

**MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY
AUTHORITY MEETING
21ST JULY 2011**

PRESENT: Councillors Tony Newman (Chair), Dave Hanratty, Denise Roberts, Sharon Sullivan, Les Byrom, Colin Strickland, Violet Bebb, Steve Niblock, Barbara Murray, Linda Maloney, Leslie Rennie, Terry Jones, Ian Lewis, Eddie Clein and Andrew Blackburn

ALSO PRESENT: Independent Member Carol Roberts

**Apologies of absence were received from
Councillors Ted Grannell, Robbie Ayres and
Jimmy Mahon**

At the start of the meeting, the Assistant Chief Executive & Treasurer provided Members with an update on progress regarding the Firefit Hub in Toxteth. Members were informed that following the lobbying process, the Government Grant of £2.3 million has now been approved with work on site commencing in the next few days with completion expected by May 2012.

Members requested that their thanks be noted and passed on to all Officers involved.

1. Preliminary Matters

The Authority considered if there were any declarations of interest, matters of urgency or items that may require the exclusion of the press and public due to disclosure of exempt information.

- (a) there were no declarations of interest made in relation to any item of business on the agenda.
- (b) there were no additional items of business determined as a matter of urgency.
- (c) one item of business on the agenda required the exclusion of the press and public due to the disclosure of exempt information.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 30th June were submitted as a correct record and signed accordingly by the Chair.

3. Review of MACC
(CFO/071/11)

Members considered Report CFO/071/11 of the Deputy Chief Executive & Deputy Chief Fire Officer concerning the implementation of a revised duty system for the Mobilising and Communication Centre (MACC).

Councillor Clein asked in relation to contractual leave if the Chief Executive & Chief Fire Officer could confirm that the Authority could meet the commitments without legal challenge.

The Chief Executive & Chief Fire Officer confirmed that he had received no data to indicate that the Authority could not meet the commitments of the three proposals contained within the report.

Following consideration of the Report the proposals contained within went to the vote:

14 Members voted in favour of the proposals
0 Members voted against the proposals.
1 Member abstained

Members resolved that:

- (a) implementation of the revised duty system for MACC be approved.
- (b) a 12 week period of negotiation regarding any contractual issues that relate to this decision be approved.
- (c) Individuals currently working self rostering systems, be invited to attend a future meeting to answer any questions which Members may wish to ask.

4. Review of Group Manager and Station Manager Posts
(CFO/072/11)

Members considered Report CFO/072/11 of the Deputy Chief Executive & Deputy Chief Fire Officer concerning a reduction in the number of Station Managers/Group Managers.

Members resolved that:

- (a) A reduction in the number of Group Managers from 10-8 be approved
- (b) A reduction in the number of Station Mangers from 20-16 be approved and
- (c) A period of negotiation with representative bodies (12 weeks) to address any contractual issues arising from this decision be approved.

5. Review of Marine Rescue
(CFO/073/11)

Members considered Report CFO/073/11 of the Assistant Chief Fire Officer concerning the implementation in principle of the of the revised duty system for the Marine Rescue Team.

Members Resolved that:

- (a) the implementation in principle of the duty system recommended within this report be approved.
- (b) Officers be instructed to enter into negotiation with the representative bodies and individual employees as appropriate with a view to reaching agreement over terms and conditions.

6. Dynamic Reserve
(CFO/074/11)

Members considered Report CFO/074/11 of the Deputy Chief Executive & Deputy Chief Fire Officer concerning the Dynamic Reserve strategy.

Following consideration of the report the proposals contained within went to the vote:

14 Members voted in favour of the proposals
1 member voted against the proposals

Members resolved that:

- (a) the dynamic management of our operational resources be approved in order to be more efficient whilst continuing to meet the ambitious Authority emergency response targets through the use of the Dynamic Reserve.
- (b) the contribution this approach makes in delivering a significant part of the Authority's budget strategy be noted.
- (c) the extended use of the dynamic reserve by two further support appliances to enable flexibility to help the Authority to avoid compulsory Fire Fighter redundancies be approved.
- (d) statistics regarding response times following implementation of the dynamic reserve be reported regularly to the IRMP Scrutiny Panel for close scrutiny and monitoring, to ensure response standards are being maintained.

7. Safeguarding Policy
(CFO/078/11)

Members considered Report CFO/078/11 of the Assistant Chief Fire Officer concerning Merseyside Fire & Rescue Services' Child Protection Policy.

Members resolved that:

- (a) the contents of the Report be noted.
- (b) the adoption of the Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service Safeguarding Policy which includes safeguarding adults and children, be agreed.

8. Review of and Appointment of Member Sponsors
(CFO/078/11)

Members considered Report CFO/078/11 of the Assistant Chief Executive & Treasurer concerning a review of the Member Sponsor Roles.

Members Resolved that:

- (a) the revised Sponsor Roles, including the introduction of a Youth Engagement Sponsor Role be approved.
- (b) the nominated Member Sponsors be assigned to the designated Sponsor Roles, as per the Member Development Groups recommendations.

Close

Date of the Next Meeting: Tuesday 27th September 2011