



**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

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**Agenda No:**

**Date:** 19 December 2008

**Purpose of Report:**

To report to Members the business and actions of the Policy and Strategy Committee meetings of 17 October and 14 November 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 and Rescue Authority meeting on 1 June 2007.

## **2. REPORT**

- 2.1 The minutes of the Policy and Strategy Committee meetings of 17 October and 14 November 2008 are attached to this report at Appendix B. The following summarises the main points of the papers discussed at the meetings.
- 2.2 As a result of the difficult financial climate in early autumn 2008, an extraordinary meeting of the Policy and Strategy Committee was convened for Friday 17 October 2008. The Committee were asked to consider exclusion of the public from the meeting for consideration of the only report being presented. This was endorsed and the Committee were provided with a Treasury Management Strategy update.
- 2.3 The Committee resolved that the proposed temporary Treasury Management Strategy be approved (subject to review in six months); that the use of the Government's Debt Management Office and local authorities as additional counterparties be approved; and that temporary authority be granted to the Head of Finance and Resources, in consultation with the Chair of the Authority and the Chair of the Finance and Resources Committee, to add institutions to the approved lending list, provided that they met the criteria set out in the Treasury Management Strategy agreed at the meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee on 04 April 2008.
- 2.4 The next scheduled meeting of the Policy and Strategy Committee took place on Friday 14 November 2008 and the Committee was asked to consider two reports.
- 2.5 The first presented a proposed Member Development Policy and the Committee were asked to endorse the policy and to recommend that it be forwarded to the full Fire and Rescue Authority for formal adoption. This was endorsed and the Member Development Policy is presented elsewhere on today's agenda.
- 2.6 At its meeting on 25 July 2008, the Finance and Resources Committee requested that the Policy and Strategy Committee send a letter to the Parliamentary Under Secretary responsible for Fire and Rescue Services to request his assistance in lobbying Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs for a change in regulation regarding fuel duty. A report presented to the Policy and Strategy Committee sought approval for a letter to therefore be sent to

Mr Sadiq Khan MP in respect of this issue. This was endorsed and the Committee requested the letter be sent as outlined in the report.

### **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 human resources and learning and development 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. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

### **8. 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.

### **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

**10. BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION (OTHER THAN PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS)**

None.

Councillor Darrell Pulk  
**CHAIR OF POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE**

FOR NOTING

## INITIAL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

<i>Section</i> SMT	<i>Manager</i> CFO Frank Swann	Date of Assessment November 2008	New or Existing N/A
Name of Report to be assessed		<b>POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE OUTCOMES</b>	
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 02 May 2008.	
2. Who is intended to benefit from this report and what are the outcomes?		The Authority requires 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>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>	<i>NEGATIVE IMPACT</i>	<i>POSITIVE IMPACT</i>
Race		<b>X</b>		
Gender		<b>X</b>		
Disability		<b>X</b>		
Religion or Belief		<b>X</b>		
Sexuality		<b>X</b>		
Age		<b>X</b>		

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

**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: **November 2008**



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

**POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

of the meeting of the held on **17 OCTOBER 2008** at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge from 13.30 pm to 13.32 pm.

**Membership**

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

Members absent are marked ^

**8 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Fielding (on County Council Business) and Lally.

**9 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interests were made.

**10 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meeting held on 1 August 2008, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

## **11 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the remaining item in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 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, as defined in paragraph 3.

## **12 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY UPDATE**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, updating Members on the impact of the current situation in the financial markets on the treasury management strategy of the Authority.

### **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the proposed temporary Treasury Management Strategy be approved, with a review in six months;**
- (2) that the use of the Government's Debt Management Office and local authorities as additional counterparties be approved;**
- (3) that temporary authority be granted to the Head of Finance and Resources, in consultation with the Chair of the Authority and the Chair of the Finance and Resources Committee to add institutions to the approved lending list provided that they met the criteria set out in the Treasury Management Strategy agreed at the meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee on 4 April 2008.**





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

**POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

of the meeting of the held on **14 NOVEMBER 2008** at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge from 10.00 am to 10.06 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 CHAIR**

**RESOLVED** that in the absence of Councillor Pulk, Councillor Griggs be appointed Chair for the meeting.

**15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Rigby (on County Council Business) and Councillors Lally and Pulk.

**16 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interests were made.

## **17 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meeting held on 17 October 2008, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair presiding at the meeting.

## **18 MEMBER DEVELOPMENT POLICY**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, informing members of the proposed Member Development Policy.

**RESOLVED** that the Member Development Policy be endorsed and be recommended to the Fire and Rescue Authority for adoption.

## **19 HEAVY OIL FUEL DUTY**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated.

**RESOLVED** that a letter, as drafted in the report, be sent by the Chair of the Authority to the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State responsible for Fire and Rescue Services, Mr Sadiq Khan MP, with regard to fuel oil duty and requesting consideration of fuel duty rebate or exemptions for pumping appliances.