



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

**COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**Date: FRIDAY 13 APRIL 2012**

**Time: 10.00 am**

**Venue: Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge, Arnold,  
Nottingham.**

**Members are requested to attend the above meeting to be held at the time, place  
and date mentioned for the purpose of transacting the following business.**

**Clerk to the Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority**

**A G E N D A**

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Councillors, colleagues or other participants in meetings are requested to declare any personal or personal and prejudicial interest in any matter(s) on the agenda

**3 MINUTES**

Last meeting held on 20 January 2012 (for confirmation)

Attached

**4 MISTERTON-'RISKY ROOMS' AND ASHFIED 'SWAN' PROJECT**

Report of Chief Fire Officer

Attached

**If you are unsure whether or not you should declare an interest in a particular matter, please contact the Constitutional Services Officer shown on this agenda, if possible before the day of the meeting, who will provide advice in the first instance.**

**Any Councillor who is unable to attend the meeting and wishes to submit apologies should do so via the Personal Assistant to**

**the Chief Fire Officer at Fire Services Headquarters on 0115 967  
0880**

Agenda, reports and minutes for all public meetings can be viewed online at:-  
<http://open.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/comm/default.asp>

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

**COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

of meeting held on **20 JANUARY 2012** at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge, from 10.00 am to 10.25 am.

**Membership**

Councillor S Fielding (Chair)  
Councillor J Hemsall  
Councillor E Kerry  
Councillor J Packer  
Councillor J Zadrozny

Members absent are marked ^

Councillors Grocock, Pulk and Wheeler were in attendance as observers.

**15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies for absence were received. The Chair stated that she was saddened by the news of Councillor Pettengell's recent death and that a tribute to Councillor Pettengell would be led by the Chair of the Fire Authority at the next full meeting of the Authority.

**16 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interests were made.

**17 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meeting held on 14 October 2011, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

## **18 SPRINKLERS**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, seeking the Committee's approval for the adoption of a position statement on sprinklers. The report was introduced by John Buckley, Assistant Chief Fire Officer who made the following points:

- Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service (the Service) was positively promoting and encouraging the provision of residential sprinklers in new build private and public housing as a means of contributing to saving lives. This was due to the good record of sprinklers in detecting, suppressing and controlling fires compared to incidents where sprinklers were not installed;
- the Chief Fire Officers Association supported the proposal. The Chief Fire Officer had spoken out publicly in support of the proposal and the Service was anxious to both engage locally and join in the debate at national level. As a result, the adoption of a position statement was recommended. This would ensure that a consistent message was delivered across all levels of the Service to internal and external stakeholders.

**RESOLVED that the adoption of the Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service sprinkler position statement be supported and that the Committee receive future reports on developments in this area.**

## **19 RESILIENCE AND SEVERE WEATHER**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, providing the Committee with an update on resilience and severe weather.

Dave Stevenson, Station Manager, delivered a presentation to the Committee which included the following points:

- the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (the 2004 Act) focused on local arrangements for civil protection, establishing a statutory framework of roles and responsibilities for local responders (Part 1) and on emergency powers, establishing a modern framework for the use of special legislative measures that might be necessary to deal with the effects of the most serious emergencies (Part 2);
- Part 1 of the 2004 Act established a new statutory framework for civil protection at local level. Local responders were split into two categories; Category 1 responders were those organisations at the core of emergency response e.g. emergency services and local authorities. Category 2 responders were other support services and utility companies;
- Category 1 responders were required to assess the risk of emergencies occurring and use this information to inform contingency planning, put in place emergency plans and business continuity arrangements, make information available to the public about civil protection matters, share information with other local responders, and provide advice and assistance to businesses and voluntary organisations about business continuity management (BCM);

- Category 1 and 2 responders were required to form Local Resilience Forums (LRF's) to help co-ordination and co-operation between responders at local level. Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS) was a fully fledged member of the LRF;
- under the 2004 Act, local authorities had the responsibility to promote business continuity and Each Category 1 responder was required to put into place business continuity arrangements;
- business continuity management (BCM) could be divided into three main areas for planning purpose; loss of staff, loss of accommodation and loss of information technology;
- to assist the planning and preparation, the areas for consideration had been broken down into the following:
  - general;
  - personnel;
  - operational;
  - media;
  - premises;
  - equipment;
  - recovery.
- staff briefing notes had been prepared to keep personnel informed and to provide guidance on a wide variety of associated issues, which included driving techniques, vehicle routines, getting to work, work arrangements, winter preparedness and general guidance on preparations for travel;
- action cards offered considerations for implementation covering themes associated with severe weather including degradation, transport and stores;
- arrangements had been made with the highways departments of the local authorities following last years severe weather event. This had led to routes to fire stations and fire station forecourts being added to the gritting routes providing safe access and egress from NFRS sites;
- NFRS had a number of four wheel drive vehicles which would be utilised to support elements of the severe weather plan and would be held at critical locations throughout Nottingham and Nottinghamshire;
- lessons learned from last year's severe weather event indicated that availability of four wheel drive vehicles became limited due to demand, so plans had been established to lease additional vehicles in advance. These would be used to get essential staff to work and provide appropriate vehicles to meet the demands of road conditions for flexible duty officers, which would mitigate road risk associated with mobilising in severe weather conditions;
- specific protocols had been developed for the provision of rock salt. There were six holding locations around the County to reduce travel distances in the event of a period of sustained or prolonged bad weather leading to a transport issue;

- winter packs consisting of a blanket, water, hot pack, de-icer and a shovel, were provided for the four wheel drive vehicles ;
- NFRS would consider activating the incident support room to co-ordinate and manage logistics e.g. getting essential workers to places of work such as control staff, distribution of resources and personnel to maintain service delivery and to support the liaison with other key agencies;
- NFRS's severe weather plan was designed to ensure that the Services' legal obligations under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, the Fire Services Act 2004 and its commitment to community safety were maintained.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted and the work of the Resilience Team be endorsed.**

## **20 SPECIALIST RESCUE UNIT**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, introducing the Committee to the new Specialist Rescue Unit, its attributes and the value it added to the Service.

Colin Poyser, in charge of the Specialist Rescue Team, advised the Committee that the specification for the Specialist Rescue Unit was compiled through a mixture of need and requirement. It would enable crews to respond to community needs with the appropriate resources in a safe, responsible manner.

The vehicle was a multi-role technical vehicle which would respond to specialist incidents including; heavy rescue incidents, incidents outside the scope of standard appliances, animal rescues, rescues from height and water rescues.

The vehicle had won an award for design and build.

The vehicle was expected to be fully operationally and available by 28 February 2012 following the completion of driver training.

Councillors and other attendees at the meeting were invited to view a demonstration of the vehicle at the end of the meeting.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted and the benefit of the vehicle in assisting the Service to meet its objectives be noted.**



**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**  
**Fire & Rescue Service**  
*Creating Safer Communities*

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

# **MISTERTON `RISKY ROOMS` & ASHFIELD `SWAN` PROJECT**

Report of Chief Fire Officer

**Agenda Item No:**

**Date:** 13 April 2012

**Purpose of Report:**

To update Members on community safety activities within the North Group, specifically 'Risky Rooms' at Misterton and the 'SWAN' project at Ashfield.

## **CONTACT OFFICER**

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Assistant Chief Fire Officer

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## 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The North Group are engaged in many Community Safety activities both station based and in the community. Two of the more notable station based projects are the 'Risky Rooms' at Misterton, and the 'SWAN' (Safety, Water Awareness, Nature) project at Ashfield.
- 1.2 Following the refurbishment of Misterton Fire Station in 2009 a portacabin, which had previously been used as a gymnasium, was identified as being surplus to requirements. The aim was to create a resource which would highlight hazards within the home, creating a physical representation of the home safety check.
- 1.3 Ashfield Fire Station developed a wildlife pond on land to the rear of the fire station using resources donated by local companies. Their aim was to create an experience for primary school children to teach them about the dangers of playing near water and at the same time understand the nature in their local environment.

## 2. REPORT

- 2.1 Misterton Risky Rooms were launched in June 2011. Visitors to the rooms are given a short presentation on fire safety in the home and are then shown to the Risky Rooms. They are provided with a sheet to list any hazards within the rooms. Discussion then takes place over how a few simple safety measures could be life saving. For instance, a working smoke alarm; use of an extension block; use of a fireguard etc. Any hazards not identified are pointed out and awareness raised.
- 2.2 Three rooms were created within the portacabin, funded by donations from the Misterton Gala Committee and Southmoor Lodge Residential Home. Local people have also generously donated items for inclusion in the rooms, for instance an entire kitchen unit.
- 2.3 The three rooms represent a typical family home:

**Granddad's Lounge**- designed with generic lounge/living area hazards, as well as hazards pertinent to older members of our community who are at heightened risk from dwelling fires.

**Family Kitchen**- various hazards associated with a kitchen area, chip pan, toaster, hazardous materials etc.

**Sister's Bedroom** - developed as a teenager's bedroom with such hazards as overloaded sockets, candles, make-up etc.



- 2.4 Over 100 visitors to date have benefited from this innovative community safety resource, including local Cub Scouts, Worksop Young Mums, Misterton Young Mums and various Surestart Groups.
- 2.5 Future plans include the expansion of the resource to include a garden shed. The Service attends a number of shed fires some of which may be attributed to incorrect storage of chemicals and poor housekeeping. Education in respect of this may lead to a reduction in incidents
- 2.6 Ashfield Fire Station 'SWAN' project has historically been used to encourage School children to be safe around water but is now a much broader resource for an educational experience for the children of Ashfield.
- 2.7 The Station is host to the yearly multi agency Safety week which has seen up to 800 children from the Ashfield area attend over recent years.
- 2.8 The project has been tailored with the School's Personal, Social and Health educational key stages in mind. It was felt that to get schools to hire buses and take children out of school it needed to be made clear they would be developing some of their own educational needs during the visit.
- 2.9 The aim of the project is that every child in Ashfield of a Primary School age would be taught how to keep themselves safe in their home, in and around water along with an understanding of the consequences of making hoax calls and setting deliberate fires.
- 2.10 The dedicated classroom at the Fire Station has Graffiti style pictures depicting Safety images which assist the children in their understanding of the subject. The images have been coloured by the children themselves to give them 'ownership' of the issues raised during the input.
- 2.11 'Mini Beasting' takes place in the Stations own woodland. The children are encouraged to discover the plants and wildlife which exist all around them – and the consequences if they deliberately set fire to grasslands.

### **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The overall budget for the Risky Rooms resource is contained within the Retained Community Safety budget. The Ashfield 'SWAN' project has been developed through local donations with minimal direct cost to the Authority

### **4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS**

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

## **5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

An equality impact assessment has not been undertaken because this report is presented to Members to make them aware of the educational activities undertaken through the SWAN project and Risky Rooms, and does not seek to change policy or procedures.

## **6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

There are no crime and disorder implications arising from this report

## **7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 places specific duties upon the Service to provide community safety education. This report identifies unique ways in which station facilities are utilised to achieve that aim.

## **8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

The Service has a statutory obligation around community engagement and risk reduction. An inability to demonstrate engagement with key risk groups could incur adverse scrutiny to the Service should incidents occur.

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Members note the contents of this report and continue to support the creative ways in which the resources of the Authority are used to educate young people and reduce risk.

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

None.

Frank Swann  
**CHIEF FIRE OFFICER**