

To: All Members of the Authority



J. Henshaw
LLB (Hons)
Clerk to the Authority

Tel: 0151 296 4000
Extn: 4112 Helen Peek

Your ref:

Our ref HP/NP

Date: 25 April 2014

Dear Sir/Madam,

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **AUTHORITY** to be held at **1.00 pm** on **TUESDAY, 6TH MAY, 2014** in the Community Room at Birkenhead Fire Station, Exmouth Street, Birkenhead, CH41 4NF, Exmouth Street, Birkenhead, CH41 4NF.

Yours faithfully,

Clerk to the Authority

Encl.

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MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

AUTHORITY

6 MAY 2014

AGENDA

1. Preliminary Matters

The Authority is requested to consider the identification of:

- a) declarations of interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the Agenda
- b) any additional items of business which the Chair has determined should be considered as matters of urgency; and
- c) items of business which may require the exclusion of the press and public during consideration thereof because of the possibility of the disclosure of exempt information.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 1 - 18)

The Minutes of the previous meeting of the Authority, held on 27th February 2014, are submitted for approval as a correct record and for signature by the Chair.

MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE CHAIR OF THE AUTHORITY

3. Coach Safety & Prevention of Road Traffic Accidents by Councillor Dave Hanratty

Notice of Motion by Councillor Dave Hanratty to Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority

Coach Safety & Prevention of Road Traffic Accidents

Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority attends on average 542 Road Traffic Accidents each year, some of these accidents could be prevented through improved design technology or indeed highway works, driver awareness, increased training for younger drivers all of which the Fire Service actively promote in order to reduce Road Traffic accidents and Death on our roads.

However. on Monday 10th September 2012 a coach bound for Liverpool carrying 53 people travelling back from the music festival on the Isle of Wight, left the road and crashed into a tree instantly killing Michael Molloy (18), Kerry Ogden (23) and the coach driver, Colin Daulby (63). Other

passengers suffered serious life changing injuries for instance Zach Washington-Young aged just 22 at the time, had just completed a law degree but suffered spinal injuries which necessitated him being airlifted to hospital and is still receiving intensive treatment and will do for many years to come.

The cause of this tragic and fatal Road Traffic Accident was subsequently discovered that the front nearside tyre which was actually older than the coach itself at 19 years, which was responsible for the crash. The coach operator were fined just £4000, not for the state of that particular tyre but for another old tyre on the rear of the vehicle which was exhibiting wear and tear below the legal requirements for tread depth. The Coach company had their licence to practice revoked.

Unbelievably there is no law in the UK that governs the age of tyres used on either commercial or domestic vehicles despite the fact that a rubber tyre will show serious deterioration after only five years even if no wear and tears shows on the exterior of the tyre. Deterioration of a tyre commences from the date of manufacture whether it is fitted to a vehicle or not.

Frances Molloy, Michael's mother is leading a campaign for a change in UK law to ban the use of tyres older than six years on commercial vehicles. This change in law is being supported by her MP, Maria Eagle and Shadow Transport Minister, Mary Creagh, but to date, despite a meeting with Transport Minister, Patrick McLoughlin MP, and a vague promise to look at further research, the Government will not commit to a change in the law.

Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority therefore agrees to write to the Prime Minister, Fire Minister Brandon Lewis MP, the Chief Fire Officers Association and the Local Government Association Fire Service Management Committee urging the Government take urgent action in addressing this issue and to legislate in order to introduce safeguards so that coaches are operated safely, in that tyres older than six years cannot be used on commercial vehicles therefore going some way in preventing such fatal accidents in the future. Furthermore Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority also resolves to support this campaign until such change in the law is achieved.

**4. Lead Member Feedback 2013/14 (Pages 19 - 50)
(CFO/042/14)**

To consider Report CFO/042/14 of the Deputy Chief Executive, concerning feedback of work undertaken by the appointed Lead members during 2013/14.

5. **Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority Members Equality and Diversity Monitoring** (Pages 51 - 58)

(CFO/043/14)

To consider Report CFO/043/14 of the Deputy Chief Executive, concerning the introduction of formal Equality & Diversity monitoring of all Members appointed to Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority.

6. **Firefighters' Pension Scheme - New Governance Requirements**

(Pages 59 - 64)

(CFO/045/14)

To consider Report CFO/045/14 of the Deputy Chief Executive, concerning the requirements of the Public Pensions Act 2013.

7. **Disposal Of Combined Pump Platform, MAN And Mercedes Vario Fire Appliances** (Pages 65 - 66)

(CFO/050/14)

To consider Report CFO/050/14 of the Chief Fire Officer, concerning the disposal of the Combined Pump Platform (CPP), MAN and Mercedes Vario Fire Appliances at specialist auction in order to realise a capital receipt.

8. **PROPOSED STATION MERGER OF HUYTON AND WHISTON** (Pages 67 - 102)

(CFO/044/14)

To consider Report CFO/044/14 of the Chief Fire Officer, concerning the merger of Huyton and Whiston Fire Stations at a new site on Manchester Road, Prescot, subject to a 12 week period of public consultation, to commence with effect from 6th May 2014; and reaching an agreement with the owners of the site, Knowsley Council, for a lease of the new site.

Appendices F and G to this Report are EXEMPT by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

If any Members have queries, comments or require additional information relating to any item on the agenda please contact Committee Services and we will endeavour to provide the information you require for the meeting. Of course this does not affect the right of any

Member to raise questions in the meeting itself but it may assist Members in their consideration of an item if additional information is available.

Refreshments

Any Members attending on Authority business straight from work or for long periods of time, and require a sandwich, please contact Democratic Services, prior to your arrival, for arrangements to be made.