



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Fire & Rescue Service
Creating Safer Communities

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham
Fire and Rescue Authority
Community Safety Committee

DISTRICT INITIATIVES - INFORMAL REPORTING PROCESS

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

Date: 05 July 2013

Purpose of Report:

To seek approval from the Committee to commence informal briefings from District Group Managers at the rising of the next three Community Safety Committee meetings.

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The structure within the Service Delivery Directorate to undertake all community facing activity is led by the Deputy Chief Fire Officer, assisted by an Area Manager. A further Area Manager is temporarily in place to specifically deal with the implementation of the Tri-Service Control project and the interim management of that function.
- 1.2 Working to the Area Manager (AM) in Delivery are 4 Group Managers (GM's). One of the GM's has responsibility for the county wide delivery of Fire Protection and Fire Investigation (legislative Fire Safety and post incident investigation). The remaining three GM's are allocated to a geographical area together with a number of Station Managers (SM's) relative to operational and community needs.
- 1.3 The three geographical areas, known internally as Districts, are coterminous with political boundaries to ensure that local managers are best placed to engage in initiatives and build consistent relations with partner organisations.
- 1.4 The managerial structure controls the activity of all operational crews which comprises both Wholetime and Retained Duty Firefighters, together with a number of district based support staff including Administrators and Risk Reduction Officers and Teams.

District	Areas Covered
City	City of Nottingham
South	Broxtowe, Rushcliffe and Gedling
North	Ashfield, Mansfield, Newark & Sherwood, and Bassetlaw

2. REPORT

- 2.1 The work undertaken throughout the Districts comprises frontline operational response to incidents as well as the delivery of community safety activities within the local areas.
- 2.2 To underpin this work local risk profiles are created. These identify the community education and response needs, site specific fire and rescue risks, and the needs of staff in terms of learning and development. This framework ensures that work undertaken within the Districts is targeted at specific local needs.

- 2.3 The outcome of the work within the Districts is formally reported to the Fire Authority through the Performance Monitoring Committee; however this does not cover in any great detail the actual work being undertaken on the ground.
- 2.4 Reports covering specific themes of activity are regularly brought to this Committee, generally at the launch stage of a new initiative or on an adhoc basis as a review of a specific area of work. Due to the formality of committee structures these reports usually cover the larger initiatives undertaken across the Service and in reality much more activity goes on at the local level.
- 2.5 Informal briefings have previously been undertaken at the rising of this Committee to give an appraisal of these smaller local areas of work, which by themselves would not constitute a report, but as a collection of issues are worthy of a briefing. These briefings have been previously well received by Members.
- 2.6 District based Officers have also benefited through this process by gaining a greater understanding of how Members, through their position within the community, can assist with furthering organisational objectives at the local level. Furthermore, the briefings have helped stimulate debate, and led to formal reports being requested for specific areas of activity.
- 2.7 To build on the previous positive outcomes it is suggested that at the rising of the next three Community Safety Committee meetings, 30 minute informal briefings take place. Therefore, over the course of the year, each of the GM's will provide an informal update to Members.
- 2.8 This will result in each Group Manager being in attendance with the intention of giving Members a broad overview of the range of activities ongoing within the organisation at any one time. To gain maximum impact, other members of the Fire Authority will be invited to attend when the District being covered is relevant to their respective area.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no human resources or learning and development implications arising from this report.

5. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An equality impact assessment has not been undertaken because the purpose of this report does not seek to change policy or procedures.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

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

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Under the Fire Services Act 2004, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service has a statutory duty to make provision for the purpose of promoting Community Safety.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The National Framework document makes clear that Members should actively scrutinise the work of the Fire and Rescue Service. This informal approach will enhance existing arrangements and provide opportunities for Members to request further formal reports if required.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members agree to receive informal briefings from District Group Managers at the rising of the next three Community Safety Committee meetings.

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

None.

Frank Swann
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER