



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Fire & Rescue Service
Creating Safer Communities

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham
Fire and Rescue Authority

POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE OUTCOMES

Report of the Chair of the Policy and Strategy Committee

Agenda No:

Date: 22 February 2008

Purpose of Report:

To report to Members the business and actions of the Policy and Strategy Committee meeting of 01 February 2008

CONTACT OFFICER

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1. BACKGROUND

As part of the revised Governance arrangements the Authority has delegated key responsibilities for policy and strategy to the Policy and Strategy Committee. As part of those delegated responsibilities, the Chair of the Policy and Strategy Committee and the Management lead report to the Authority on its business and actions as agreed at Fire & Rescue Authority meeting on 1 June 2007.

2. REPORT

- 2.1 The unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Strategy Committee meeting on 01 February 2008 are attached to this report at Appendix B. The following summarises the main points of the papers discussed at the meeting.
- 2.2 The Policy and Strategy Committee were in receipt of five reports, three of which presented the draft responses of the Service for approval, on three specific areas :
 - National Framework 2008-11;
 - Centre of Excellence;
 - Equality and Diversity Strategy 2008-18.
- 2.3 The Committee considered and approved all three responses, which have now been submitted to Communities and Local Government.
- 2.4 A further report to the Committee presented an updated Information Communications Technology (ICT) Strategy. At the meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee on 14 December 2007, Members asked for a report to be written to set out the Authority's strategy for ICT. As a result of the changing nature of the Service and its demands on ICT, the Service's ICT Strategy of 2003-2004 has been reviewed and updated to become the Strategy for ICT 2008-2011. The scope of the Strategy has been extended to include the activities of the information systems section, which became part of the ICT department in 2005 and takes account of national and regional influences and initiatives.
- 2.5 The Committee approved both the ICT Strategy 2008-2011 and the ICT Delivery Strategy for 2008-2011.
- 2.6 The final report before the Committee was in relation to the outcomes of the Best Value Review of Catering within Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service. The review was commissioned as a result of the need to examine all possible efficiency savings within the organisation and to demonstrate value of money. All areas of catering provision within the organisation were included. This covered station based catering, Service Development Centre, Headquarters and emergency catering at incidents. The review was completed in December 2007.

2.7 The Policy and Strategy Committee accepted the Best Value Review of Catering, and also accepted and endorsed the proposed actions of Management in response to the options presented within the review. Additionally, the Committee tasked Management with consulting with the representative bodies with a view to implementing the actions set out in the report. Finally, the Committee asked Management to report back progress to the Committee at a future meeting.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All financial implications were considered as part of the original reports submitted to the Policy and Strategy Committee.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

All personnel implications were considered as part of the original reports submitted to the Policy and Strategy Committee.

5. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An equality impact assessment has been undertaken and concludes that there are no implications arising from this report. The equality impact assessment is given as Appendix A to this report.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

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

7. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The Service's performance in relation to matters addressed through Policy and Strategy Committee 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.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members note the contents of this report and the business undertaken by the Policy and Strategy Committee.

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

None.

Councillor Darrell Pulk
CHAIR OF POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE

INITIAL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

<i>Section</i> SMT	<i>Manager</i> CFO Frank Swann	Date of Assessment 05 February 2008	New or Existing N/A
Name of Report to be assessed		POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE OUTCOMES	
1. Briefly describe the aims, objectives and purpose of the report.		To report to the Authority the business and actions of the Policy and Strategy Committee meeting of 01 February 2008	
2. Who is intended to benefit from this report and what are the outcomes?		The Authority require a report on the business of its Committees on a regular basis	
3. Who are the main stakeholders in relation to the report?		Fire and Rescue Authority Members	
4. Who implements and who is responsible for the report?		Implementation of any actions arising is the responsibility of the Chief Fire Officer	

5. Please identify the differential impact in the terms of the six strands below. Please tick yes if you have identified any differential impacts. Please state evidence of negative or positive impacts below.

<i>STRAND</i>	Y	N	<i>NEGATIVE IMPACT</i>	<i>POSITIVE IMPACT</i>
Race		X		
Gender		X		
Disability		X		
Religion or Belief		X		
Sexuality		X		
Age		X		

6. Can this adverse impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one group?	Y	N	7. Should the policy/service proceed to a full impact assessment?	Y	N
					X

I am satisfied that this policy has been successfully impact assessed. I understand the impact assessment of this policy is a statutory obligation and that, as owners of this policy, we take responsibility for the completion and quality of this process.

Signed (completing person) **CFO Frank Swann**

Date **05 February 2008**



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

POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of the meeting of the held on **1 FEBRUARY 2008** at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge, Arnold, Nottingham from 10.33 am to 11.59 am

Membership

Councillor D Pulk (Chair)
Councillor J Cottee
Councillor S Fielding
Councillor P Griggs
Councillor P Lally
^ Councillor K Rigby

Members absent are marked ^

14 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Rigby (on other County Council business).

15 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 9 November 2007, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

16 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

17 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE RESPONSE TO NATIONAL FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES CONSULTATION

(a) National Framework 2008-2011

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, which presented the proposed response from Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service to the National Framework consultation.

RESOLVED that the Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service response to the National Framework 2008-2011 consultation be approved.

(b) Centre of Excellence

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, which presented the response from Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service to the consultation on the Centre of Excellence.

RESOLVED that the Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service response to the Communities and Local Government consultation on the Centre of Excellence be approved.

(c) Equality and Diversity Strategy 2008-2018

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, which presented the response from Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service to the Communities and Local Government consultation on the proposed Equality and Diversity Strategy for Fire and Rescue Authorities.

RESOLVED that the proposed submission from Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service to Communities and Local Government to the consultation on the Equality and Diversity Strategy 2008-2018 be approved.

18 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES STRATEGY 2008-2011 – UPDATED VERSIONS

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, which presented the updated Information Communications Technologies Strategies.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the Information and Communications Technology Strategy for 2008-2011 and the Information and Communications Technology Delivery Strategy for 2008-2011 be approved;**
- (2) that the strategies be submitted to a future meeting of Finance and Resources Committee for information.**

19 BEST VALUE REVIEW OF CATERING

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, which presented the management response to the outcomes of the Best Value Review of catering within Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service.

The Chair requested that a further report on this matter be submitted after the consultation process had been completed.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the Best Value Review on catering be accepted;**
- (2) that the proposed actions of management in response to the options presented within the Best Value Review be accepted and endorsed;**
- (3) that management be requested to consult with the representative bodies with a view to implementing the actions set out in the report;**
- (4) that a further report be submitted to this Committee following completion of the consultation process.**