

**AGENDA ITEM:**

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>MERSEYSIDE FIRE &amp; RESCUE AUTHORITY MEETING</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>27<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2010</b>
<b>REPORT NO.</b>	<b>CFO/093/10</b>
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	<b>ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE &amp; TREASURER</b>
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>PHIL WEBSTER, DIRECTOR OF ESTATES, EXTN 4515</b>
<b>OFFICERS CONSULTED:</b>	<b>SIMON MANSFIELD, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER EXTN 4421</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>REVISED ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY</b>

**APPENDIX A TITLE: ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY 2010 V1.0**

**ATTACHED – HARD COPY**

Purpose of Report

1. To request that Members approve the revised Environmental Policy of Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority (“The Authority”).

Recommendation

2. That Members:
  - (a) Approve the revised Environmental Policy of the Authority;
  - (b) Authorise the signing of the Policy by the Chair of the Authority and the Chief Executive & Chief Fire Officer.

Introduction & Background

3. The Authority is required to produce an Environmental Policy, under the guidelines set out under our ISO14001:2004 accreditation. It is also an important part of managing a ‘greener’ fire service.
4. The policy sets the level of environmental responsibility and performance required of the organisation, against which all subsequent actions will be judged. The policy should be appropriate to the environmental impacts of the organisation’s activities, products and services and should guide the setting of objectives and targets. (Extract from BS ISO 14004:2004: Environmental Management Systems – General guidelines on principles, systems and support techniques).

5. The Authority has maintained and regularly updated its Environmental Policy.
6. The latest update ensures the Authority complies with the principles required by ISO 14001:2004:
  - Comply with/exceed environmental legal requirements;
  - Prevent pollution;
  - Achieve continual improvement through the development of environmental performance evaluation procedures and associated indicators;
  - Minimise any significant adverse environmental impacts of new developments;
  - Set an example of leadership in the field of environmental management.

#### Equality & Diversity Implications

7. There are no direct impacts associated with this Environmental Policy. However, individual related policies (e.g. Travel Hierarchy Policy) may pose a perceived inequality under disability or religion categories, which is addressed with Full Equality Impact Assessments and submission to Diversity Action Group as and when produced.

#### Financial Implications & Value for Money

8. The Authority has committed £100K per annum for environmental matters.

#### Health & Safety and Environmental Implications

9. The Environmental Policy itself does not represent any risks to health and safety, however, related work and projects (e.g. cycling at work) may pose a safety risk, which is addressed with risk assessments and approval from the Health and Safety Team as and when needed.
10. This policy will facilitate the opportunity to reduce our environmental impacts and carbon emissions in accordance with 2013 carbon reduction targets of 30% from 2007/08 baseline.

#### Contribution to Achieving the Vision:

“To Make Merseyside a Safer, Stronger, Healthier Community”

11. The Authority already has a good reputation for high levels of environmental awareness, protection and mitigation. This policy will build on this further by reaffirming our own commitment and our wish to influence others and work with partners.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Environmental Policy 2010 v1.0

### **\*Glossary of Terms**

EMAS: Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (Highest level of Environmental Management System accreditation – higher than ISO14001)

ISO14001:2004 International Standards Organisation's accreditation for Environmental Management Systems (a system for identifying and managing all environmental impacts of an organisation)