



CLEVELAND FIRE AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 30 JANUARY 2009

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| PRESENT: | CHAIRMAN: Councillor Porley - Middlesbrough |
| | HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL: Councillor Payne |
| | MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL:- Councillors Clark, Ismail, Jones, Rogers, Williams |
| | REDCAR AND CLEVELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL:- Councillors Briggs, Cooney, Dunning, Forster, Ovens |
| | STOCKTON ON TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL:- Councillors Beall, Cherrett, Dixon, O'Donnell, Salt, Stoker, Woodhead |
| | PROPER OFFICERS:- Clerk, Legal Adviser, Treasurer, Deputy Clerk |
| | FIRE BRIGADE OFFICERS:- Executive Director, Assistant Director of Performance |
| APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: | Councillors Cook, Fleming, Wright (Hartlepool) Councillor Fitzpatrick (Redcar & Cleveland) |

129. **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTEREST**
It was noted that no declarations of interest were submitted to the meeting.
130. **MINUTES**
RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the Cleveland Fire Authority Meeting held on 28 November 2008 be confirmed.
131. **MINUTES OF COMMITTEES**
RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the Executive Committees held on 5 December 2008, 9 January 2009 and 16 January 2009 and the Policy Committee held on 16 January 2009 be confirmed.
132. **REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**
132.1 **Cleveland Fire Authority Draft Strategic Plan and Vision 2009/2010 to 2013/2014**
The Executive Director referred Members to the Brigade's draft Strategic Plan on the vision and strategic direction of the Authority and its Brigade for the period 2009/10 to 2013/14. The Executive Director advised this Plan tied in with the Comprehensive Spending Review and took into account the financial constraints placed on the Brigade as well as setting out what the Brigade wished to achieve by 2014.

The Executive Director gave a presentation on the Strategic Plan which outlined the key outcomes, and sought input and views from Members, in particular on the vision, values, corporate themes and underpinning ambitions and strategic objectives. Particular attention was drawn to:

- Strategic analysis including extensive consultation from local councils, CLG and independent organisations in the Cleveland area

132.1 Cleveland Fire Authority Draft Strategic Plan and Vision 2009/2010 to 2013/2014 (cont)

- What it was hoped to achieve and how this would be measured
- That Cleveland is a high performing Brigade, being recognised by FRS as being innovative and high performing
- Our partners value our influence and contribution to delivering shared services
- Our ability to reduce risk in business, industry and in the home is internationally recognised
- That Cleveland Fire Brigade is an employer of choice

The Executive Director referred to the Vision statement and the core values which inspired and motivated people to work towards achieving this vision. Members attention was drawn to Section 3, page 10 which outlined the five corporate themes which the Brigade would focus on to achieve their vision – Safer Communities, Children and Young People, Healthier Communities, Neighbourhoods and Employer of Choice. The Executive Director expanded on each Corporate Theme, as well as the three Cross Cutting Themes, namely Partnerships, Diversity and Improvement and Value for Money.

Councillor Forster commented that it was an excellent service delivered to a high standard encompassing the Core Values of PRIDE.

Councillor Briggs asked for an update on the expansion of the Co-responder Service. The Executive Director confirmed that it was still hoped to roll out The Co-responder Scheme but that it involved national negotiations as the duties had been deemed to be outside the role of a Fire Fighter and therefore would be subject to additional payments.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the draft Strategic Plan 2009/10-2013/14 for consultation be approved**
- (ii) That the consultation programme for the draft Strategic Plan 2009/10-2013/14 and the consultation summary document be approved**
- (iii) that Members noted that a report outlining the consultation feedback on the draft Strategic Plan 2009/10-2013/14 will be taken to the Policy Committee for Members' consideration on 6 March 2009 prior to a final draft of the Strategic Plan 2009/10-2013/14 being submitted for approval to the Fire Authority on 27 March 2009. If approved, the Plan will be published on 1 April 2009**

132.2 Review of the Cleveland Fire Authority Integrated Risk Management Plan 2008/2011

The Executive Director updated Members on the progress and outcomes of the CFA IRMP 2008/2011.

Regarding the IRMP Review from 2009/10 onwards, the Executive Director informed Members that the Department for Communities and Local Government's FRS National Framework 2008/11 states that each FRS must produce a publicly available IRMP covering at least a three year time span which is regularly reviewed and revised. It also stated that the IRMP should be consulted upon during its development and at all review stages. He reported that the Brigade's SMT had reviewed the IRMP 2008/11 and felt that this current Plan should continue to be progressed and refreshed only to reflect updates to the delivery of community safety issues. It was agreed that the refresh of the IRMP 2008/11 would include an update on existing major projects i.e. the North East Regional Control Centre; Firelink; Equality and Diversity; and the Brigade's Asset Management Strategy. In addition, following evaluation of the effectiveness of current arrangements for delivering services, the

132.2 Review of the Cleveland Fire Authority Integrated Risk Management Plan 2008/2011 (cont)

Plan should provide further actions for the development of the risk reduction programme for road traffic collisions; resilience planning; the development of the performance framework relating to Comprehensive Area Assessment and addressing our environmental impact.

Members noted the contents of the report.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that Members noted the progress of the IRMP 2008-2011
- (ii) that Members agreed the proposals regarding the IRMP Review 2009/2010 i.e. that, in light of its main intentions to deliver savings, a fundamental review of the IRMP 2008/2011 was not necessary
- (iii) that Members agreed the proposals that the current IRMP 2008/2011 should continue to be progressed and refreshed only to reflect updates to the delivery of community safety services
- (iv) that Members agreed the proposals that the refresh of the IRMP 2008/2011 should include an update on existing major projects i.e. the North East Regional Control Centre; Firelink; Equality & Diversity; sprinkler systems and the Brigade's Asset Management Strategy. In addition, it should provide actions for further development of the risk reduction programme for road traffic collisions; resilience planning; the development of a performance framework relating to Comprehensive Area Assessment and addressing our environmental impact
- (v) that Members agreed the proposals that in light of the extensive consultation associated with the existing IRMP 2008/2011 that there are no requirements for further consultation
- (vi) that Members noted consultation will continue to be undertaken as part of the process for considering the existing savings proposal in the IRMP 2008/2011 and as necessary on proposal implementation
- (vii) that Members noted that, following the refresh, it was proposed to bring the revised IRMP 2008/2011 to CFA Policy Committee on 6 March 2009, for consideration and to the Fire Authority for approval on 27 March 2009

132.3 Information Pack

132.3.1 Fire & Rescue Service Circulars

132.3.2 National Joint Circulars

132.3.3 C & G Fire & Rescue Equality & Diversity Awards 2009

132.3.4 Long Service & Good Conduct Medal

132.3.5 North East Regional Management Board – 20 January 2009

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

133. NE FIRE CONTROL COMPANY BOARD UPDATE - LACC

Councillor Forster updated Members on the RMB Delegation to Fire Minister Sadiq Khan MP on 21 January 2009. She commented that the Delegation was welcomed warmly by the Minister and was very informative. Councillor Forster thanked the Treasurer for his valued contribution at the delegation. Councillor Forster highlighted that the introduction of Regional Control Centres was to improve national resilience and the safety of the people of this Country was paramount.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

134. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY CHAIRS INFORMATION PACK

The Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee outlined to Members the Partnership Framework Local Area Agreements and Youth Development which were scrutinised at their meeting on 16 January 2009

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

135. AUDIT & GOVERNANCE CHAIRS INFORMATION PACK

The Chair of the Audit & Governance Committee informed Members that the following reports were presented and scrutinised at the meeting held on 23 January 2009:

- 2nd Quarter Local Area Agreement Performance Report April-September 2008
- 2nd Quarter Executive Directors Summary Report April –September 2008
- Quarterly update on Co-responder Activity Levels
- Comprehensive Area Assessment
- Direction of Travel & Use of Resources Assessment & Arrangements for 2008 Fire & Rescue Performance Assessment

Referring to Co-responder, Councillor Dunning requested comparison attendance times of the Ambulance Service and the Fire Brigade. The Executive Director stated that all calls received are tracked highlighting the arrival difference between the Brigade and the Ambulance Service and whilst the claim could not be made that we have saved lives we are able via Co-responder to ensure that we can provide oxygen and assurance to the patient.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

136. REPORTS OF THE CLERK TO THE AUTHORITY

136.1 Climate Change Conference – 10 February 2009

The Clerk sought Members confirmation regarding the attendance of Councillor Forster, the Environmental Footprint Champion, at the CFOA Innovations Conference on Climate Change to be held on 10 February 2009 in Manchester.

RESOLVED – that Members confirmed Councillor Forster’s attendance at the CFOA Innovations Conference on Climate Change to be held on 10 February 2009 at the City of Manchester Stadium.

137. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

137.1 Appointment by CFA Chair of a Fire Brigade Chaplain

The Executive Director informed Members of the potential for provision of a Fire Brigade Chaplaincy Service. The provision of a Chaplaincy Service within the Brigade would be for anyone who wished to access the Service. The intention of the Service is to ensure that all staff (and their families) have confidential and independent support regardless of their faith or non faith. The Chaplaincy Service in time may comprise of local clergy, religious leaders or pastoral counsellors who may form an interdenominational team.

Councillor Forster expressed her approval of such a service but highlighted the need for the Service to be multi-faith.

137.1 Appointment by CFA Chair of a Fire Brigade Chaplain (cont)

The Chair proposed and Members agreed that Father Glynn Holland of All Saints Church, Middlesbrough be approached regarding being part of the Chaplaincy Service with the Brigade.

RESOLVED: –

- (i) that the contents of the report are noted**
- (ii) that Cleveland Fire Brigade should provide a Chaplaincy Service**
- (iii) that the appointment of the Fire Brigade Chaplain be made by the Chair and be linked to the tenure of the Chair**
- (iv) that Father Glynn Holland of All Saints Church, Middlesbrough be approached in this regard**

138. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) (VARIATION ORDER) 2006

RESOLVED - “That under Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs below of Part 1 Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006,

Minute No. 139 - Paragraphs 1 and 3

Minute No. 140 – Exec Minutes Paragraph 1, Policy Minutes Paragraph 3

Minute No. 141 – Paragraph 3a

Minute No 142 – Paragraph 1

Paragraph 1 – namely information relating to any individual

Paragraph 3 – namely information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority) holding that information

Paragraph 3a – namely information furnished to the Authority by a government department upon terms (however expressed) which forbids the disclosure of the information to the public

139. CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the Confidential Minutes of the Cleveland Fire Authority meeting held on 28 November 2008 be confirmed.

140. CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

RESOLVED – that the Confidential Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 5 December 2008, 9 January 2009 and 16 January 2009 and the Policy Committee Meeting held on 16 January 2009 be confirmed.

141. CONFIDENTIAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Direction of Travel, Use of Resources Assessment and Arrangements for 2008 Fire and Rescue Performance Assessment

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

142. CONFIDENTIAL REPORT OF THE CLERK
142.1 Brigade Managers Review

Members considered the recommendations within the report.

COUNCILLOR PETER PORLEY
CHAIRMAN