

**SOCIAL GROWTH AND LOCALISM SUB-COMMITTEE**

**OF THE**

**MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2012**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Councillors Barbara Murray (Chair), John Kelly, Tony Newman, Darren Dodd (as alternate for Roy Gladden) and Pat Moloney (as alternate for Lesley Rennie).

**Also Present:** Councillors Dave Hanratty, Linda Maloney and Les Byrom

**Apologies for absence were received from:** Councillors Roy Gladden, Lesley Rennie, Andrew Blackburn and Denise Roberts.

**1. Preliminary Matters**

The Authority considered if there were any declarations of interest, matters of urgency or items that required the exclusion of the press and public.

- (a) The following declaration of interest was made by Members in relation to items of business on the agenda:
  - Cllr Darren Dodd declared a personal interest in *Items 4 – Wirral Safe Haven Project* and *5 – Wirral Fire Community Safety Officers (FCSO's)*, due to being a Member of Wirral Council.
- (b) There were no additional items determined as a matter of urgency.
- (c) There were no items on the agenda that required the exclusion of the press or public due to the disclosure of exempt information.

**2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

As this was the first meeting of the Social Growth and Localism Sub-Committee there were no previous minutes submitted for approval and signature.

**3. Firefit Update Report 2012/13**  
(CFO/118/12)

Members considered the contents of the report CFO/118/12 of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer concerning the continued development of Fire Fit activity across Merseyside for the year 2012/13.

Members resolved that

the contents of the report be noted.

**4. Wirral Safe Haven Project**  
(CFO/122/12)

Members considered the contents of the report CFO/122/12 of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer concerning the proposal for Wirral Community Fire Stations to be recognised as Safe Havens.

Members resolved that

the establishment of a Wirral Safe Haven Project which will establish all 6 Community Fire Stations in Wirral as a "Safe Haven", be approved.

**5. Wirral Fire Community Safety Officers (FCSO's)**  
(CFO/121/12)

Members considered the contents of the report CFO/121/12 of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer concerning Wirral Fire Community Safety Officers.

Members resolved that

the contents of the report be noted

**Other Items Of Business Raised By The Chair**

- **Potential For Providing ICT Training On Community Fire Station To Individuals Affected By The Welfare Reform Act 2012**

The Chair of the Sub-Committee informed Members of the need for many individuals across Merseyside to receive ICT Training and have access to ICT facilities, as a result of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 and its emphasis on digital inclusion.

The Chair sought views from Members regarding the possibility of providing ICT training on Community Fire Stations for such individuals.

Members resolved that:

A report be submitted to the Community Protection Committee on the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2012, highlighting possible contributions that Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority could make in this area.

- **Promotion Of Foster Carers**

The Chair of the Sub-Committee sought views from Members regarding the possibility of promoting foster caring internally amongst Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority staff.

Members resolved that:

- (a) The Director of Prevention & Protection be requested to discuss with the Director of People & Organisational Development on how best to promote this.
- (b) The possibility of including an article within the “Hotnews” publication regarding this, be considered by Officers.

Close

Date of the next meeting: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2012