

AT A MEETING of the HAMPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held at Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Eastleigh on 18 November, 2010

PRESENT:

Councillors: K. Chapman (Chairman); I. Beagley; Sam Darragh; A. Evans ; E. Neal .

The new Chairman welcomed Councillor E. Neal to his first meeting. Also, it was noted that Mr M. Quick ,Independent Member and Vice-Chairman of the Standards Committee was attending as an observer.

48 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors J. Frankum ;D. Simpson and A. Weeks .

49 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were mindful that, where they believed they had a personal or personal prejudicial interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting, they should, normally at the time of the debate, declare their interest and, having regard to the circumstances described in Paragraphs 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the Fire Authority's Code of Conduct, consider whether to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 12 of the Code.

There were no declarations of interest made by members under this item.

50 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held 1 July, 2010 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Matter arising

On Minute 47, Members noted that ,as a result of a revised reporting system , it was felt more appropriate to provide the written report on community response group performance to the Committee next Spring .

51 **DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations made under this item.

52 **PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer (Item 5 in the Minute Book) which highlighted the performance indicator data for the first two quarters' of the current financial year.

RESOLVED:

That the report on performance be supported, and the strategies to meet the targets be endorsed.

53 EVALUATION REPORT OF THE HOME SAFETY VISIT STRATEGY

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer (Item 6 in the Minute Book) on progress in relation to the Home Safety Visit strategy introduced in April, 2009. Members were interested to know of instances where the same domestic premises had been visited and fitted with smoke detectors for a second time .The Chief Officer agreed to include this information as part of the next report on this item.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee support the current Home Safety Visit strategy, and its continuation until March, 2011, when a further evaluation is to be undertaken.

54 PROMOTING FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS – PROGRESS REPORT

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer (Item 7 in the Minute Book) on the progress made in promoting fire protection systems.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee note and support the progress made on promoting the installation of fire protection systems.

55 OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT – PROGRESS REPORT

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer (Item 8 in the Minute Book) about implementation of the improvement plan in response to the operational self assessment for seeking continuous improvements in service delivery.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Committee acknowledge the value of the Operational Assessment (OpA) which provides the means to drive continuous improvements in service delivery.

- (b) That the Committee support the report and provide scrutiny to ensure the actions contained within the associated OpA improvement plan are successfully implemented.
- (c) That the Committee receive a progress report from the Chief Officer in September, 2011 following a re-refresh of the self assessment. (Note : the report is intended to verify progress within the existing improvement plan and to enable Members to agree the inclusion of any new actions identified through the process).

56 USE OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS FOR COMMUNITY RISK INTELLIGENCE

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer (Item 9 in the Minute Book) on progress in improving practices and information systems to develop knowledge and understanding of risks within the community. Members welcomed this work and the positive outcomes already achieved.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee support the progress made against stage one of the 2009-12 Corporate Objective to develop services based on what is known about risks in the community.

57 CO-RESPONDERS SCHEME – A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN HAMPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE AND SOUTH CENTRAL AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer (Item 10 in the Minute Book) summarising the aims, objectives and the performance achieved by the Co-responder scheme operated by HFRS in partnership with the South Central Ambulance Service. Members fully supported this initiative and wished to receive at a later date a map showing those retained stations in rural areas that were involved and to know the average time taken by co-responders for attending incidents. The Chief Officer agreed to arrange for this information to be provided to the Committee.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Committee support the considerable improvements in the health and wellbeing of our communities, and the increased life chances delivered through the partnership.
- (b) That the Committee support the proposal to increase the medical skills of co responders to enhance the care given to patients recognising that this increases the chances of survival from a life threatening injury or illness (subject to South Central

Ambulance Service funding).

58 EVALUATION OF EFFICIENT AND FLEXIBLE CREWING STAGE 1

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer (Item 11 in the Minute Book) on the results of an evaluation of the introduction of efficient and flexible crewing.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Committee endorse the outcomes of the report as evidence of the successful completion of HFRS Service Plan 2009-2012 Objective – Efficient and Flexible Crewing (EFC) Stage 1.
- (b) That the Committee also recognises that the excess capacity utilised by Personnel Reserve to date can now be used within EFC Stage 2 to allow HFRS to turn down the “Crewing Dial”

59 SOUTH EAST FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES REGIONAL MANAGEMENT BOARD : UPDATE FOLLOWING MEETING HELD ON 6 OCTOBER, 2010

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer (Item 12 in the Minute Book) highlighting some of the key issues discussed at the South East Fire and Rescue Services Regional Management Board meeting held on 6 October, 2010. Particular mention was made of:-

- (a) a letter exchange between the Chairman of the SE RMB and the Fire Minister regarding fire suppression systems and concerns about the Minister’s response which concentrated on industry and commerce and did not address the need for sprinkler systems in residential premises.
- (b) FiRe Control Project Update involving little progress since last SE RMB meeting
- (c) Future of the South East Regional Management Boards (SE RMB’S) and proposal that ,until any formal decision is taken to abolish SE RMB in its current form, it be renamed ‘The South East Fire Improvement Partnership Board’(SEFIP Board).
- (d) Afternoon Awareness and Discussion Items – Areas covered included the Fire Control Project and contingency arrangements if the Project fails, the progress made in the South East on converging operational procedures and an agreed position for the RMB’S submission to the Fire Futures Review.

RESOLVED:

That, as per the revised terms of reference of the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee, the report on the South East Fire and Rescue Services Regional Management Committee be supported by the Committee and the key issues raised be drawn to the attention of the Authority at their next meeting.

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