Lead Member/Ambassador Feedback Form 2016/17

Lead Member/Ambassador: Councillor Lesley Rennie

Area of Responsibility: Operational Preparedness

Supporting Officer: 3RD Officer Nick Searle

Number of meetings taken place between Lead Member/Ambassador and Supporting Officer during the year:

I have attended 4 formal meetings with Lead Officer. In addition I have had a number of conversations with the Officer as and when I have had questions to pose or emerging issues to discuss and update.

1. **Please outline the nature of the meetings and any agreed outcomes, including any information, guidance and updates which have been provided to you with regard to developments in your area of responsibility**.

Outline Nature of Meetings:	The meetings have all taken place at SHQ, giving an update on delivery against Functional Plan objectives. Minutes have been taken and provide a clear record of discussions that have taken place, around the following topics: • Operational Incidents • Fire Control • National Resilience and NRAT • Operational Intelligence • Operational Planning • TDA Development • Marine Unit • Collaboration • Review of Specialist Support Appliances • Search & Rescue Team • Firefighter Recruitment • Review of Ancillary Vehicles • Creation of Mobile Logistics/ Welfare System • SOP's and National Operational Guidance • Review of Operational Risk Information I am grateful to staff who have facilitated these meetings. I have been able to question and 'challenge' many issues and when updates and outcomes have been requested I have been provided with understandable documentation, explanation and time relevant progress on issues. This free exchange of professional knowledge from the Lead Officer has assisted me greatly in gaining further understanding of my role and that of service personnel. From the knowledge and information I have gained I am able to inform colleagues and residents with firm assurances that their safety is paramount to MFRS. The financial climate within which the Service operates has clearly challenged both MFRS and the public. I am comfortable to offer that assurance.

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

(i) I attend Full Authority, Policy & Resources Committee and Audit & Scrutiny Sub-Committee meetings
(ii) I am a Member of the North West Fire Forum which shares best practice and new ideas regarding Operational Preparedness.
(iii) Regular meetings with local residents and Community Groups to explain to them and give assurance that MFRS is a first rate service and Operational Preparedness is well planned and delivered in a professional manner to ensure the safety of all residents, businesses both locally, nationally and internationally when called upon.
(iv) Member Development & Engagement Group
(v) Station Visits and Staff Engagement Sessions

3. What has been the main benefit to you or the Authority of your appointment in this role?

I attend all Full Authority Meetings together with the Committees to which I am appointed. I find the knowledge I gain from my role as a Lead member assists me in debate at those meetings. I also attend the North West Fire Forum and am able to measure the success of MFRS Operational Preparedness against that of Partner Services. In my capacity as an elected member in my own Local Authority I can speak and inform residents of the work of MFRS. I also regularly meet with colleagues from Police and Health and can therefore discuss Operational Preparedness and how it fits with their roles.

4. Any other comments you would like to add

I have gained an enormous amount of knowledge from my role. I have gained a firm understanding of the Service and how the Department fits in and compliments other services provided by MFRS. The collaborative role of the Department with partner agencies has been fully explained to me.