



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: 25 May 2012

Purpose of Report:

To report to Members the business and actions of the Policy and Strategy Committee meetings of Friday 27 April 2012.

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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 27 April 2012 are attached to this report at Appendix A.

2.2 Prior to presentation of the reports, the Committee was asked to consider exclusion of the public from the meeting in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972. Following consideration, this was agreed and the Committee went on to consider reports regarding:

- Strategic Management Team Restructure – it was resolved that the fact that the compromise agreement had been signed be noted.
- Appointment Process – it was resolved that a Deputy Chief Fire Officer be appointed on a permanent basis and that the Appointments Committee be advised accordingly.
- Gold Rota Options – it was resolved that the Treasurer be tasked with negotiating with the Association of Principal Fire Officers to seek agreement to make a one-off payment to ‘buy-out’ current rota arrangements of the three Principal Officers providing Gold Rota cover for a total sum not exceeding that authorised by the Committee and notified to the Treasurer and Clerk to the Authority.

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. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

An equality impact assessment has not been undertaken because this report is not associated with a policy, function or service. Its purpose is to update the Fire Authority on the outcomes of Committee business.

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



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

POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of meeting held on **27 APRIL 2012** at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge from 10.00 am to 11.16 am.

Membership

Councillor D Pulk (Chair)
Councillor S Fielding
Councillor E Kerry
Councillor K Rigby
Councillor D Smith
Councillor G Wheeler

Members absent are marked ^

Present as an observer - Councillor Grocock

39 ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair apologised to the meeting for the late availability of the reports relating to agenda items 6 and 7, the completion of which had been delayed until the Compromise Agreement referred to in agenda item 6 (revised agenda item 5) had been signed. To allow members sufficient time to consider the reports, the Chair proposed an adjournment after agenda item 3.

A more logical consideration of the agenda items would be:

5. Strategic Management Re-structure;
6. Appointments Process;
7. Gold Rota Options.

40 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

41 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

The Chief Fire Officer declared a personal and financial interest in agenda item 5 (revised agenda item 7), 'Gold Rota,' (minute 46), and left the room when this item was discussed.

42 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 27 January 2012 and 12 March 2012, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

The meeting was adjourned at 10.02 am until 10.12 am.

43 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

Councillor Kerry queried the necessity for the exclusion of the public for the entirety of the remainder of the meeting on the grounds of transparency.

The Clerk explained that where certain elements of a report were clearly confidential, it was a requirement that the public be excluded, where, having regard to all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing it.

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.

44 STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT TEAM RE-STRUCTURE

Further to minute 38 dated 12 March 2012, consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, updating the Committee on the proposals for the Strategic Management Team re-structure in accordance with the adopted recommendations of the Fire Cover Review. An agreement had been reached with the Deputy Chief Fire Officer on 25 April 2012, leaving a permanent vacancy at that level.

RESOLVED that the fact that the Compromise Agreement had been signed be noted.

45 APPOINTMENTS PROCESS

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, establishing the criteria for the appointment of a Deputy Chief Fire Officer.

RESOLVED that a Deputy Chief Fire Officer be appointed on a permanent basis and that the Appointments Committee be advised accordingly.

The Chief Fire Officer left the room prior to the discussion of the next item.

46 GOLD ROTA OPTIONS

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, setting out options for the operation of the Gold Rota following the retirement of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer and the subsequent reduction of uniformed principal officers by the equivalent of one Brigade Manager.

RESOLVED the Treasurer be tasked with negotiating with the Association of Principal Fire Officers to seek agreement to make a one-off payment to ‘buy-out’ current rota arrangements of the 3 Principal Officers providing Gold Rota cover for a total sum not exceeding that authorised by the Committee and notified to the Treasurer and Clerk to the Authority.

47 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2012, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.