

# Lead Member Feedback Form

## 2013/14

**Lead Members Name:** Robbie Ayres

**Lead Member Role Title:** Equality and Diversity

**Supporting Officers Name:** Wendy Kenyon E&D Officer

**Number of meetings take place between Lead Member and Supporting Officer during the year:** Two Individual Meetings

**At the first meeting held between the Lead Member and the relevant Officer Support, was a Forward Work Plan devised, and reviewed and updated at each subsequent meeting during the year?** Yes a Three Year Plan to cover to 2016

**Please outline nature of these meetings and any agreed outcomes, including any information, guidance and updates which have been provided to you with regard to developments in the area for which you are appointed Lead Member.**

The meetings take place on a bi-monthly basis. They include an attendance representative from every department of MFRA.
Action points are highlighted and acted upon. These are then reported within the the equality and diversity annual report.
Equality and Diversity events taking place throughout the year are talked about.
Events such as Liverpool Pride, Older Persons Day, International Day of Persons with Disabilities

**Have any reports been written in relation to this area of work, if so please confirm the title and meeting which the report was submitted to?**

Numerous reports eg Health & Safety & Diversity

**What involvement did you have in the reporting process?**

Personal experience whether through Trade Union or Local Democracy knowledge

**What were the outcomes as a result of the report?**

Reports and Policies are deemed to be fit for purpose in every aspect

**Have you been involved in any of the Authority's Task and Finish Group's? If so please detail how your Lead Member experience has assisted you as part of the Task and Finish Group.**

No but I have offered on numerous occasions to be involved

**What other meetings within Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority or Partners, do you attend which have an influence on your Lead Member Area?**

Policy and Resources committee's

**How has attending the above meetings assisted you in your role?**

It makes you much more aware of Equality and Diversity Issues throughout the Authority

**How has undertaking the Role as Lead Members enhanced your level of knowledge of this particular service area?**

It has given me an insight to what must be one of the best E & D organisations in the Country

**Please detail any lessons learnt (eg what you would have liked to include or done differently)?**

I still think more could be done in engaging people with mental disabilities

**What has been the main benefit to your appointment in this role?**

It gives you a much clearer picture of working lives and personal lives of minority groups in our society

**Any other comments you would like to add**

Obviously the cuts are affecting the role of Equality and Diversity which can be, if not careful, put on a back burner. But that is my role as an Authority Member to make sure that does not happen, and use my place on the Authority to keep my fellow Members informed if anything that seems incorrect, can be rectified by us as the Authority. In other words act as a scrutineer of our Authority to monitor the organisation in relation to Equality and Diversity e.g. new legislation

**Support Officer Comments:**

Having an Authority Member as a Lead for Equality & Diversity, is invaluable in bringing greater level of scrutiny and support. It demonstrates the level of importance that MFRA places on Equality & Diversity.

Positive benefits have been specifically seen in relation to having the opportunity to work with an Authority Member to discuss Equality & Diversity vision and plans; and highlight key achievements on a quarterly basis (through Reports and DAG Member Committee meetings).

Having a Lead Member as part of DAG Membership enables the Diversity & Consultation Manager to raise any issues for special attention by the Authority when reports are taken to Authority Committee meetings.