report

meeting NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

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REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL FIRE CONFERENCE 2005

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To inform Fire Authority Members of the Local Government Association Conference to be held at The Guildhall, Portsmouth from Tuesday 15 March to Wednesday 16 March 2005 and to seek approval of the Authority for the attendance of Members at this Conference.

2 BACKGROUND

The Local Government Association organises an annual conference for Fire Authorities. This event has now become a major event in the 'fire' calendar. Previous themes for the conference have included "Making Connections – Solutions for our Communities" and "Forward Together".

3 REPORT

Whilst planning for this year's conference is still in its early stages, a draft of the programme indicates the conference will be opened by Councillor Michael Cartwright, Chair of the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, and on the first day will move on to plenary sessions with themes such as "Fire Modernisation", "Developing Local Public Service Agreements" and "Comprehensive Performance Assessment". The second day will include an ministerial address from the Rt Hon Nick Raynsford MP, Minister for Local and Regional Government, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Conference Fee is £364.25 (inc. VAT) per delegate for Member Authorities, excluding travel, accommodation and subsistence which will take the final cost to approximately £500. This will be met from the budget for Members' conference expenses.

5 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

There are no personnel implications arising from this report.

6 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

There are no equal opportunities implications arising from this report.

7 RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk management implications arising from this report.

8 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That representation by the Fire Authority be made at this Conference on the basis of two Members from the Majority Group and one from the Minority Group.

9 BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION

None.

Paul Woods CHIEF FIRE OFFICER