



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

**POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

of meeting held on **4 FEBRUARY 2011** at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge from 10.04 am to 11.50 am.

**Membership**

Councillor D Pulk (Chair)  
Councillor B Cooper  
Councillor B Cross  
Councillor T Pettengell  
Councillor K Rigby  
Councillor M Wood

Members absent are marked ^

**19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

**20 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interests were made.

**21 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meeting held on 29 October 2010, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair;

**22 BUSINESS CONTINUITY MANAGEMENT**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, giving a summary of the Audit Commission report, dated September

2010 on business continuity management in the Fire and Rescue Service. Nottinghamshire and the City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Service's business continuity arrangements had been deemed to be satisfactory and would continue to be reviewed and reported on.

## **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the findings of the Audit Commission report be noted and accepted;**
- (2) that the Chief Fire Officer and his team be tasked with the provision and maintenance of business continuity arrangements;**
- (3) that a report be submitted annually to the Performance Monitoring Committee, updating the Committee on business continuity arrangements.**

## **23 SECTIONS 13 AND 16 FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES ACT 2004**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, updating members on the detailed provisions of sections 13 and 16 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 and how the Chief Fire Officer may seek to engage with neighbouring Services under the provisions. Section 13 obliged fire and rescue authorities to group together, so far as practicable to provide mutual assistance and section 16 extended the power of fire and rescue authorities to enter into contractual arrangements with others to provide services in the execution of their functions. Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City Fire and Rescue Service had some longstanding arrangements with its neighbouring services that were updated following the introduction of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004.

## **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the provisions of sections 13 and 16 Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 be noted;**
- (2) that the existing delegations to the Chief Fire Officer be endorsed and the Chief Fire Officer authorised to enter into any operational arrangements with neighbouring services and that details of the delegations be included in the annual report of the scheme;**
- (3) that the Chief Fire Officer submit to a future meeting of this committee:**
  - (a) reports and updates on the processes and amendments between Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service and neighbouring services;**
  - (b) a report giving details of section 13 and section 16 arrangements currently in place.**

## **24 REGIONAL CONTROL CENTRE UPDATE**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, updating the Committee on the legacy issues arising out of the

cancellation of Fire Control on 20 December 2010 and on the actions required as a consequence of the project cancellation.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the report on the current status of the Regional Control Centre project be noted;**
- (2) that the full Fire Authority should receive further reports on:**
  - (i) the closure of the Local Authority Controlled Company and its implications (a future full Fire Authority meeting);**
  - (ii) the closure of the Regional Management Boards and its implications (25 February 2011);**
  - (iii) a proposed response from the Fire Authority to the consultation on the future of fire and rescue control services in England (25 February 2011);**
- (3) that the Chief Fire Officer be tasked with working up a strategy and recommendations for the future control service within Nottinghamshire, which should be presented to the Fire Authority at the earliest opportunity.**

**25 LOCALISM BILL**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, giving details of the Localism Bill introduced in December 2010, and in particular, the specific elements which amended the provisions of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the Fire and Rescue implications of the Localism Bill be noted ; and**
- (2) that the Chief Fire Officer submit a further report on the outcome and the implications for the Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service.**

**26 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED that the public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining item on the agenda in accordance with section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the basis that, having regard to all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.**

**27 PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated.

**RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted and the authorisation requested in section 9.2 of the report be agreed, save that the consultation referred to be with the Chair of the Authority and the Chief Fire Officer.**