



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Fire & Rescue Service
Creating Safer Communities

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham
Fire and Rescue Authority
Community Safety Committee

DISTRICT INITIATIVES – INFORMAL REPORTING PROCESS

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

Date: 14 October 2011

Purpose of Report:

To seek approval from the Committee to continue with the regime of informal briefings from District Group Managers at the rising of the next four meetings.

CONTACT OFFICER

Name : John Buckley
Assistant Chief Fire Officer

Tel : 0115 967 0880

Email : john.buckley@notts-fire.gov.uk

**Media Enquiries
Contact :** Elisabeth Reeson
(0115) 967 5889 elisabeth.reeson@notts-fire.gov.uk

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 At the meeting of this Committee on 16 July 2010 it was agreed that the Members would receive informal briefings from District Group Managers at the rising of the following four Community Safety Committee Meetings. The final one of these briefings was concluded at the rising of the meeting held on 15 July 2011. The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Committee to continue with these arrangements.
- 1.2 The structure within Risk Response to manage operational resources is coterminous with local political boundaries to ensure that local managers are best placed to engage in initiatives and build consistent relations with partner organisations.
- 1.3 This structure is led by an Area Manager and consists of 4 Group Managers and 14 Station Managers. The 4 Group Managers are allocated to a geographical area together with a number of Station Managers relative to operational and community needs.
- 1.4 The managerial structure controls the activity of all operational crews which comprises both Wholetime and Retained Duty Firefighters, together with a number of district based support staff including Administrators and Community Safety Advocates.

District	Areas Covered
City	City of Nottingham
South	Broxtowe, Rushcliffe and Gedling districts
North West	Ashfield and Mansfield districts
North East	Newark & Sherwood, and Bassetlaw districts

2. REPORT

- 2.1 The work undertaken throughout the Districts comprises frontline operational response to incidents as well as the delivery of community safety activities within the local areas.
- 2.2 To underpin this work local risk profiles are created. These identify the community education and response needs, site specific fire and rescue risks, and the needs of staff in terms of learning and development. This framework ensures that work undertaken within the Districts is targeted at specific local needs.

2.3 The outcome of the work within the Districts is formally reported to the Fire Authority through the Performance Monitoring Committee, however this does not cover in any great detail the actual work being undertaken on the ground.

2.4 Reports covering specific themes of activity are regularly brought to this Committee, generally at the launch stage of a new initiative or on an adhoc basis as a review of a specific area of work. Due to the formality of committee structures these reports usually cover the larger initiatives undertaken across the Service and in reality much more goes on at the local level.

2.5 It is clear that through the informal briefings previously undertaken that Members have benefited from an appraisal of these smaller local areas of work, which by themselves would not constitute a report, but as a collection of issues are worthy of a briefing.

2.6 District based Officers have also benefited through this process by gaining a greater understanding of how Members, through their position within the community, can assist with furthering organisational objectives at the local level. Furthermore, the briefings have helped stimulate debate, and led to formal reports being requested for specific areas of activity.

2.7 To build on the previous positive outcomes it is suggested that at the rising of future Community Safety Committee meetings the briefings continue in the same way and that one of the Group Managers will provide an informal update to Members on the current activities within their District. Throughout the year this will result in each Group Manager being in attendance with the intention of giving Members a broad overview of the range of activities ongoing within the organisation at any one time.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising 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 equality impact assessment has not been undertaken because the purpose of this report does not seek to change to policy or procedures.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

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

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Under the Fire Services Act 2004, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service has a statutory duty to make provision for the purpose of promoting Community Safety.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The National Framework document makes clear that Members should actively scrutinise the work of the Fire and Rescue Service. This informal approach will enhance existing arrangements and provide opportunities for Members to request further formal reports if required.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members agree to receive informal briefings from District Group Managers at the rising of the next four Community Safety Committee Meetings.

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

None.

Frank Swann
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER