



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Fire & Rescue Service
Creating Safer Communities

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham
Fire and Rescue Authority

EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL MANAGEMENT BOARD

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

Agenda No:

Date: 23 May 2008

Purpose of Report:

To update Members on the outcomes of the meeting of the East Midlands Regional Management Board held on Thursday 3 April 2008.

CONTACT OFFICER

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1. BACKGROUND

The Regional Management Board (RMB) was created as a consequence of the publication of the White Paper "Our Fire and Rescue Service". Additionally, its purpose, aims and objectives were clearly laid out in the National Framework document 2004/05. Two elected Members, the Chair and Vice-Chair, from each of the five constituent Fire and Rescue Authorities, make up the East Midlands Regional Management Board. In addition to attendance at RMB by the Chair and Vice-Chair of this Authority, RMB papers are distributed to all Members in advance of the relevant meetings for their information and perusal.

2. REPORT

- 2.1 The unconfirmed minutes of the RMB meeting held on Thursday 3 April 2008 are attached as Appendix B to this report.
- 2.2 The Authority will note that from and including the Municipal Year 2008/2009, RMB have agreed to meet on a quarterly basis in January, April, June and October of each year. In addition, a clearer framework on the topics for discussion at each meeting has been proposed and adopted, which will ensure RMB receives the information it requires in a timely and effective manner.
- 2.3 A number of reports of the Chief Fire Officers of the Constituent Authorities were tabled for discussion. In summary these were :
 - East Midlands Regional FiReControl Project and East Midlands Firelink Project;
 - Annual Procurement Plan;
 - Joint Partnership Forum;
 - Draft Annual Report;
 - Workforce Development Update.

It was resolved that all of the reports be noted.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no human resources or learning and development implications arising from this report.

5. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An initial equality impact assessment is attached 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

There are no risk management implications arising directly from this report. Members are already aware that Communities and Local Government have set clear expectations against which success or failure of RMBs will be assessed.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members note the contents of this report and the business of the Regional Management Board.

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

None.

Frank Swann
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

INITIAL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

<i>Section</i>	<i>Manager</i>	<i>Date of Assessment</i>	<i>New or Existing</i>
SMT	CFO Swann	21 April 2008	N/A
Name of Report to be assessed		EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL MANAGEMENT BOARD	
1. Briefly describe the aims, objectives and purpose of the report.		To update Members on the outcomes of the meeting of the East Midlands Regional Management Board held on Thursday 3 April 2008.	
2. Who is intended to benefit from this report and what are the outcomes?		CFA Members in ensuring they are aware of the current business and outcomes from the Regional Management Board, and therefore the impacts on this Authority.	
3. Who are the main stakeholders in relation to the report?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFA Members • Strategic Management Team 	
4. Who implements and who is responsible for the report?		Chief Fire Officer.	

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 Swann

Date 21/04/2008



**Minutes of the Meeting of the
EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL MANAGEMENT BOARD**

Held: Thursday 3rd April 2008 at 2.00 pm at Leicestershire
Fire and Rescue Headquarters, Leicester Road, Glenfield, Leicester LE3 8HD

P R E S E N T:

Derbyshire Fire Authority
Councillor Paul Smith
Councillor Richard Gerrard
Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Fire Authority
Councillor Peter Roffey (Chairman)
Councillor Cliff Stanley
Northamptonshire County Council
Councillor Mrs Liz Tavener
Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire Authority
Councillor Penny Griggs
Councillor Darrell Pulk (Vice Chairman)
Lincolnshire County Council
Councillor Peter Robinson

Officers in Attendance

Mr Brian Tregunna, CFO, Derbyshire Fire Authority
Mr Dave Webb, CFO, Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Fire Authority
Mr Mike Thomas, CFO, Lincolnshire Fire Authority
Mr Martyn Emberson, CFO, Northamptonshire Fire Authority
Mr Frank Swann, CFO, Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire Authority

Board Officers

Mr Trevor Peel, RMB Treasurer
Mrs Jo Beresford, Regional Programme Manager
Ms Elisabeth Reeson, Press Officer
Mr. David Cleaver, Business Support Team

50 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Bill Parker (Northamptonshire)
Councillor Mrs Jean Johnson (Lincolnshire) and Mr Guy Goodman, Clerk to the
Board

51 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE BOARD

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 24th January 2008 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

52 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following members declared a personal interest as a Director of East Midlands Fire and Rescue Control Centre Ltd for Item 7.1:

Councillor Richard Gerrard, Councillor Penny Griggs, Councillor Darrell Pulk
Councillor Peter Roffey, Councillor Peter Robinson, Councillor Cliff Stanley and
Councillor Paul Smith.

53 OTHER BUSINESS OF THE CHAIR

There was no other business.

54 QUESTIONS RECEIVED UNDER STANDING ORDER 8.1

There were no questions received.

55 REPORTS OF THE CLERK

55.1 FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD

The Treasurer presented a report of the Clerk in respect of future meetings of the Board

RESOLVED:

1) That from the Municipal Year 2008/09 onwards the Board meets on a quarterly basis as follows in the Municipal Year 2008/09:

- 12th June 2008
- 16th October 2008
- 22nd January 2009
- 2nd April 2009.

2) That thereafter the Board meets in June, October, January and April of each municipal year.

3) That the framework for the subject matter of each meeting for the next year as attached as Appendix 1 to the report was approved with the addition of reports on the statement of efficiencies against the CLG draft national framework and an annual report on progress against the annual procurement plan

56. REPORTS OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICERS OF CONSTITUENT AUTHORITIES

56.1 EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL FIRE CONTROL PROJECT & EAST MIDLANDS FIRELINK PROJECT

CFO Webb presented his regular update on progress on the project. He highlighted:-

- 1) That in relation to the National FiReControl project the Minister had agreed not to publish a business case update in February, rather to focus on publishing the Business Case in June.
- 2) In respect of the Regional FiReControl data capture and migration – FRS HQ surveys had taken place in February as follows: Lincoln 4th, Nottingham 6th, Leicester 7th and Northampton 8th. However, install dates had now been delayed for all FRSs in the Region due to failure of the User Acceptance Testing (UAT) recently conducted by CLG and EADS. Further notification was awaited of the rectification of faults identified at UAT before install dates at FRSs could be rescheduled.
- 3) That in respect of the Creation of an Initial Staffing Pool - The Project Board had endorsed the numbers of staff that each FRS will be able to supply to the RCC Initial Staffing Pool for Go Live.
- 4) Firelink was progressing and Airwave was maintaining pace though concern remains over a few 'residual base stations' which may not receive local planning permission in time. The fit-out of control rooms was now complete or in progress in all English regions.

Members expressed growing concern at the delays with regard to data capture with rescheduled timelines and consequent increased pressure on Fire and Rescue Service Staff. The chairman confirmed that these concerns had been raised with CLG.

RESOLVED:

That the report was NOTED.

56.2 ANNUAL PROCUREMENT PLAN

CFO Thomas presented a report on the outcomes of the Regional Procurement work stream 2007 – 2008 and a proposed Regional Procurement Strategy for 2008 – 2011.

Members discussed the report in detail and felt that good progress had been made against very ambitious targets. In response to questions it was confirmed that the progress compared favourably against the majority of other regions.

RESOLVED:

That the Regional Procurement Strategy 2008-2011 was APPROVED.

56.3 JOINT PARTNERSHIP FORUM

CFO Thomas presented a report on the progress of the Joint Partnership Forum (JPF). It was confirmed that the regional Diversity and Equality Strategy had been agreed and published.

With regard to the request from the Trade Union side to attend meetings of the LACC it was proposed that a representative should be invited to a future meeting but it was not felt appropriate to agree to observer status for that attendee.

Members expressed some concern with regard to the LACC consultation process with the unions but it was felt that the problems had been noted and were being addressed.

RESOLVED:

That the report was NOTED.

56.4 DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT

The Programme Manager presented a report on the outcomes achieved by the workstreams in 2007/8. Members commented that the report showed that positive progress had been made in most areas.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the report was NOTED
- 2) That the Press Officer was requested to arrange for an article in the Boards newsletter summarising last year's achievements.

56.5 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

CFO Tregunna presented a report to update the Board on progress on regional workforce development.

In response to questions from members it was confirmed that ADC process is proving to be resource intensive. It was confirmed that a review of the regional approach is being undertaken which is seeking to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the ADC process; for example, a move from a 2 to 1 to a 1 to 1 assessor to candidate ratio is being considered.

Members emphasised the need to address equality and diversity performance as a priority issue in respect of recruitment including positive action.

RESOLVED:

That the report was NOTED

57. CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TABLED BY MEMBERS

None.

Meeting closed at 2.53 pm

Minutes of the Board Meeting held on 3rd April 2008 comprising 5 pages (Municipal Year 2007/08 Minute Book pp 28 to 32 inclusive) signed as a true and accurate record.

Signed:

Dated: