



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Fire & Rescue Service
Creating Safer Communities

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham
Fire and Rescue Authority

COMMITTEE OUTCOMES

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

Date: 09 June 2017

Purpose of Report:

To report to Members the business and actions of the Fire Authority committee meetings which took place in March and April 2017.

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1. BACKGROUND

As part of the revised governance arrangements the Authority has delegated key responsibilities to specific committees of the Authority. As part of those delegated responsibilities, the chairs of committees and the management leads report to the Authority on the business and actions as agreed at Fire and Rescue Authority meeting on 1 June 2007.

2. REPORT

The minutes of the following meetings are attached at Appendix A for the information of all Fire Authority members:

Community Safety Committee	24 March 2017
Finance and Resources Committee	31 March 2017
Human Resources Committee	21 April 2017
Policy and Strategy Committee	28 April 2017

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All financial implications were considered as part of the original reports submitted to the committees.

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 committees.

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 the committee structure 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. COLLABORATION IMPLICATIONS

There are no collaboration implications arising from this report, as the report seeks to provide Members with an update on the business and actions of Fire Authority committee meetings which have taken place in the last quarter.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members note the contents of this report.

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

None

John Buckley
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER



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

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge, Arnold, Nottingham, NG5 8PD on 24 March 2017 from 10.03 am - 11.15 am

Membership

Present

Councillor Eunice Campbell (Chair)
Councillor Roger Jackson
Councillor Dave Liversidge
Councillor Patience Uloma Ifediora

Absent

Councillor Ken Rigby
Councillor Sybil Fielding

Councillor Brian Grocock (Substitute for Councillor Sybil Fielding)

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

Wayne Bowcock - Deputy Chief Fire Officer
Catherine Ziane-Pryor - Governance Officer

15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Ken Rigby – personal
Councillor Sybil Fielding - personal (Councillor Brian Grocock substituting)

16 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

17 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2017, were confirmed as a true and correct record and were signed by the Chair.

18 EMERGENCY FIRST RESPONDER WHOLETIME TRIAL SUMMARY

Wayne Bowcock, Deputy Chief Fire Officer, presented the item which updates members on the Emergency First Responder (EFR) Wholetime Trial.

Whilst co-responding has been taking place with East Midlands's Ambulance Service (EMAS) for 15 years, the recent trial reported to members was limited to retained stations at Harworth and initially Newark (since moved from Newark to Collingham) and will continue to operate.

Prior to this most recent trial, by agreement with EMAS Carlton, Worksop and Edwinstowe stations were selected as the most appropriate locations, Carlton being important due to its proximity to the City, Edwinstowe and Worksop due to their strategic locations and rurality. The FBU supports the 3 month trial and as this is not a contractual duty, volunteers were sought from the crews at these stations.

100% of crews at Carlton and Edwinstowe volunteered, 25% of crews at Worksop volunteered with the remainder indicating interest in first responding dependant on the outcome of national union negotiations.

During the 3 month trial, a total of 676 potentially life threatening incidents which were classed as either 'Red 1', which includes cardiac arrest, and 'Red 2', which includes breathing difficulty, fitting and choking, were attended.

Crews don't attend all Red 1 and Red 2 calls as they are not trained to the same level as paramedics and do not carry the same equipment. Every time a crew were called out to an Red 1 or R2 incident, ambulances or paramedics were also dispatched to the scene. EMAS referred calls to Fire Control who then dispatched fire appliances, 50% of which arrived on scene first, with crews taking action at 76% of attendances and staying in attendance for an average of 40 minutes.

Whilst attending the 676 EFR incidents there were only 7 simultaneous Fire and Rescue related incidents, none of which were life risk calls. When this happened, the same procedure was applied by the Control Centre as if the crew were already attending a Fire and Rescue incident in that the next nearest available appliance was dispatched. During the trial, out of 676 attendances there were 19 fatalities but 5 incidents of 'return of spontaneous circulation' this is where the early intervention by medically trained people returns unaided breathing and pulse to someone who will otherwise die. There are also other examples where lives were directly saved e.g. choking.

In addition to collecting the required statistics and assessments for the trial, all crew members undertook a welfare interview following attendance at fatal EFR incidents as the circumstances of attending a casualty, often in their own home and with family and friends around them, is very personal and different to responding to a Fire and Rescue incident where the scenes are controlled and managed, particularly as fatalities are more common. Crews are able to decline EFR call-outs if they have attended a disturbing incident or have been very busy and need a brief time to prepare for further activity e.g. training

Overall it is generally believed that the trial worked well and EFR is worthwhile, has a positive impact for citizens and is rewarding for crew members. One issue which needs to be addressed on a broader scale is the misreporting of conditions. This is recognised by the Ambulance Control Centre which is duty bound to respond to calls reporting specific symptoms. It is a concern that some care homes claim that the patient has conditions for which an ambulance must be sent, to enable their patient to be taken to hospital for what is non-urgent care. Ambulance response categories will be changing in the near future and

it is likely that this will help with appropriate call classification and therefore use of the Fire Service for EFR calls.

Crews have generally been welcomed by people needing assistance, there were a small number of occasions where people stated that they had requested an ambulance. Examples of appreciation include gifts and letters to some crews and stations attending EFR incidents.

70% of crew members involved responded in a survey to say that they believed that the Service should continue with EFR as it makes a positive difference it adds to job satisfaction.

Crews involved and the FBU have agreed with the proposal for the trial to be extended until November 2017 while the negotiation on the longer term future of EFR continues at a national level. However, NFRS negotiations with the Ambulance Service need to take place to ensure that funding is made available. The cost to EMAS during the trial averaged £7 per call-out but this is not cost neutral to the NFRS.

Once the outcome of national negotiations is known, if agreed that EFR can be rolled out, subject to Fire and Rescue Authority approval, it will become part of the Fire and Rescue Service duties and a report will be submitted to the Fire and Rescue Authority.

Other trials across the country have also taken place by local arrangement. This means that there is no set standard, but a single standard of operation, in certain aspects of EFR, would be beneficial if the arrangement were to become permanent.

If a permanent agreement is reached, a media and marketing campaign would be launched to inform the public of the Fire Service's role in EFR.

Members of the Committee commented as follows:

- (a) EFR provides fantastic outcome for citizens and it's pleasing that crews are keen to be involved on a voluntary basis;
- (b) as long as call outs are appropriate and sufficient funds provided by EMAS, EFR appears to be efficient and beneficial to citizens;
- (c) there are concerns that EMAS may try to off load some of their issues, including cost implications, to NFRS;
- (d) the increased activity (particularly at Collingham Station where there are an average 50-70 call-outs per year but 76 EFR incidents were received during an 8 week period) results in more efficient use of NFRS resources and a higher public profile, both of which will help support the Service going forward;
- (e) it's important that the Service can continue with this welcome initiative to ensure that stations and crews remain active and therefore viable;

- (f) there are also to be stronger connections with the Police but too much integration with other specialised services could completely reconfigure the Fire and Rescue Service and that would not be desirable;
- (g) citizens need to be better informed and understand what the Fire and Rescue Service are doing, even at this point;
- (h) collaboration of emergency services is important, but so too are the financial considerations.

Wayne Bowcock responded to councillor's questions as follows:

- (i) ambulances are already allocated space and a charging points at 8 fire stations and there is a proposal for EMAS to share Police Station space at Newark, but this is yet to be confirmed;
- (j) Lincolnshire Ambulance Service are evaluating a Joint Ambulance Retained Service where fire crew will respond in an ambulance which will enable only a paramedic to be attend the scene, not another ambulance. The circumstances of ambulance use and availability is very different to Nottinghamshire as patients requiring hospitalisation may be taken by ambulance quite some distance to the North of the county and therefore those ambulances are unavailable to attend other incidents.

Members of the FBU requested and were invited to circulate a report commissioned from Hertfordshire University by the FBU on EFR. The report considered the survival rate of patients when Fire and Rescue Services attended EFR incidents and showed that the Fire Service attended 'Red 1' incidents within an average of 6 minutes which is far quicker than ambulances and therefore beneficial to citizens.

RESOLVED

- (1) to note the report;**
- (2) for verbal updates to be presented to the Committee as they become available;**
for a further report to be submitted to the Committee in 6 months' time or when national negotiations on EFR are concluded.

19 SERVICE DELIVERY PERFORMANCE

Wayne Bowcock, Deputy Chief Fire Officer, presented the item which updates members on the performance of Service Delivery between 1 December 2016 and 31 January 2017.

The following figures were highlighted with further, more detailed information, including retained availability, available within the report:

- (i) 1950 incidents were attended which is an increase of 476 during the same period in the previous year;

- (ii) this included:
 - 90 accidental dwelling fires;
 - 110 deliberate secondary fires;
 - 4 fatalities;
 - 7 reported casualties;
 - 843 special service calls (SSC), including
 - 96 road traffic collisions (RTCs)
 - 560 emergency first responding incidents assisting East Midlands Ambulance Service
- (iii) retained availability during January averaged 90% with Retford Station crews achieving 99.8%. It is noted that low availability can be a reflection of a rural community where retained fire fighters have to travel away from their immediate community to work;
- (iv) there were 32 incidents of interest during December and 26 during January;
- (v) exercise planning includes on-going programmes but also exercises to prepare for specific circumstances following actual problems and even deaths whilst attending incidents.

RESOLVED to note the performance update.



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

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE & CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY -
FINANCE AND RESOURCES**

**MINUTES of the meeting held at Fire and Rescue Services HQ, Bestwood
Lodge, Arnold Nottingham NG5 8PD on 31 March 2017 from 10.00 am - 10.50
am**

Membership

Present

Councillor Malcolm Wood (Chair)
Councillor John Allin
Councillor Chris Barnfather
Councillor John Clarke
Councillor Dave Liversidge
Councillor Gordon Wheeler

Absent

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

Councillor Brian Grocock -
John Buckley - Chief Fire Officer, NFRS
Sue Maycock - Head of Finance, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service
Craig Parkin - Assistant Chief Fire Officer, NFRS
Ian Pritchard - Head of Procurement and Resources, NFRS
Neil Timms - Treasurer to the Authority
James Welbourn - Governance Officer

28 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

29 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

30 MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting held on 20 January were agreed and signed by the Chair.

31 EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2016/17

Andrew Cardoza, Director at KPMG introduced the External Audit Plan for 2016/17, presenting the external auditors' audit plan for work which they intend to carry out on the Authority's 2016/17 financial statements and value for money arrangements.

Kanika Bassi, listed in the report as an Assistant Manager at KPMG is leaving KPMG in the next week. A replacement for her has already started.

The audit fee is the same as last year; however there is some additional work to undertake.

RESOLVED to note the report.

32 REVENUE AND CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT TO FEBRUARY 2017

Sue Maycock, Head of Finance at NFRS reported to Members the financial performance of the Service in the year 2016/7 to the end of February 2017.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) there is a forecasted underspend of £207,000;
- (b) there is a negative variance of £141,000 this year due to the overpayment of National Non-Domestic Rate (NNDR) to the Authority during the previous three financial years. Nottinghamshire County Council is the other precepting Authority so it will affect them too;
- (c) a difference in Budget estimates for 2015/2016 has led to the minimum revenue provision charges of £101,000;

Following comments and questions from members, further information was provided:

- (d) the methodology around non-domestic rates seemed to be wrong, and even when it was highlighted, it took time for the problem to be rectified.

Newark and Sherwood District Council and Bassetlaw District Council will have highest proportion of money going back into their accounts.

RESOLVED to:

- (1) **note the contents of the report;**
- (2) **approve a transfer of £200,000 to the Organisation Transition earmarked reserve at the end of this financial year.**

33 PRUDENTIAL CODE MONITORING REPORT TO FEBRUARY 2017

Neil Timms, Treasurer to the Fire Authority informed Members of performance for the three month period to 28 February 2017 relating to the prudential indicators for capital accounting and treasury management.

The Authority is within all limits, and has not exceeded its overdraft.

RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.

34 CORPORATE RISK MANAGEMENT

Craig Parkin, Assistant Chief Fire Officer at NFRS updated Members on the review of the risk management policy, and provided an overview of the key strategic and corporate risks to which the Authority is exposed as part of the Authority's governance and scrutiny process.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) risk management is required around social media, as the use of this is growing within the organisation;
- (b) events surrounding the exit from the European Union will need monitoring, along with the repatriation of the legal framework;
- (c) the Corporate Risk Register has seen a number of wording changes. In the future, staff and Members will be able to see a fuller review of the decisions the Authority is taking;
- (d) NFRS are a relatively small organisation in the emergency services world in the context of the Emergency Services Network (ESN) project;
- (e) as resources and budgets become tighter, the priorities of the Service have to be focused on more narrowly. The Integrated Risk Management Plan is ready for a review later in the year.

RESOLVED to note the content of the report.

35 ROAD RISK GROUP ACTION PLAN UPDATE

Craig Parkin, Assistant Chief Fire Officer at NFRS updated Members of the progress made against the Road Risk Group action plan.

It is going to take the Service longer to take this fully on board. Currently, a lot of work is going into event investigation.

The policy framework is as strong as it is going to get. Priorities are making sure the staff are highly trained, as well as robustly enforcing processes.

RESOLVED to:

- (1) endorse the progress made against the Road Risk Group action plan;**
- (2) request a further report on progress against the Road Risk Group action plan for April 2018.**

36 NEWARK FIRE STATION PROJECT

Ian Pritchard, Head of Procurement and Resources at NFRS updated Members on the Newark Fire Station project and the appointment of a works contractor.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) a Contractor has been appointed recently, and will be starting on site within the next couple of weeks; however, there is a ten day standstill period where objections can be put in by other Contractors;
- (b) there was a full tender process advertised nationally. Twenty Contractors initially expressed an interest, with nine then going on to submit a questionnaire. This was shortlisted down to five, with one of these five withdrawing. The initial sixth placed Contractor was added to the final five;
- (c) the process ran from November 2016 to March 2017. Contractors were scored 70% on their price, and 30% on their technical quality;
- (d) all Contractors passed the assessment. Gelder Group got the highest score – they were in charge of the build at Retford Fire Station, as well as the refurbishment at Blidworth Fire Station;
- (e) there was a reduction of £87,000 in the overall project costs;
- (f) the Contractor has been mobilised, with a view to them being on site in mid April. The start of the demolition is planned for April; however there is asbestos in the old Ministry of Defence buildings so further work is needed with this;
- (g) Construction work is hopefully to start in May. The plan is that occupation of the new station will start in December 2017, with the project completed in February/March 2018. This plan can still be revised if any hitches come up when work starts on site;
- (h) the new station will be smaller than the existing one. The new layout has saved space;
- (i) a feasibility study will be required to decide whether part of the site is sold as it is, or whether it is cleared;
- (j) there is no co-location with either the Police or the Ambulance services. The Police station couldn't accommodate the Fire Service, and they have a

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relatively new site. It would have been cheaper for the Ambulance service to
move into a site with the Police;

Thanks were made to Sue Maycock as it was her last meeting.

RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.



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

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE & CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY
(NFRS) - HUMAN RESOURCES**

**MINUTES of the meeting held at Fire and Rescue Services HQ, Bestwood
Lodge, Arnold Nottingham NG5 8PD on 21 April 2017 from 10.00 am - 11.06 am**

Membership

Present

Councillor Michael Payne (Chair)
Councillor Liaqat Ali
Councillor Eunice Campbell
Councillor Roger Jackson (substitute for
Councillor Liz Yates)
Councillor Mike Pringle

Absent

Councillor Liz Yates
Councillor Jason Zadrozny

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

Wayne Bowcock - Deputy Chief Fire Officer, NFRS
Tracy Crump - Head of People and Organisational Development, NFRS
Councillor Brian Grocock - Fire Authority Member, observing
Sue Maycock - Head of Finance, NFRS
James Welbourn - Governance Officer

25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Liz Yates

26 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

27 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 January were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

28 CORPORATE GAMES 2017

Wayne Bowcock, Deputy Chief Fire Officer provided Members with an overview of the Corporate Games 2017.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) the Corporate Games will bring businesses across the public and private sector together. It fits with the NFRS health and wellbeing agenda;
- (b) in early 2018 NFRS will be going out to advert for wholetime firefighters, so the Corporate Games could be seen as a positive action campaign, and an opportunity to signpost NFRS as an employer of choice;
- (c) other Fire Services will be invited alongside other high profile organisations;
- (d) this is a big event where over 5,000 competitors are expected to take part;
- (e) with the links to cultural development it was felt that this fell within the budget for organisational development; the spend for organisational development works is monitored throughout the year.

There will be an administrative burden on NFRS internally, but this will be managed;

- (f) there will be sickness cover for any injuries sustained during the games.

RESOLVED to:

- (1) support the Service's engagement with the Corporate Games 2017;**
- (2) support the attached cost of £5,000 that will be managed within the internal organisational development budget.**

29 PEOPLE STRATEGY

Wayne Bowcock, Deputy Chief Fire Officer at NFRS updated Members on the development of a People Strategy.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) one of the elements of the Strategy was 'positive workplace' – this is closely linked to mental wellbeing. There has been hard work on inclusion in particular with women, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities and the LGBT community;
- (b) many of the topics in the Strategy have already been started on; therefore this is a work in progress;

- (c) NFRS are not reacting to national guidance from National Fire Chiefs Council; work already done has been cross-referenced with this draft national guidance;
- (d) there will be an inspection regime delivered through the new fire inspectorate; this starts this year. The national people strategy will heavily inform this inspection;

Following questions from Members, further information was provided:

- (e) the People Strategy is an attempt to bring different strands of work so that there is one point of reference. The document is brief, and easily digestible, which should enable staff to link together what NFRS are doing;
- (f) staff will have access to different ways of development through profiling;
- (g) there has been consultation on certain themes with the unions and some workstreams will need negotiations.

Members thanked Tracy Crump for her hard work on this strategy.

RESOLVED to:

- (1) endorse the People Strategy;**
- (2) receive half-yearly updates on how the People Strategy is developing.**

30 HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE

Tracy Crump, Head of People and Organisational Development updated Members on key Human Resources metrics for the period 1 January – 31 March 2017.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) there was an overall reduction in sickness absence in Quarter 4. There was a reduction in whole year absence compared with 15/16;
- (b) the average of 7.63% absence across the workforce means that the target of 6.25% for 2016/17 has been missed. However 7.63% is lower than the public sector average;
- (c) any long-term absences refer to serious illness or injuries that are supported by a doctor's note. NFRS keep in touch with employees on long-term absence and give them the support they need;
- (d) musculoskeletal problems are being tackled in new ways, such as the changing of fitness regimes.

Some other long-term absences can be attributed to mental health issues. There is a joint working group active that tries to help deal with these issues.

Specialists within the workforce form part of this group and work together with senior officers to see how mental health issues can be addressed;

Following questions from members, further information was provided.

- (e) there are a range of other services available to employees with mental health issues, and these options depend on the issues the employee is suffering with. There is a peer support team if someone wants to talk something through. For longer term support, there is a Westfield Health scheme, which operates for 24 hours a day, and can be accessed through the telephone;

There is also Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), or counselling. There is a trauma clinic in Nottingham and employees can be referred for support. More informal networks exist; for example the Employee Engagement Network. These people are not trained, but they can signpost to the relevant programmes. Finally, there are the options of using the unions, the MIND Blue Light charity, and the Firefighters' charity. The Firefighters' charity extends to family members;

- (f) there is a careers protocol when recruiting for retained firefighters, but it is ad hoc for wholetime firefighters as recruitment for those positions happens less often;

- (g) the figure at 2.13 in the report refers to two ill health retirements, and one dismissal.

RESOLVED to endorse the report.

31 CONVERSION OF POSTS

Wayne Bowcock, Deputy Chief Fire Officer updated Members on posts which have been re-designated during the period April 2016 – March 2017.

RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.

32 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED to exclude the public 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 outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

33 RESTRUCTURE OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Sue Maycock, Head of Finance at NFRS introduced the report on the restructure of the Finance department.

RESOLVED to approve the recommendations in the report.



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

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE & CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY
(NFRS) - POLICY & STRATEGY**

**MINUTES of the meeting held at Fire and Rescue Services HQ, Bestwood
Lodge, Arnold Nottingham NG5 8PD on 28 April 2017 from 10.01 am - 10.49 am**

Membership

Present

Councillor Darrell Pulk (Chair)
Councillor Sybil Fielding
Councillor Brian Grocock
Councillor Gordon Wheeler
Councillor Malcolm Wood
Councillor Liz Yates

Absent

Councillor Chris Barnfather,
(Substituted by Councillor Liz
Yates)

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

John Buckley - Chief Fire Officer, NFRS
Sue Maycock - Head of Finance, NFRS
Neil Timms - Treasurer to the Authority
Malcolm Townroe - Clerk to the Authority
James Welbourn - Governance Officer

29 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Chris Barnfather (substituted by Councillor Liz Yates)

30 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

31 MINUTES

The minutes of meeting held on 3 February 2017 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

32 DEVELOPMENT OF THE CORPORATE PLAN

John Buckley, Chief Fire Officer at NFRS provided Members with an overview of the development for the Authority's next integrated risk management plan (IRMP) to be known as the Corporate Plan.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) the Chief Fire and Rescue Adviser role (national role) has been discontinued; however, Peter Holland CBE has been retained by the Home Office to provide advice;
- (b) the IRMP will enable a re-evaluation of the consultation process to make sure it is as strong as it can be. The problem in the past with consultations has been the low number of responses received back.

RESOLVED to receive a draft Corporate Plan from the Chief Fire Officer at a future meeting of the Policy and Strategy committee.

33 THOMAS REVIEW ANALYSIS

The Chair thanked all Members that were present at the London Road Fire Station that analysed and considered the Thomas Review.

John Buckley, Chief Fire Officer at NFRS then presented Members with a draft analysis of the work undertaken by the Thomas Review Task and Finish Group.

RESOLVED to:

- (1) approve a final version of the draft gap analysis attached at Appendix B of the report;**
- (2) recommend to the Fire Authority adoption of the gap analysis with an expectation that the Chief Fire Officer will report on the work streams through the normal governance processes;**
- (3) recommend to the Fire Authority that the gap analysis is submitted to the Minister of State for Policing and the Fire Service, to support the work of Government in determining their response to the Review.**

34 COLLABORATIVE ESTATE FEASIBILITY STUDY

John Buckley, Chief Fire Officer at NFRS proposed a joint feasibility study of the estate, involving Nottinghamshire Police, East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) and Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service to explore the potential for collaboration in the short, medium and longer term.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) in the future, there could be a drawdown of funding available to fire services. £1million has been distributed to the Police to help with their Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) business cases;
- (b) the expectation is that the study will be completed by the end of the year to allow NFRS to budget plan. There will be a cost of £10-20,000 to do the feasibility study;
- (c) whatever the strategy, the sovereign control of the estate will remain with the Fire Authority;
- (d) EMAS have been impressed on how professional NFRS have been with their contracts.

RESOLVED to endorse the commencement of a feasibility study, and agree to receive a future report on the outcome and any potential options.

35 LOCAL FIREFIGHTER PENSION BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

Sue Maycock, Head of Finance at NFRS reported to Members on the activities of the Local Firefighter Pension Board up to 31 March 2017.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) it is a requirement of the law that members of the Board attend training. Often this training is formal, but can also come in a report format;
- (b) although there is the potential for Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and Derbyshire Fire Authorities to have a joint Pension Board with the permission of the Secretary of State, the Boards are currently separate entities;
- (c) section 6 of the Constitution deals with the appointment of a Chair, and some Boards are chaired by senior officers. This Board is an equal partnership between workforce and employer;
- (d) the Pension Board is advisory and makes sure processes are followed. This is a formal link into the governance of the organisation;
- (e) the Chair of the national fire pension Scheme Advisory Board had commended Nottinghamshire and the other East Midlands Boards for meeting requirements expected of them.

RESOLVED to receive reports on an annual basis and note the report.

36 EMERGENCY SERVICES NETWORK (ESN) UPDATE

John Buckley, Chief Fire Officer at NFRS provided an update on the progress of the Emergency Services Network (ESN) programme.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) a grant of £791,000 has been received. Another £100,000 is to be shared among the region for collaboration work. NFRS will be the fund holder for this £100,000;
- (b) the ESN code of connection is an outstanding anomaly; there are still a lot of questions around what this new system will look like;
- (c) the Government are making it clear that it will be for individual organisations to decide whether they transfer to the new system or not. There will be a parallel running between the old and the new system, in particular for NFRS, as they are an early adopter;
- (d) Craig Parkin from NFRS is the regional lead for ESN; in addition, Ian Taylor has been seconded onto the project nationally. The Group Manager from Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue has been seconded into a full time role on this, and has good links with NFRS.

RESOLVED to note the report and agree to receive further updates as the project develops.

37 TRI-SERVICE CONTROL UPDATE

John Buckley, Chief Fire Officer at NFRS gave a progress report to Members on the Tri-Service Control programme.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) there has been proactive work on the system to make sure it is as quick and stable as it can be. Reliability issues are still there, and the tri-service control is not at the level needed yet;
- (b) the network has been reviewed independently, and is fit for purpose;
- (c) some savings have already been started; some teams have already been shrunk for example.

RESOLVED to note the contents of the report and to welcome a report back in the September to December cycle of meetings.

The Chair thanked Sue Maycock for all of her hard work and wished her well. He also wished all departing Members well.

38 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the remaining 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.

39 EXEMPT MINUTES

The exempt minutes from the meeting held on 3 February were agreed and signed by the Chair.