



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

**MINUTES**

of the meeting of the Authority held on **13 SEPTEMBER 2006** at the Council House, Old Market Square, Nottingham from 10.30 am to 12.16 pm.

**Membership**

Councillor D Pulk	(Chair)
Councillor B Charlesworth	(Vice-Chair)
Councillor J Cottee	
Councillor S Fielding	
Councillor P Griggs	
Councillor B Grocock	
Councillor J Hemsall	
Councillor P Henshaw	
Councillor J Knight	
Councillor P Lally	
Councillor J O'Riordan	
Councillor P Owen	
Councillor T Pettengell	
Councillor K Rigby	
^ Councillor N Smedley	
Councillor T Spencer	
Councillor T Stephenson	
^ Councillor M Wood	

Members absent are marked ^

**21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Wood (on City Council business) and Smedley (who was unwell).

## **22 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meeting held on 9 June 2006, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

## **23 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Mr P Hurford, Nottinghamshire County Council Assistant Treasurer, declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 16 (minute 36) insofar as he was a nominee for the position of Treasurer to the Fire and Rescue Authority, and left the meeting prior to discussion of this item.

## **24 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair reported that he had recently attended the national memorial service and procession for fire fighters in the Church of St Mary's, London.

He reported that the opening of Harworth Community Fire Station had been well attended, as had a recent Open Day at Misterton Fire Station.

He also advised that community advocates were to attend a buffet lunch following this meeting, and urged members to engage with them.

## **25 MEMBERSHIP**

**RESOLVED** that the appointment of Councillor P Owen (in place of Councillor M Spencer) be noted.

## **26 DRAFT COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2007-10**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, incorporating the draft Community Safety Plan 2007-10, and requesting approval to proceed with consultation on the draft Plan.

Representatives of the Fire Brigades Union asked questions of the Chief Fire Officer regarding this item. The Chair advised that the questions raised operational issues and were not addressed to the Authority, and so requested that these be taken forward outside the meeting.

Members made a number of initial comments on the draft Plan, and the Chief Fire Officer undertook to address these as part of the consultation exercise.

## **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the draft Community Safety Plan 2007-10 be approved for consultation with the public and stakeholders;**
- (2) that a twelve week consultation period, commencing on Monday 18 September 2006, be approved.**

## **27 COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT 2006**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, updating the Authority on the detail of the Comprehensive Performance

Assessment (CPA) of the Service, to be conducted in Autumn 2006. The outcomes of this inspection were to be published in March 2007.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted, it being also noted that members of the Authority were to be kept informed of the detailed timetable of the assessment process as it emerged.**

## **28 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REGIONAL CONTROL CENTRE COMPANY**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, seeking approval for the Memorandum of Understanding and Articles of Association for the formation of the Local Authority Company to run the Regional Control Centre.

### **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association for the formation of the Local Authority Company to run the Regional Control Centre be approved, and that the Chief Fire Officer be authorised to sign them on the Authority's behalf;**
- (2) that Councillors Pulk and Charlesworth be nominated to act as directors of the Local Authority Company;**
- (3) that the Chief Fire Officer, in consultation with the Chair of the Authority, be authorised to negotiate, settle the terms of and sign a Members' Agreement, as to how the Authority was to exercise its rights as a member of the Company.**

## **29 CODE OF CONDUCT**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, requesting consideration of a draft Code of Conduct for the Fire and Rescue Authority for consultation.

### **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the draft Code of Conduct be approved for consultation over a six week period with appropriate Committees and Trade Unions;**
- (2) that, following the six week consultation period, the Code of Conduct be submitted to the Standards Committee for approval before being submitted to the Fire and Rescue Authority for formal adoption.**

## **30 EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL MANAGEMENT BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2005/06 AND BUSINESS PLAN 2006/07**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, presenting the East Midlands Regional Management Board (EMRMB) Annual Report 2005/06 and Business Plan 2006/07, and highlighting planning issues for 2007/08.

### **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the report be noted;**

- (2) that further reports of the Chief Fire Officer be submitted to future meetings as part of the Authority's 2007/08 Business Planning process.

**31 CHANGES TO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT OF FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITIES**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, informing the Authority of the impact of changes to the ministerial framework within Central Government and, in particular the formation of a new department, the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG), which listed fire and resilience among its responsibilities.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted.**

**32 PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, seeking approval for the inclusion of an additional term of reference for the Finance and Resources Committee, formalising that Committee's responsibility in respect of the Statement of Internal Control.

**RESOLVED that the following addition to the terms of reference of the Finance and Resources Committee be approved:-**

**'to be responsible for the review and monitoring of the Statement of Internal Control'.**

**33 AD-HOC MEMBERS GROUP ON EQUALITIES**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, informing the Authority of the ongoing work of the Equalities Group, and especially in respect of the Race Equality Scheme, cultural awareness training and cultural audit and core values.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted.**

**34 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY PLAN 2006-09**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, proposing adoption of the Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service Equality and Diversity Plan 2006-2009. It was confirmed that the proposed Plan made specific reference to transgendered people.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the Authority approve the Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service Equality and Diversity Plan 2006-2009 as its vision for addressing equalities issues for the next three years, thus meeting it's obligations under the Equality Standard for Local Government;
- (2) that an annual update of the Equality and Diversity Plan be undertaken, and that an annual progress report be submitted by the Ad-Hoc Equalities Group for consideration by the Policy and Strategy Committee.

**35 VARIATION TO CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2006/07**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, proposing a variation to the agreed Capital Programme for 2006/07, to enable the purchase of rescue equipment.

**RESOLVED that approval be given to the addition of £600,000 to the Capital Programme for 2006/07 for the purchase of rescue equipment, to be financed by slippage elsewhere in the Programme.**

**36 POSITION OF TREASURER OF THE AUTHORITY**

Consideration was given to a report of the Treasurer, copies of which had been circulated, proposing a change of Treasurer to the Fire and Rescue Authority, in view of additional responsibilities being undertaken by Mr Sumby, current Treasurer to the Fire and Rescue Authority, elsewhere in Nottinghamshire County Council.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the Authority accept the resignation of Mr Sumby as Treasurer to the Authority;**
- (2) that Mr P Hurford be appointed as Treasurer to the Authority for an initial period of three years, in line with the terms set out in the body of the report;**
- (3) that Mr Sumby be appointed designate Treasurer to the Authority in Mr Hurford's absence;**
- (4) that the Authority's thanks to Mr Sumby for all his hard work in taking forward the work of the Authority be recorded.**

**37 CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC FINANCE AND ACCOUNTANCY (CIPFA) CONFERENCE 2006**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chair of Finance and Resources Committee, copies of which had been circulated, reporting back on the Chair of that Committee's attendance at the Conference, held in Harrogate on 14 and 15 June 2006.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted.**

**38 UNITED KINGDOM NATIONAL EXTRICATION CONFERENCE AND CHALLENGE EVENT JULY 2006**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chair of Community Safety Committee, copies of which had been circulated, reporting back on the Chair of that Committee's attendance at the Conference and Challenge event held in Brighton between 27 and 29 July 2006.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the report be noted;**

- (2) that the Nottinghamshire teams, one drawn from throughout the Service and one from the Carlton retained section, be congratulated on their efforts within the event, and the 2007 Conference and Challenge event, to be hosted by South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, be supported.

**39 EXCLUDING PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** that, pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the remaining item as it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act, 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.

**40 CO-RESPONDING**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, updating members on the process to resolve the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) co-responding objective.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.