



**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

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**Agenda No:**

**Date:** 27 May 2011

**Purpose of Report:**

To report to Members the business and actions of the Policy and Strategy Committee meeting of Friday 01 April 2011.

## **CONTACT OFFICER**

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Chief Fire Officer

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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 01 April 2011 are attached to this report at Appendix A. The following summarises the main points of the papers discussed at the meeting.
- 2.2 Consideration was given to a report regarding the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, Section 13 and 16 Agreements, and an update provided by the Chief Fire Officer further to a request made at the February 2011 meeting of the Committee. It was resolved that the report be noted and that the Chief Fire Officer be required to submit a further report to the Policy and Strategy Committee with regard to the implications of cross border working and the potential charging arrangements being extended to all neighbouring Fire and Rescue Services.
- 2.3 A further report presented to Members the proposals to introduce a Community Right to Challenge. It was resolved that in addition to the report being noted, the Chief Fire Officer prepare a response for the Fire and Rescue Authority which should be circulated to all members of this Committee for comment before despatch to Communities and Local Government.
- 2.4 The Committee were asked to consider exclusion of the public in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 for the remaining report. This was endorsed and the Committee went on to consider a report regarding joint ICT provision.

## **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 **1 APRIL 2011** at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge from 11.30 am to 12.12 pm.

#### **Membership**

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

Members absent are marked ^

Councillors Foster and Griggs were in attendance as observers.

#### **28 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

#### **29 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interests were made.

#### **30 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meeting held on 4 February 2011, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

**31 FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES ACT 2004, SECTION 13 AND 16 AGREEMENTS - 2010 UPDATE**

Further to minute 23 dated 4 February 2011, consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, regarding the provision of mutual assistance with neighbouring Fire and Rescue Services.

The mutual assistance arrangement had been applied on the following number of occasions in 2010:

	Nottinghamshire Assisted	Assisted Nottinghamshire
Derbyshire	121	62
Humberside	16	15
Leicestershire	25	9
Lincolnshire	99	49
South Yorkshire	38	12

**RESOLVED that the report be noted and that the Chief Fire Officer be required to submit a further report to the Policy and Strategy Committee with regard to the implications of cross border working and the potential charging arrangements being extended to all neighbouring Fire and Rescue Services.**

**32 PROPOSALS TO INTRODUCE A COMMUNITY RIGHT TO CHALLENGE**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, informing the Committee of the current Government consultation on the Community Right to Challenge.

Whilst Councillors valued transparent processes and accountability, concern was expressed with regard to the potential impact on administration recourses required to respond to a community challenge when the Authority systematically consulted the community on the Risk Management Plan and that this was an opportunity to comment on and challenge proposals prior to their application.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the report be noted;**
- (2) that the Chief Fire Officer prepare a response for the Fire and Rescue Authority which should be circulated to all members of this Committee for comment before despatch to Communities and Local Government.**

**33 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the remaining item 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 outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.**

**34     JOINT ICT PROVISION UPDATE**

Further to minute 10 dated 10 September 2010, consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated.

**RESOLVED**

- (1)     that the findings of the ICT scoping report and the position of the three Chief Fire Officers be acknowledged;**
- (2)     that the Chief Fire Officer continue to explore potential funding opportunities and submit a further report to this Committee before a final decision be made as to whether to progress with this project.**

FOR NOTE