



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Fire & Rescue Service
Creating Safer Communities

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham
Fire and Rescue Authority

FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE OUTCOMES

Report of the Chair of the
Finance & Resources Committee

Agenda No:

Date: 04 September 2009

Purpose of Report:

To report to Members on the business and actions of the Finance and Resources Committee meeting of Friday 10 July 2009.

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1. BACKGROUND

As part of the revised Governance arrangements the Authority has delegated key responsibilities for Finance and Resources to the Finance and Resources Committee. As part of those delegated responsibilities, the Chair of the Finance and Resources 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 Finance and Resources Committee held on Friday 10 July 2009 are attached to this report at Appendix A. The following summarises the main points of the papers discussed at the meeting.
- 2.2 The Committee were firstly in receipt of a report which brought to the attention of Members the annual report prepared by the Authority's Internal Auditors and additionally informed Members of the review of Internal Audit which was conducted by the Head of Finance and Resources. The report was noted.
- 2.3 A further report for consideration was a Medium Term Financial Strategy 2009/10 to 2011/12, which in addition to providing detail around financial management, the context and objectives of the strategy, it also outlined funding priorities and service improvements; impact of UK economic downturn; medium term risks, components of the medium term strategy, partnership working and the regional dimension. The report was noted.
- 2.4 The Committee were also in receipt of two reports detailing prudential code monitoring – the first for the period up to 31 March 2009 and the second up to 31 May 2009. Both reports considered detail relating to the prudential indicators for capital accounting and treasury management. Both reports were noted.
- 2.5 Two monitoring reports were also subject to the Committee's consideration at this meeting. They were in relation to:
 - 2.5.1 Capital Budget Monitoring Report to 31 May 2009 – updating on capital programme progress in the year 2009/10 to the end of May 2009 and analysing significant variances against the original programme. The report was noted.
 - 2.5.2 Revenue Monitoring Report to 31 May 2009 – updating on financial performance of the Service in the year 2009/10 to the end of May 2009, and analysing significant variances against the original budget. The report was noted.
- 2.6 For the remaining two items the Committee were asked to consider excluding the public from the meeting in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972. The exclusion was endorsed and the Committee went on to consider reports on Cardiff checks and internal audit reports issues during 2008/09. The recommendations in both reports were endorsed.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All of the reports considered by Finance and Resources Committee on 09 January 2009 were finance related. However, there were no significant financial implications arising from those reports.

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 Finance and Resources Committee.

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 directly from this report.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional risk management issues arising from this report other than those specifically reported to the Committee as part of the reports under consideration.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members note the contents of this report and the business undertaken by the Finance and Resources Committee.

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

None.

Councillor Malcolm Wood
CHAIR OF FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

APPENDIX A



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of the meeting held on **10 JULY 2009** at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge from 10.03 am to 11.11 am.

Membership

- Councillor M Wood (Chair)
- Councillor B Cooper (substitute for Councillor Pettengell)
- Councillor A Foster
- Councillor P Griggs
- ^ Councillor T Pettengell
- ^ Councillor K Rostance

Members absent are marked ^

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Pettengell and from Councillor Rostance (on County Council business).

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

3 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 27 March 2009, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

4 INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT 2008/09

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, regarding the annual report prepared by the Authority's Internal Auditors and

informing members of the Review of Internal Audit which was conducted by the Head of Finance and Resources.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

5 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

RESOLVED that, pursuant to section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following two items as they contained information relating to individuals and was likely to reveal the identity of those individuals and, information relating to the financial or business affairs of the Authority and, having regard to all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, as defined in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

6 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORTS ISSUED DURING 2008/09

Consideration was given to the report of the Treasurer, copies of which had been circulated, revised copies of which were placed around the table, presenting to members the Internal Audit reports issued in final form during 2008/09 and the responses of management to the findings and recommendations.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the Internal Auditors' reports be noted;**
- (2) that the actions of management in responding to the recommendations made, be supported;**
- (3) that the Chief Fire Officer be requested to consider further action to ensure invoices were paid within thirty days of receipt.**

7 CARDIFF CHECKS

Consideration was given to a report of the Treasurer, copies of which had been circulated, informing members of the findings of Internal Audit regarding three paid invoices selected by members during 2008 and the response of management to the findings and recommendations.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the recommendations in the report, which had been agreed with the Chief Fire Officer, be implemented without delay;**
- (2) that the thanks of the Committee to the Audit Team be recorded.**

At this point it was possible for members of the public to return to the meeting.

8 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2009/10 TO 20011/12

Consideration was given to a report of the Treasurer, copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the report be noted;
- (2) that an informal meeting of members of this Committee be convened to enable members to contribute and aide the early start to consultation.

9 PRUDENTIAL CODE MONITORING REPORT TO 31 MARCH 2009

RESOLVED that the report of the Treasurer, copies of which had been circulated, be noted.

10 PRUDENTIAL CODE MONITORING REPORT TO 31 MAY 2009

RESOLVED that the report of the Treasurer, copies of which had been circulated, be noted.

11 REVENUE MONITORING REPORT TO 31 MAY 2009

RESOLVED that the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, be noted.

12 CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING REPORT TO 31 MAY 2009

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, regarding the progress in the year 2009/10 to the end of May 2009. The report analysed significant variances against the original programme.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

13 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED that the dates of future meetings at 10.00 am on the following Fridays be noted:

**9 October 2009
8 January 2010
9 April 2010.**