



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

**POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

of meeting held on **1 FEBRUARY 2013** at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge from 10.00 am to 10.27 am.

**Membership**

Councillor D Pulk (Chair)  
Councillor J Collins  
Councillor B Grocock  
Councillor E Kerry  
Councillor K Rigby  
Councillor G Wheeler

Members absent are marked ^

**15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies for absence were received.

**16 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interests were made.

**17 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2012, copies of which had been circulated at the meeting, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

**18 CONSULTATION FRAMEWORK**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, which presented the Committee with a consultation framework for all future consultations and sought approval for its adoption by the Fire Authority. The report was introduced by Frank Swann, Chief Fire Officer, who confirmed that a member led task and finish group had been convened to establish a 'Consultation Framework' at the meeting in November 2012. Following this, a draft document had been produced and with the Service due to commence consultation on its next Integrated Risk Management Plan

(IRMP) in spring 2013, adoption of the document was sought to ensure compliance and that all expectations were met.

The Committee expressed gratitude to the members of the Working Group and felt that to engage with members of the community effectively, consultation would need to tie in to a range of existing community meetings as opposed to a stand alone consultative approach.

**RESOLVED that the Consultation Framework be adopted and forwarded to the Fire Authority for formal ratification.**

## **19 FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE EFFICIENCIES REVIEW**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, which sought to update the Committee on the commencement of a Fire and Rescue Service Efficiencies Review. The report was introduced by Frank Swann, Chief Fire Officer, who reported that the outgoing Chief Fire and Rescue Advisor, Sir Ken Knight, would lead a short review into the operational efficiency of the services delivered by the Fire and Rescue Authorities in England. The review would take place from January to March and would report back to Ministers in spring 2013.

Although not intending to come to a Service in the midlands, Sir Ken Knight would be inviting input from authorities to demonstrate their efficiency savings. Fire Authorities in both Oxfordshire and Hampshire had shared their submissions detailing what the Services had done. It was reported that a similar submission could be arranged from the Authority which would need to be reported by the end of spring, the implications being that the mini-comprehensive spending review, due to be announced in spring, would include a 1 year settlement for 2015/16. The Chief Fire Officer surmised that a demonstration of the efficiencies from the Authority could influence the judgement on the grant settlement for 2015/16.

Although no guidance or relevant terms of reference had been provided with regards to participating in the review, the Committee felt that a submission of relevant bullet points was perhaps the most appropriate response at this stage.

### **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the Policy and Strategy Committee note the review being carried out by the Chief Fire and Rescue Advisor;**
- (2) that a draft response on behalf of the Authority be circulated to members for comment prior to submission.**