

**MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**  
**20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2012**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** **Councillors Dave Hanratty (Chair)**, Les Byrom, Linda Maloney, Andrew Blackburn, Lesley Rennie, Vi Bebb, Darren Dodd, John Joseph Kelly, Pat Moloney, Barbara Murray, Steve Niblock, Denise Roberts, Roy Gladden, Tony Newman, Jimmy Mahon and Robbie Ayres.

**Apologies for absence were received from:** Councillors Ted Grannell and Sharon Sullivan.

**1. Preliminary Matters**

The Authority considered the identification of declarations of interest, any items of business which the Chair has determined should be considered as matters of urgency, and any items that require the exclusion of the press and public due to the possibility of disclosing exempt information.

- a) there were no declarations of interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the agenda;
- b) there were no additional items of business which the Chair determined to be considered as matters of urgency;
- c) there were no items of business which required the exclusion of the press and public due to the possible disclosure of exempt information.

**2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the previous meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2012 were approved as a correct record and signed accordingly by the Chair.

**3. Proposed Revised Report Template For Performance And Scrutiny Committee Reports  
(CFO/154/12)**

Members considered Report CFO/154/12 of the Clerk To The Authority concerning the recommendation of the Performance & Scrutiny Committee to implement a revised report template for use with all future Performance & Scrutiny Committee reports.

Resolved that:

the revised report template be approved for implementation.

**4. Outcomes From The Operational Assessment Peer Challenge – November 2012  
(CFO/165/12)**

Members considered Report CFO/165/12 of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer concerning the outcomes from the Operational Assessment Peer Challenge, which took place from 19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2012.

Resolved that:

- (a) the outcomes of the Operational Assessment Peer Challenge 2012, be noted; and
- (b) any recommendations within the full report, be transposed into an action plan, with progress against the action plan being considered by the Performance & Scrutiny Committee on behalf of the Authority.
- (c) thanks and appreciation be recorded to Officers for their work with this.

**5. Provision Of Automatic External Defibrillators  
(CFO/166/12)**

Members considered Report CFO/166/12 of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer concerning the procurement and provision of Automatic External Defibrillators at each of the Authority's Community Fire Stations, Service Headquarters and on each of its front line appliances.

Members requested training on how to use Defibrillators.

It was noted that this was already being progressed through the Member Development Group.

Resolved that:

- (a) the procurement and provision of Automatic External Defibrillators for each Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority Community Fire Station and front line fire appliance, be approved.
- (b) Entry into partnership with the British Heart foundation for the provision of these Automatic External Defibrillators, be approved.

## 6. Local Government Finance Settlement 2014 - Presentation

***There was no supporting report to this presentation as information regarding the settlement was only released on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2012.***

The Authority were provided with a presentation regarding the Local Government Finance Settlement 2014, by the Deputy Chief Executive Officer.

Members were advised that full information regarding the settlement for individual authorities, including Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority, had not been received to date, therefore the information provided was based on a number of assumptions and were possibly subject to change.

The presentation re-capped on the financial position for years 2011/12 and 2012/13 and highlighted the assumptions made for the purposes of planning for years 2013/14 and 2014/15.

The Deputy Chief Executive Officer explained the announcement, in terms of Grant figures, Capital Grants, Council Tax and changes to the funding scheme for Local Government and highlighted likely implications for Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority, in terms of required savings.

### Resolved that:

- (a) The content of the presentation be noted;
- (b) Officers be instructed to look at a number of budget options, to bring to the forthcoming Strategy Days for discussion;
- (c) The Chair, Vice –Chair’s and Party Leaders meet over the forthcoming weeks to discuss various savings options;
- (d) There be full support to continue Cross- Party lobbying, in order to try to minimise the amount of savings required;
- (e) A meeting between the Chair, Vice-Chair’s, the Chief Fire Officer and Merseyside MP’s to discuss the potential impact of the cuts on the public, be noted;
- (f) All Members endeavour to make themselves available for the forthcoming Strategy Days on the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013; and
- (g) Members and Officers involved in the lobbying process be thanked on behalf of the Authority for all their efforts.

Close

Next Meeting: 12<sup>th</sup> February 2013