

MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PROTECTION COMMITTEE

8 OCTOBER 2015

MINUTES

Present: Cllr Linda Maloney (Chair) Councillors Jimmy Mahon, Barbara Murray, Steve Niblock, Mike Kearns and Marianne Welsh

Also Present:

Apologies of absence were received from: Cllr James Roberts and Cllr Paul Tweed

1. Preliminary matters

Members considered the identification of declarations of interest, any urgent additional items, and any business that may require the exclusion of the press and public.

Resolved that:

- a) no declarations of interest were made by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the Agenda
- b) no additional items of business to be considered as matters of urgency were determined by the Chair; and
- c) no items of business required 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

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 30th July 2015 were approved as a correct record and signed accordingly by the Chair.

3. Merseyside Health & Wellbeing Partnership

(CFO/076/15)

Members considered report CFO/076/15 of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer concerning the work currently being undertaken between Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority (MFRA) and Health Partners.

Members were provided with an overview of the rationale behind extending the remit of Home Fire Safety Checks into a wider reaching "Safe and Well" visit,

which highlighted the ability of MFRA staff to gain access to properties that other agencies cannot and how that access can be utilised to the benefit of occupants. They considered the impact that delivering Safe and Well Visits may have on resources, balanced against the significant benefits and reduction of risk that can be achieved for the most vulnerable residents in Merseyside.

Discussion took place around the need to ensure that benefits arising from this approach are evaluated; and how extending and diversifying roles may provide some reassurance to staff that the Authority are doing all they can to protect the service and its employees.

Members were further informed that work is underway at present to explore opportunities with NWAS in relation to first responding. This work would equate to approximately 3,000 more calls per year for MFRS, which when cuts are being applied based on reductions in the number of incidents attended, would strengthen the argument for there to be no further cuts to MFRA's budget. Members were informed that discussions are currently underway with the relevant representative bodies for both organisations, regarding this work.

Resolved that:

- a) the development of the 'Safe and Well' visit, be supported.
- b) the potential impact that it may have when tackling wider health determinants be recognised.
- c) the potential opportunities that such an approach could have with regard to targeted health interventions, be explored.
- d) the development of local partnerships within Merseyside which encourage local action(s) to prevent or reduce service demand and improve the quality of life of persons with acute or chronic conditions, be reviewed.
- e) A report be brought back to a future meeting regarding progress in relation to first responding.

4. Marmot Partnership Status Award

(CFO/084/15)

Members considered report CFO/084/15 of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer concerning the recognition and subsequent partnership status awarded to Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority (MFRA).

The Committee were informed that MFRA along with two other fire and rescue authorities, were the first fire and rescue authorities to receive this partnership award from Professor Sir Michael Marmot, in recognition of their work in tackling health inequalities. They were also informed that MFRA are frequently cited by

Sir Michael Marmot as a good example of how Fire and Rescue Authorities can tackle health inequality.

Members commented that this is a remarkable achievement for MFRA; and wished to place on record their thanks and appreciation to all involved.

Resolved that:

- a) the content of the report, be noted; and,
- b) the value that attaining such an award has when evidencing the wider contribution that the Fire and Rescue Service can make across its communities, particularly with regard to safety and health inequality, be recognised.

Close

Date of next meeting Thursday, 14 April 2016

Signed: _____

Date: _____