

meeting	<b>NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY</b>	
	<b>POLICY &amp; STRATEGY COMMITTEE</b>	
date	<b>22 November 2006</b>	agenda item number

## **REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER**

### **EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL MANAGEMENT BOARD (EMRMB)**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To inform Members of the Policy and Strategy Committee of the proposals of the EMRMB for its priorities and budget setting for 2007/08 and the implications for this Authority.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

Within the terms of the Regional Management Board (EMRMB) Agreement and Standing Orders, the Board is required to agree a draft budget each year and submit it to the constituent authorities. The Board met on 12 October 2006 to consider its budget for 2007/08.

#### **3. EMRMB BUSINESS PLAN PRIORITIES AND BUDGET 2007/08**

- 3.1 The EMRMB has an annual business planning process and has established key priorities. Within those priorities are the following : Regional Control Centre, Firelink, Integrated Common Services and Procurement. Those priorities will continue into 2007/08.
- 3.2 There are a number of emerging planning and budget issues arising from the workload being programme managed on behalf of the EMRMB or by the Board on behalf of the constituent authorities through collaborative arrangements. Regional Assessment and Development Centres and Recruitment are examples of collaborative working.
- 3.3 The Policy and Strategy Committee is asked to consider the implications of regional working in 2007/08 and beyond, and its potential impact on Nottinghamshire in terms of finance and resources.
- 3.4 Based on the 2006/07 EMRMB budget, it is proposed to set a budget for 2007/08 which is increased by 3%, giving an annual budget of £722,750. That in turn will result in an individual constituent authority budget of £144,550. The EMRMB budget covers the operational costs associated with the management of the RMB as well as workstream project managers.
- 3.5 In addition to the direct costs associated with the EMRMB as outlined above, there are a number of activities associated with areas of work that will require to be built into the planning and budget assumptions for Nottinghamshire. There is however an element of uncertainty as to the actual costs of that work and the degree to which New Burdens funding from the Government may offset the full impact.

- 3.6 The Regional Control Centre project for example, has within it aspects relating to the convergence of operational systems and procedures, required to enable regionally based mobilising. Some work is considered to be within the scope of the project whilst others are not and will require additional resources to deliver. The Firelink project will contain additional components for individual Services to select and finance according to their own needs.
- 3.7 A separate paper on this agenda covers aspects of the financial issues associated with EMRMB issues as described above. At this stage it can only be based on estimates provided by those managing regional projects. Estimates should mature in the coming weeks.
- 3.8 Members, and Officers who support the EMRMB and its Workstreams, will need to monitor the development of the regional priorities in the weeks leading up to the Authority's final budget setting meeting. The Authority will also need to ensure that its Community Safety Plan reflects regional working and local priorities and their implications.

#### **4. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no personnel implications arising directly from this report. Issues arising from regional and local priorities together with any personnel implications arising from them will be contained in subsequent reports.

#### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Financial implications arising from this report are contained in a separate report to this Committee.

#### **6. EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

There are no equalities issues arising from this report.

#### **7. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

There are risks associated with the Authority's ability to identify and contain resources required to manage both regional and local priorities.

#### **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Members:

- (i) Consider the implications of this report, in conjunction with the separate 2007/08 budget papers.
- (ii) Request further papers from Officers detailing additional information relating to EMRMB and regional projects, in order to refine the Authority's budget for presentation in February 2007.

## 9. BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION

- EMRMB Report 12 October 2006

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