



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Fire & Rescue Service

Creating Safer Communities

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

CROATIAN CEREMONY OF THANKS

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

Date: 02 February 2018

Purpose of Report:

To request that Members consider the attendance of the Chief Fire Officer, Chair of the Fire Authority and the Fleet Maintenance Manager at a ceremony of thanks and plaque unveiling in Ludbreg, Croatia.

CONTACT OFFICER

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 For a number of years, the Authority has supported various voluntary operations to give an extended life to fire appliances that are considered to be at the end of their useful life within the UK, and no longer fit for purpose.
- 1.2 Since 2015 the Authority has donated four fire appliances and numerous items of obsolete equipment to Varazdin County in the Republic of Croatia. The vehicles and equipment were successfully transported by volunteers, who also took the opportunity to deliver basic training in the use of the vehicles and equipment.
- 1.3 Following the delivery of the vehicles, a delegation of Croatian fire officers visited Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS) headquarters and presented the Service with a painting of a rural setting in Croatia as a gesture of their thanks for the vehicles. Whilst here, they also took the opportunity to explain the very real difference the generosity of the Authority has made to those benefitting communities.
- 1.4 More recently, local fundraising has taken place in Croatia to enable the purchase of two more fire appliances that are being disposed of by the Service, and these are due to be transported by the volunteers in the next few months.

2. REPORT

- 2.1 In December 2017, the Chief Fire Officer received a letter from the Mayor of Ludbreg, inviting the Chair of the Fire Authority, the Chief Fire Officer and Fleet Maintenance Manager to a ceremony of thanks and unveiling of a name plate in Ludbreg Town Square. This is to officially recognise the support given by the Authority, and this report seeks approval for attendance at that ceremony.
- 2.2 The ceremony is scheduled to take place on 4 May 2018 which is internationally recognised as St Florian's Day (patron saint of firefighters). It will also coincide with the delivery of two more end of life fire appliances which will have been purchased from the Authority by monies raised by local fundraising in Varazdin County.
- 2.3 The attendance will require return flights and two-nights accommodation in Ludbreg. All travel arrangements in Croatia will be provided by the local fire service. Indicative costs at the time of writing the report are that return flights will cost approximately £430 per person, and accommodation will cost approximately £180 per person. With additional sundry expenses, it is anticipated that the total cost for the three people to attend will be approximately £2000.
- 2.4 The visit provides an excellent opportunity to develop an existing international relationship with Croatia, and further enhance the reputation of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

If approved, £2000 will be included in the 2018/19 budget for conference attendance and travel expenses in place for Members and Officers.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific human resources or learning and development implications arising from this report.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

An equality impact assessment has not been undertaken as this report does not seek to change policy or service provision.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

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

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk management implications arising from this report.

9. COLLABORATION IMPLICATIONS

There are no collaboration implications arising from this report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members approve the attendance of the Chair, Chief Fire Officer and Fleet Maintenance Manager at the ceremony in Croatia as detailed in the report.

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

None.

John Buckley
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER