

AGENDA ITEM:

REPORT TO:	MERSEYSIDE FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY MEETING
DATE:	27TH MAY 2010
REPORT NO.	CFO/098/10
REPORTING OFFICER:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE & CHIEF FIRE OFFICER
CONTACT OFFICER:	DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE & DEPUTY CHIEF FIRE OFFICER
OFFICERS CONSULTED:	
SUBJECT:	SHANGHAI WORLD EXPO AND WORLD FIREFIGHTER GAMES 2010

THERE ARE NO APPENDICES TO THIS REPORT

Purpose of Report

1. The promotion of health and wellbeing both amongst our staff and the local community improve the effectiveness of our Service. This report considers Authority support for the above events.

Recommendation

2. That Members consider how they wish to support the Service's attendance at the 2010 World Expo in Shanghai and the 2010 World Firefighter Games in Daegu, South Korea.

Background

3. Members will be aware from the previous Authority meeting, held on 17th September 2009 (CFO/195/09) that Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service (MFRS) is being represented at the above events by sporting teams. The football team are playing a Shanghai team before defending their champion's title in Daegu and the tug-of-war team is defending their Gold Medal in Daegu.
4. Members will be aware of the fantastic national and international support given to our 2008 World Firefighter Games from Fire and Rescue Services throughout the world. It seems fitting, therefore, that we should reciprocate to ensure the 2010 event is a success.

5. The World Expo is underway in Shanghai and the representation by Liverpool City Region has been well received. Attendance by MFRS is welcome and should create opportunities for the Service whilst enhancing their reputation as a world leading Fire and Rescue Service. In previous years, events such as this may have attracted a delegation from MFRS of Members and Officers. It is thought that Members may feel that it is inappropriate given the uncertainty around Government funding for local government pending an emergency budget and comprehensive spending review. Members are asked to consider, therefore, solely sending one representative without additional Officers to promote the Service and provide visible leadership and support to MFRS teams.

Equality & Diversity Implications

6. None arising out of this report.

Financial Implications & Value for Money

7. The Authority has previously committed £5k to support MFRS attendance with the rest of the monies (£40k) being raised through sponsorship and personal contribution. The attendance of a Member would cost approximately £2k which can be met from the existing Member travel budget.

Health & Safety and Environmental Implications

8. None arising out of this report.

Contribution to Achieving the Vision:

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

9. MF&RS attendance at both events will demonstrate the self confidence of an organisation that continues to invest in it's staff and their ideas to help make Merseyside a Safer, Stronger, Healthier Community.