MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY			
MEETING OF THE:	**AUTHORITY**		
DATE:	**20 OCTOBER 2016**	**REPORT NO:**	**CFO/080/16**
PRESENTING OFFICER	**CHIEF FIRE OFFICER**		
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	**CHIEF FIRE OFFICER**	**REPORT AUTHOR:**	**CHIEF FIRE OFFICER**
OFFICERS CONSULTED:	**NICK SEARLE IAN CUMMINS**		
TITLE OF REPORT:	**DISPOSAL OF OBSOLETE RESPONSE VEHICLES TO THE ST JOHN RESCUE CORPS**		

APPENDICES:	

Purpose of Report

1. To request that Members note the decision of the Chief Fire Officer (CFO) to donate a Mercedes transport vehicle and Small Fires Unit vehicle to the St Johns Rescue Corps, Malta under the scheme of delegation - Article 19.3 (b) (ii), contained within the Constitution approved by Members in June 2016.

Recommendation

2. That Members note the decision of the CFO to donate a Mercedes transport vehicle and Small Fires Unit vehicle to the St Johns Rescue Corps, Malta under the scheme of delegation - Article 19.3 (b) (ii), contained within the Constitution approved by Members in June 2016.

Introduction and Background

3. The Authority has a prudent and cost effective Transport Asset Management Plan (reviewed annually) which refreshes the fleet as required to meet risk and operational need. This plan has seen the Authority improve what was an aging and inefficient fleet to one of the most modern and efficient in the United Kingdom.

4. The advent of terrorism on a global scale has led to the Chief Fire Officers Association (CFOA) advising UK Fire and Rescue Services that disposal of obsolete or end of life appliances should either result in them being scrapped or removed from the United Kingdom to prevent them being acquired by extremist groups and used as Trojan improvised explosive devices when the Emergency Services respond to incidents.

5. There is significant value in the Service gifting obsolete appliances to countries that have few resources. The gifting of obsolete appliances to worthy charities

abroad significantly assists developing countries whilst removing the risk of the use of the appliances by terrorist organisations.

6. MFRA has strong links with Malta and Chile and have previously donated obsolete appliances to both countries.

7. The CFO has been approached by the by the Commissioner & Corps Commander of St. John Rescue Corps (SJRC), Malta about the possibility of the Service gifting them two obsolete response vehicles; a Mercedes transport vehicle (estimated value £3,000) and a small fires unit van (estimated value £3,000). These vehicles would undoubtedly enhance the SJRC search and rescue capability and be put to good use. The SJRC would meet the full costs of transportation and delivery of the vehicles to Malta.

8. It is the intention of the CFO to agree to this request. Members are asked to note and endorse this decision.

9. Members should be reassured that Officers will continue to apply an audit process to evaluate the perceived need and ask receiving bodies to feedback how and where they are able to deploy gifted appliances and equipment.

10. Officers will continue to ensure that any appliances or equipment with a historical or educational value will be retained by the Service for use of the Merseyside Heritage Centre.

Equality and Diversity Implications

11. None arising from this report.

Staff Implications

12. None arising from this report.

Legal Implications

13. Any donation of vehicles are completed under a legal agreement with a restriction on transferring ownership to another unknown registered keeper and disposal procedures to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and CFOA guidance on vehicle security.

14. Insurance of the vehicle is no longer acquired by MFRA and is an obligation on the new registered keeper removing MFRA’s liability for the same on donation.

15. Any vehicle disposal has adhered to the approved Transport Asset Management Plan.

Financial Implications & Value for Money

16. The value of the Mercedes transport vehicle is estimated at £3,000. The value of the small fires unit is estimated at £3,000.

17. Both vehicles are obsolete. It is considered highly unlikely that either vehicle would attract any interest for resale.

Risk Management, Health & Safety, and Environmental Implications

18. Obsolete vehicles can be recycled and utilised in areas where there is a real humanitarian need.

Contribution to Our Mission: *Safer Stronger Communities – Safe Effective Firefighters*

19. Support for this proposal will show the Authority in a positive light in areas of the world where our old fleet would make a significant difference to the safety of the communities thus enhancing the reputation of the Authority as a world leader in Community Safety.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

MFRS	**M**erseyside **F**ire and **R**escue **S**ervice is the service provided by MFRA. When writing reports MFRS is the "action"
CFOA	Chief Fire Officers Association
SJRC	St. John Rescue Corps Malta