



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Fire & Rescue Service
Creating Safer Communities

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham
Fire and Rescue Authority

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE OUTCOMES

Report of the Chair of the Community Safety Committee

Agenda No:

Date: 27 May 2011

Purpose of Report:

To report to Members on the business and actions of the Community Safety Committee meeting of Friday 08 April 2011.

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1. BACKGROUND

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

2. REPORT

- 2.1 The minutes of the Community Safety Committee held on Friday 08 April 2011 are attached to this report at Appendix A. The following summarises the main points discussed at the meeting.
- 2.2 The Committee gave consideration to a report outlining the process for investigation of fatal fires within Nottinghamshire. A presentation to the Committee detailed the work undertaken after a fatal incident in terms of investigation, profiling of the casualty and determining the causes of fire. It was resolved that the work undertaken by the Arson Task Force be endorsed and support of the profiling activity undertaken within the Service be continued.
- 2.3 The second report presented to the Committee updated Members on the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, which detailed the requirements to enforce the provisions of the Order and any regulations made under it. It was resolved that the report be noted and support for fire safety and enforcement activities be continued.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All financial implications were considered as part of the original reports submitted to the Community Safety 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 Community Safety 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 from this report.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional risk management issues arising from this report other than those specifically reported to the Committee as part of the reports under consideration.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members note the contents of this report.

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

None.

Councillor Sybil Fielding
CHAIR OF COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE



**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM
FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of meeting held on **8 APRIL 2011** at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters,
Bestwood Lodge, from 10.00 am to 10.48 am.

Membership

- Councillor S Fielding (Chair)
^ Councillor B Cooper
Councillor B Grocock
^ Councillor J Hemsall
^ Councillor J Zadrozny
Councillor V Dobson (substitute for Councillor Hemsall)
Councillor K Girling (substitute for Councillor Cooper)

Members absent are marked ^

18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence was received from Councillors Cooper, Hemsall and Zadrozny

19 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

20 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 21 January 2011, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

21 INVESTIGATION OF FATAL FIRES IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, providing details of the work undertaken after a fatal incident in terms of investigation, profiling of the casualty and determining the causes of fire.

In the presentation which followed, Councillors were shown pictures taken at the scene of fatalities which had occurred over the previous 12 months. The importance of exchanging information between partner agencies was emphasised as this enabled profiles to be produced of those most likely to be killed or seriously injured in fires. The latest data and intelligence suggested that those most at risk were individuals: over 55 years of age, known to partner agencies, having mental or physical health issues, alcoholic or regularly abusing alcohol, smokers, living alone, and living mainly in one room in their home.

At every incident involving a fatality, a full investigation was undertaken involving experienced Fire Investigation Officers and Police Crime Scene Investigators to enable comprehensive reports to be produced for HM Coroner.

With the development of a new Vulnerable Persons Policy it was hoped to ensure that partner agencies would refer more of those who were at high risk in terms of the profiling data. The identification of the profile of those most at risk from death or serious injury from fire was a key strand to the strategy utilised to target resources and reduce risk within the community.

RESOLVED that the work undertaken by the Arson Task Force be endorsed and support of the profiling activity undertaken within the Service be continued.

22 REGULATORY REFORM (FIRE SAFETY) ORDER 2005 - ENFORCEMENT

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, updating the Committee on the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (FSO) which covered non-domestic premises. Article 26 of the FSO required every enforcing authority to enforce the provisions of the Order and any regulations made under it. Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority (the Authority) had adopted the central and local Government Concordat on Good Enforcement and committed to principles which would contribute best value.

Enforcement of the FSO was a critical element of the Authority's Community Safety Plan and the Authority's strategy for the enforcement of fire safety formed a key part of its overall strategy for the protection of communities. The FSO made a number of powers available to an inspector for carrying out the Order. These included the power to enter premises, to make enquiries, to require production of information and records, to take copies of records and to require the person having responsibility for the premises to provide facilities and assistance to enable the inspectors to exercise their powers.

Fire Protection inspectors were empowered to serve a number of notices on the responsible person for premises to ensure the safety of the public. These included

Alteration Notices, Enforcement Notices and Prohibition Notices. Ultimately, prosecutions could be brought for serious breaches of the FSO.

RESOLVED that the report be noted and support for fire safety and enforcement activities be continued.

FOR NOTE