

## report

meeting	<b>NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE &amp; RESCUE AUTHORITY</b>	
date	<b>1 June 2007</b>	agenda item number

### REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

#### COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE OUTCOMES

##### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To report on the business and actions of the Community Safety Committee to Members of the Fire & Rescue Authority.

##### 2. BACKGROUND

As part of the revised Governance arrangements the Authority have delegated key responsibilities for Community Safety to the Community Safety Committee. As part of those delegated responsibilities the Chair of the Community Safety Committee and the Management lead report to the Authority on its business and actions.

##### 3. REPORT

3.1 The report seeks to highlight the positive impact service activity is having on the community and the successful role the committee has had in its first year, addressing improvements and enhancements as set by the Committee business plan.

3.2 The Committee business plan highlighted priority areas for community safety development, namely:-

- Local Area Agreements
- Shift Change Implementation
- Assessing the effectiveness of Risk Reduction programmes
- Development of workforce interface with Service Delivery
- Competent workforce framework
- Operational Assurance
- Regulatory Reform Order

Significant progress has been made by the Service on all of the above priorities.

- 3.3 The Committee moved forward in the development of a Member Champion framework which enabled positive and enhanced engagement between local communities and the Service by promoting effective communication between key partners, stakeholders and community groups. This development has seen many and varied events and activities being utilised by Member Champions in consultation with responsible officers and staff, to maximise engagement, representation and the pursuance of Service objectives. Further work is ongoing to improve communication on the range of Community Safety events undertaken to the organisation to ensure Members have specific and timely information to inform them of forthcoming initiatives.
- 3.4 The Committee has overseen the introduction of the Services' Risk Reduction Strategy which will underpin all future work in this field. Members will be aware of this work following its acceptance at the last Fire & Rescue Authority meeting of 23 February 2007. Its adoption followed an assessment of the effectiveness of current risk reduction programmes after the Community Safety Committee scrutinised a programme review document in October 2006.
- 3.5 Performance in specific areas, namely Primary Vehicle Fires and Automatic Fire Alarms was commissioned by the Committee with positive outcomes reported. This detail was passed to the Performance Monitoring Committee for further scrutiny. An enhanced vehicle recovery scheme has been introduced following committee familiarisation to combat vehicle fires.
- 3.6 The activities of both the Fire Investigation Team and the Arson Reduction Team were also reported on with the Committee being extremely encouraged by their work and the impact they had on community safety. The regional protocol utilised by Fire Service's in the East Midlands was of particular interest and is seen as good practise when services further integrate determined functionality.
- 3.7 The Community Safety Committee has positioned itself new to be the effective strategic forum for the development of the Services engagement in key reduction strategies.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

This report is clearly retrospective and as such all budgetary aspects have been covered by normal constraints and reporting mechanisms.

#### **5. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no personnel implications arising from this report.

#### **6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

An Equality Impact Assessment has not been specifically carried out in relation to this report. There are no additional implications for Members to consider as a result of this progress report.

#### **7. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

Clearly, failure to deliver Authority and Committee objectives could have ramifications in the form of external intervention or at the very least reputational damage. The Committee business plan and overall activity are significant tools put in place to mitigate and control such risk.

## **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 That Members consider the report and discuss progress thus far.
- 8.2 That Members commend all the efforts of staff in moving forwards the Authority's agenda.
- 8.3 That in future the minutes of all meetings of the Committee are bought to Fire & Rescue Authority to ensure Members remain informed of key decisions made.

## **9. BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION**

None.

Sybil Fielding  
**CHAIR OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE**



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

**COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

of the meeting of the held on **21 JULY 2006** at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge from 10.00 am to 11.11 am.

**Membership**

Councillor S Fielding  
Councillor B Grocock  
^ Councillor J Hemsall  
Councillor P Henshaw  
Councillor P Owen

Members absent are marked ^

**1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Fielding be appointed Chair of the Community Safety Committee for the municipal year 2006/07.

**2 APPOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Hemsall who was on County Council Business.

**3 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meeting held on 21 April 2006, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

#### **4 MEMBERSHIP**

The Chair welcomed Councillor Owen as a new member of the Committee replacing Councillor Mark Spencer in all Fire and Rescue Authority roles.

#### **5 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interests were made.

#### **6 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair reported that, within her role as Chair of the Community Safety Committee, she had attended the opening of a skateboard park at Harworth. She had also attended a 'Making All Children Safer ' (MACS) event held at Retford and requested that the feasibility of similar interactive schemes be considered for implementation across the Authority.

#### **7 COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE 2006-07 BUSINESS PLAN**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, informing members of the projects identified as priority areas for community safety development, development aims and key success areas/milestones. Projects identified included:-

- Local Area Agreements;
- Shift Change Implementation;
- Assessing the effectiveness of risk reduction programmes;
- Development of workforce interface with service delivery;
- Competent workforce framework;
- Operational Assurance;
- Regulatory Reform Order.

**RESOLVED that the Community Safety Committee Business Plan be accepted and progress be monitored with quarterly reports to the Committee.**

#### **8 MEMBER CHAMPIONS**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, proposing the role of Member Champions include the following:-

- fostering engagement between local communities and the Service;
- acting as an advocate for the Authority, promotion of effective communication and positive working relationships with local Councils, partners, stakeholders and community groups;
- as a source of community intelligence and feedback to the Authority;
- promotion of the positive work undertaken by the Authority;
- providing positive support to Officers driving forward the Authority's agenda in the community.

**RESOLVED**

(1) that Members Champion the Districts as identified below:-

<b>Ashfield District</b>	-	<b>Councillor Smedley</b>
<b>Bassetlaw District</b>	-	<b>Councillor Fielding</b>
		<b>Councillor Hempsall</b>
<b>Broxtowe District</b>	-	<b>Councillor Lally</b>
		<b>Councillor Owen</b>
		<b>Councillor Rigby</b>
<b>City District</b>	-	<b>Councillor Charlesworth</b>
		<b>Councillor Grocock</b>
		<b>Councillor Wood</b>
		<b>Councillor Tim Spencer</b>
		<b>Councillor Stephenson</b>
		<b>Councillor Griggs</b>
<b>Gedling District</b>	-	<b>Councillor Pulk</b>
		<b>Councillor O’Riordan</b>
<b>Mansfield District</b>	-	<b>Councillor Henshaw</b>
<b>Newark and Sherwood District</b>	-	<b>Councillor Fielding</b>
		<b>Councillor Hempsall</b>
<b>Rushcliffe District</b>	-	<b>Councillor Cottee</b>

(2) that the Chair of the Community Safety Committee, in conjunction with officers, work with members to accomplish the introduction and development of the Member Champion role.

## **9 COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT (CPA) – UPDATE**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, informing members of the progress made against the improvement aims identified as a result of the CPA.

**RESOLVED** that the report and progress made against the actions arising from the CPA be noted.



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

**COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

of the meeting of the held on **20 OCTOBER 2006** at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge from 10.00 am to 11.40 am.

**Membership**

Councillor S Fielding           (Chair)  
Councillor B Grocock  
Councillor J Hemsall  
Councillor P Henshaw  
Councillor P Owen

Members absent are marked ^

**10   MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meeting held on 21 July 2006, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

**11   DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interests were made.

**12   MAKING ALL CHILDREN SAFE (MACS) DAYS**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, informing members of the multi-agency MACS events held at Retford Fire Station for schoolchildren in the north of the County who, for logistical reasons, were unable to travel to Safety Zone Events.

Members were also informed that, the Authority's Local Area Agreement commitments and programmes aimed to reduce avoidable injuries by 10% over the next ten years.

## **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the report be noted;**
- (2) that officers continue to scope the possibility of extending the Service's capacity to offer experiential learning opportunities to all members of the community;**
- (3) that a further report by the Chief Fire Officer be submitted to a future meeting of this committee.**

### **13 PRIMARY VEHICLE FIRES**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, which informed members of the trends in vehicle fires which had cost the Service more than half a million pounds each year, and the measures, such as Operation Cubit, introduced to combat the problem.

## **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the report be noted;**
- (2) that the on-going development work of officers with regard to Operation Cubit be supported;**
- (3) that the Chief Fire Officer submit a report to a future meeting of this Committee, updating members on the progress of multi-agency negotiations across the County, to establish a comprehensive preventative system similar to Operation Cubit, to combat vehicle fires.**

### **14 AUTOMATIC FIRE ALARM SERVICE PERFORMANCE**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated with further information circulated at the meeting, informing members of the 95% of false alarms triggered by automatic fire detector alarm systems which cost the Service approximately £100,000 per year. The report also presented information on the environmental causes of false alarms (which included insects and dust), initiatives in place which had successfully reduced false alarms by 7% and the Service's automatic fire alarm response policy.

**RESOLVED that the report and addendum be noted.**

### **15 COMMUNITY SAFETY PROGRAMME REVIEW 2005/06**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, regarding the comprehensive range and depth of Community Safety work undertaken by the Service between April 2005 and March 2006.

## **RESOLVED**



- (1) that the report be noted;**
- (2) that the Community Safety Programme 2005/06 report and review be circulated to all members of the Authority for information;**
- (3) that the success and achievements of the Service in establishing and operating the Community Safety Programmes be acknowledged;**
- (4) that the thanks of the Committee be recorded to all officers involved in the Community Safety work which underpinned the programme review.**



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

**COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

of the meeting of the held on **19 JANUARY 2007** at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge from 10.00 am to 10.55 am.

**Membership**

Councillor S Fielding (Chair)  
Councillor B Grocock  
Councillor J Hemsall  
Councillor P Henshaw  
^ Councillor P Owen

Members absent are marked ^

**16 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Owen who was on County Council business.

**17 MINUTES**

**(a) Confirmation**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meeting held on 20 October 2006, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair;

**(b) Primary Vehicle Fires**

**RESOLVED** that further to minute 13(3), it be noted that an update on vehicle fires had been incorporated into agenda item 5, Arson Reduction Team.

**18 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interests were made.

## **19 FIRE INVESTIGATION TEAM**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, which outlined the role of the Fire Investigation Team and provided an overview of the team's activities during the period 1 January to 19 December 2006, when 100 investigations were undertaken, resulting in more than 200 arrests and 34 years of imprisonment for arson offences.

A fatal fire analysis, prepared in conjunction with members of the Arson Task Force, had helped identify those most at risk and had resulted in a total of seven multi-agency meetings with positive outcomes.

### **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the report be noted;**
- (2) that copies of the Memorandum of Understanding which existed between Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service, the Nottinghamshire Police and Scenes of Crimes Officers, and provided a guaranteed response on request on either party, be forwarded to Members of this Committee.**

## **20 ARSON REDUCTION TEAM**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, which informed Members of the work continued from the Arson Task Force. Since 2003 there had been a substantial reduction in arson and further measures, including a proposed Youth Issues Co-ordinator, were identified to further aid this reduction.

The figures for the year so far also illustrated a continued reduction. However, an exceptionally dry summer had resulted in an increase in secondary fires.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted.**

## **21 COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION STRATEGY 2007-10**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, which presented Members with the Community Risk Reduction Strategy 2007-10. The Strategy focused on Safer Homes, RiskWatch, Young People, Road Safety Partnership, Reducing Deliberate Fires and Raising Awareness through Campaigns and Consultation.

### **RESOLVED**

- (1) that this Committee recommend to the Fire and Rescue Authority that the Community Risk Reduction Strategy 2007-10 be formally adopted;**
- (2) that the work of all officers in compiling and delivering the Community Risk Reduction Strategy, be commended.**



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

**COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

of the meeting of the held on **20 APRIL 2007** at County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham from 10.02 am to 11.15 am.

**Membership**

Councillor S Fielding (Chair)  
Councillor B Grocock  
Councillor J Hemsall  
^ Councillor P Henshaw  
Councillor P Owen

Members absent are marked ^

**22 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meeting held on 19 January 2007, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair;

**23 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interests were made.

**24 REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**RESOLVED** that the revised terms of reference for this Committee, copies of which had been circulated, as agreed at the meeting of the full Fire and Rescue Authority held on 23 February 2007, be noted.

**25 FIRE INVESTIGATION TEAM**

Further to minute 19, dated 19 January 2007, Lead Fire Investigation Officer, Mr A Bettison, gave a detailed presentation (which was accompanied by a handout) of the work undertaken by the Fire Investigation Team, often in partnership with the Police, which covered the following areas:-

- Regional Memorandum of Understanding;
- Training and Powers, Duties and Constraints;
- Coroner's Court Representation.

Members expressed concern that no formally recognised national qualifications were available in Fire Investigation, which resulted in a difference of expectations and variation in depth of reporting across the regions' Services.

## **RESOLVED**

- (1) **that Mr Bettison be thanked for his thorough and informative presentation;**
- (2) **that the Chief Fire Officer inform the Lead Chief Fire Officer responsible nationally for Fire Investigation, of the training structures and processes established by Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service specifically relevant to Fire Investigation, and propose that this model of training be considered for all Fire and Rescue Services nationally;**
- (3) **that the response to recommendation (2) be submitted to this Committee.**

## **26 ENHANCED COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITY AS A RESULT OF SHIFT CHANGE**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, which informed members of the additional community safety and intervention activities which were possible following the change in shift patterns.

## **RESOLVED**

- (1) **that the report be noted;**
- (2) **that the Chief Fire Officer submit a report to this Committee twice yearly regarding the community safety and intervention activities undertaken.**

## **27 COMMUNITY SAFETY RISK REDUCTION STRUCTURE**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, which presented the Committee with the Community Risk Reduction Structure and detailed the responsibilities of teams within the Service.

**RESOLVED that the Community Safety Risk Reduction Structure, as follows and further detailed in the report, be approved:-**

- **Strategy and Development to be undertaken by the Research and Development Team and the Fire Investigation/Arson Reduction Team;**
- **Support and Facilitation to be undertaken by the Risk Reduction Team and District Advocates;**

- **Delivery to be undertaken by District Teams and Partnerships through response.**

## **28 BEACON PARTNER STATUS**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, which informed the Committee of the Beacon Partner Status awarded to the partnership of the County Council and Newark and Sherwood District Council for emergency planning.

**RESOLVED that the contribution made by Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service to the Emergency Planning Forum be acknowledged.**

## **29 COMMUNITY SAFETY YEAR END REVIEW**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, which summarised activities and achievements during the year in relation to community safety and reduction of avoidable injuries and deliberate fires.

The following subjects were included in the report:-

- Risk Watch;
- Risk Reduction Team;
- Prince's Trust;
- Bendigo;
- Community Safety Advocates;
- Impact Roadshow;
- STOP (Start Thinking of Other People);
- Firesetters.

Members suggested that the achievements, as detailed in the report, be publicised to reassure the public and further promote preventative measures.

Representatives of the Fire Brigades Union asked questions regarding this item, to which verbal responses were given.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted and community safety initiatives receive continued support.**

## **30 FUTURE MEETING DATES**

**RESOLVED that the future provisional dates of meetings, as follows, be noted:-**

**20 July and 19 October 2007, 18 January and 11 April 2008.**