor Wood (on City Council business).

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

3 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 30 October 2009, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

4 GOVERNANCE MONITORING

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, giving an update on attendance by councillors following the implementation of the revised governance arrangements in April 2006.

It was generally considered that the attendance ratios were satisfactory with the possible exception of attendance at councillors' seminars which were often organised at shorter notice and the possibility of putting dates in diaries a year in advance should be considered.

RESOLVED

- (1) that a further report be submitted by the Chief Fire Officer to the next meeting of this Committee relating to the attendance of councillors at committees and at councillors' seminar days, where less than 70% attendance (coloured red on the report) had been achieved, exploring options to improve the figures;**
- (2) that the Chief Fire Officer write to individual councillors to inform them of their personal attendance;**
- (3) that meeting attendance analysis be updated and continue to be reported at twelve monthly intervals to this Committee, including an additional column relating to the attendance of substitutes.**

5 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the remaining items as they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information and, having regard to all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, as defined in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of schedule 12A to the Act.

6 SECONDMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Deputy Chief Fire Officer attended the meeting on behalf of the CFO and was able to support the detail of the paper but to maintain confidentiality of the individual involved would not go into the specific personal details that the paper referred to.

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED

- (1) that this Committee supported the principle of the secondment opportunity;**
- (2) that, in light of the recent Central Government statement on Regional Management Boards, further information be submitted to a meeting of**

this Committee, to be held before the next Fire and Rescue Authority meeting in September 2010, with regard to operational and management responsibilities and the position of the North West Regional Management Board.

FOR NOTE