



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

POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of meeting held on **12 MARCH 2012** at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge from 2.00 pm to 3.05 pm.

Membership

Councillor D Pulk (Chair)
Councillor S Fielding
Councillor E Kerry
Councillor K Rigby
Councillor D Smith
Councillor G Wheeler

Members absent are marked ^

Present as an observer - Councillor Grocock

30 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

31 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2012, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

32 FIRE AND RESCUE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR ENGLAND-CONSULTATION

Further to minute 25, dated 3 February 2012, consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated. The Chief Fire Officer reminded the meeting that under the provisions of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, the National Framework for England allowed the Government to set out its priorities for Fire and Rescue Authorities. The consultation on the proposals within the Framework began on 13 December 2011 and was due to conclude on 19 March 2012.

The Chief Fire Officer had formulated a response to the consultation document, a copy of which was attached to the report.

In regard to the draft response, Councillors agreed that further clarity be requested on the following points:

- requirements in some areas of the document which contradicted the ethos of local accountability (question 1);
- a 'must' responsibility for communicating the expectations of partner organisations (question 2) which exceeded the requirements of the Civil Contingency Act 2004;
- some elements of the document exceeding the requirements of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004;
- while Peer Reviews were considered valuable, the publication of Peer Reviews would make them external audits;
- the planned arrangements for gathering compatible performance data which would enable 'like for like' comparisons and bench marking.

RESOLVED

- 1) that the draft response to the National Framework consultation, with reference to the comments of the Committee, as above, be approved;**
- 2) that the Chief Fire Officer submit the consultation response by 19 March 2012.**

33 SECTION 13 AND 16 AGREEMENTS - 2011 UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, updating the Committee on the status and performance regarding Sections 13/16 Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 which allowed for reciprocal support to be performed between neighbouring services.

The report informed the meeting that during the year 1 January – 31 December 2011, a total of 236 incidents were attended by Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue appliances in Derbyshire, Humberside Leicestershire and South Yorkshire. In return, Nottinghamshire appliances attended a total of 87 cross county border incidents.

It was noted that currently only Derbyshire was engaged in a contractual arrangement with Nottinghamshire under Section 16 where services could charge for attending incidents across County borders. This had provided an 'income' of £21,000 in 2011.

RESOLVED that the activities undertaken by Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service under Sections 13 and 16 Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 for the calendar year 1 January - 31 December 2011 be noted.

34 PART II LOCALISM ACT 2011 – PROPOSED POLICY STATEMENT

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, making members aware of the implications of the current consultation on Part II Localism Act 2011.

RESOLVED that the current consultation on Part II Localism Act 2011 and its wider implications be noted

35 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the remaining item 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, as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

36 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2012, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

37 PRINCIPAL OFFICERS' PROVIDED CAR SCHEME

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, reporting back to the meeting on the current arrangements for the provision of provided cars for Principal Officers in pursuance of their role.

RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted.

38 STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT TEAM RE-STRUCTURE

Further to minute 28 dated 3 February 2012, consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, updating the Committee on the proposals for the Strategic Management Team re-structure in accordance with the adopted recommendations of the Fire Cover Review.

RESOLVED

- 1) that the package outlined in the report be approved for proposal to the relevant employee representative;
- 2) that the Treasurer, with the support of Human Resources and the Clerk, engage with the employee representative over the required contractual changes relating to the Gold Rota and that a final approval be sought from the Policy and Strategy Committee at its meeting on 27 April 2012;
- 3) that approval be given to the Chief Fire Officer to give notice on the secondment of the Assistant Chief Fire Officer to the North West as previously agreed by the Policy and Strategy Committee in 2010.