



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Fire & Rescue Service
Creating Safer Communities

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham
Fire and Rescue Authority
Policy and Strategy Committee

ELECTED MEMBERS WORKSHOP

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

Agenda Item No:

Date:

Purpose of Report: 30 January 2009

To seek approval from Members for attendance on an Elected Members Workshop organised by the Centre for Leadership for up three Members of the Fire and Rescue Authority.

CONTACT OFFICER

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority is committed to providing efficient, economical and effective services. The Authority's vision is to deliver a safer Nottinghamshire by putting safety at the heart of the Community. Elected Members are integral to achieving the Authority's vision, the Authority's strategic objectives and the delivery of high quality services. The Authority is committed to supporting the development of all Elected Members to enable them to perform effectively in their current role and to develop to meet future challenges.
- 1.2 A flexible approach to the delivery of training and development has been adopted to make full use of the different training and development methods available and meet the needs of all Members. One of these development methods is to give Members access to externally available development opportunities that are relevant to their existing Authority roles.
- 1.3 The National Fire and Rescue Service Learning and Development Strategy for England (LDS), published in November 2005, introduced the concept of a Centre for Leadership (CFL) for the Fire and Rescue Service (FRS). The main purpose of the FRS Centre for Leadership is to support the development of leadership skills and capacity for FRS professional managers and elected members, and support performance improvement.
- 1.4 The establishment of the FRS Centre for Leadership in April 2006 puts fire and rescue on par with other public services such as the police, schools, defence and NHS. The Local Government Leadership Centre (LGLC), Local Government Association (LGA), Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA), Chief Fire Officers Association (CFOA) and the Employers Organisation were all supportive of the principle of an FRS focused Centre for Leadership.
- 1.5 Based on extensive research and development in close consultation with the FRS, the LGA and CFOA, the CFL has developed the National Leadership Programme (NLP), which supports a four year development strategy and aims to foster the effective development of leadership across all levels and in all sectors within the Fire and Rescue Service. The programme offers access to a wide range of resources including the Aspire Leadership Model Toolkit, the newly developed flagship Executive Leadership Programme for future brigade managers, a Virtual Learning Resource Centre, and web resources and supporting workbooks.

2. REPORT

- 2.1 The Centre for Leadership recognises that the Government's Modernisation Agenda has had major impacts on the structures, resource utilisation, performance management, and human resource activities within the Fire and Rescue Service in the UK. In addition to developing the leadership skills of

Fire and Rescue Authority members, the Centre for Leadership programme addresses many of the current challenges still facing the Fire and Rescue Service. It also provides a unique opportunity for Elected Members to develop their understanding of governance issues and responsibilities for managing a modern Fire and Rescue Service, and to network with other Elected Members and portfolio holders from different Fire and Rescue Authorities.

2.2 The Centre for Leadership programme will be a three day weekend course starting on Friday 27 March 2009 at lunchtime and finishing at lunchtime on Sunday 29 March 2009, based at the National Fire Service College. The programme will be based on a series of workshops which will include input from a number of Chief Fire Officers and subject experts from the appropriate government agencies. The input sessions will be followed by facilitated discussions on key themes. The programme includes:

- National Agendas: Shaping the Role of Fire and Rescue Authorities;
- Developing people for leading a modern Emergency Service;
- The role of the Fire and Rescue Authority in the effective use of resources;
- Participation in an Emergency Response Exercise : a political perspective;
- Key note speaker at the Saturday evening dinner.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of the programme is £500 per delegate, which includes two nights accommodation at the Fire Service College, evening meals on the Friday and Saturday evenings, and lunch on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. These costs can be contained within the existing Member development budget.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority is committed to modernisation and high performance. The Authority is also committed to high standards in learning and development. Alongside the evolving role of Officers, Members are also being given the opportunity to develop in their roles within the Fire and Rescue Authority. Attendance on this programme further displays the commitment of the Authority in ensuring Members have access to adequate training and development opportunities to better enable them to engage with their communities through their role on the Fire and Rescue Authority.

5. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The initial equality impact assessment is attached as Appendix A and indicates that there are no equality issues related to this report.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

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

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Under the provisions of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 the Fire and Rescue Authority have a legal duty for the provision of a Fire Service.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

By undertaking training and development as part of their role Members of the Fire and Rescue Authority will be suitably aware of the specific issues affecting the Service on an national scale and will be able to react to risks at a local level.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members agree attendance on this programme for up to three members of the Fire and Rescue Authority.

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

None.

Frank Swann
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

Initial Equality Impact Assessment Questionnaire

This questionnaire will enable you to decide whether or not the new or proposed policy or service needs to go through a full Equality Impact Assessment.

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| Title of policy or service Elected Members Workshop | | | | | | |
| Name of Employee completing assessment: Mark Mortimore | | | | Department and Section: Command Suite | | |
| 1. State the purpose and aims of the policy or service. To make Authority Members aware of a development programme taking place at the Fire Service College in March 2009. | | | | | | |
| 2. Who is responsible for implementing it? Strategic Support Officer. | | | | | | |
| 3. Who is likely to be disproportionately affected by the proposal? People from which of the equality strands? (please tick) | | | | | | |
| Age | Disability | Family Status | Gender | Race | Sexual Orientation | Religion or Belief |
| | | | | | | |
| 4. If no boxes are ticked – there is no need to continue the EIA | | | | | | |