



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Fire & Rescue Service
Creating Safer Communities

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham
Fire and Rescue Authority

FIRE AND RESCUE CONFERENCE 2009 : OUTCOMES

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

Agenda No:

Date: 26 June 2009

Purpose of Report:

To inform Members of the outcomes of the Fire and Rescue 2009 Conference, which was held between 12 and 14 May 2009 at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham, and to highlight areas of focus.

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1. BACKGROUND

The Fire and Rescue Conference is the biggest fire event of the year and has become the focal point of the fire professionals' annual activities. It is the three days when all concerned with fire prevention and protection come together to exchange ideas, expand their knowledge and discover the latest innovation products and services available.

2. REPORT

2.1 Attendees at this year's event were Councillor Darrell Pulk, Chair of the Fire Authority; Councillor Penny Griggs, Vice Chair of the Fire Authority; Councillor John Cottee, Lead Opposition Spokesperson; and Councillor Malcolm Wood, Chair of the Performance Monitoring Committee.

2.2 This year's conference, in addition to hosting the National Equality and Diversity Awards and the Fire Excellence Awards, covered a wide range of issues of interest to the fire community. These included:

- The Bain Report – seven years on;
- National Resilience in the Fire Service: Sustaining the Future;
- Community Safety Evaluation – Safer Communities;
- Reducing the Risk to Fire Fighters – lessons from major fire fighting fatalities.

2.3 In addition to the main conference themes, a comprehensive workshop programme was also facilitated. These sessions included:

- Community Fire Safety – targeting the very elderly;
- Technical Fire Safety;
- Delivering Diversity in the Fire Service;
- Flood Rescue National Enhancement Programme;
- Road Safety.

2.4 Speakers were drawn from a wide range of Fire and Rescue Services, local authorities, central government and other key agencies such as the Audit Commission and Institute of Community Cohesion.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The costs of the conference, including travel, accommodation and subsistence, were met from within the existing budget provision for Member conference expenses.

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 has identified no specific aspects relating to a disproportionate effect in respect of the key equality strands.

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 from this report.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The Fire and Rescue Conference is the industry's premier event and attendance ensures that the Fire Authority and Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service remains aware of key emerging national issues. Failure to attend may leave the Authority at risk of not making appropriate progress in key areas.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members note the attendance made and the content of the conference, and continue to support this event in the future.

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

None.

Frank Swann
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER