



**MINUTES OF THE PERFORMANCE AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE held on 2 February 2011 at Lecture Theatre, Fire Service HQ, at 10:00.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors K Musgrave, A Needham, S Nelson, C Oliver, T Sherlock, M Simon (Chair), N Wright and Independent Member W Ravenscroft

**PART 1 – MATTERS CONSIDERED IN PUBLIC**

**1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

**A APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies for absence were received.

**B DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of Members interests

**C MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PERFORMANCE AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED: That**

the minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 1 December 2010 be confirmed as a correct record.

**D MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED: That**

the minutes of the meeting of the Policy Committee held on 26 January be noted for information.

**ITEMS REQUIRING DISCUSSION**

**2 REVIEW OF FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2010-11**

The Monitoring Officer presented Members with an update on the Performance and Overview Committee forward work programme. It had been agreed at a previous meeting of the Committee that the work programme would be presented at each meeting for Members to Review.

**RESOLVED: That**

[1] the content of the forward work programme be noted.

- [2] an item be added to the programme providing an analysis and breakdown of the causes of fire fatalities during 2010/11

### **3 THIRD QUARTER REVIEW 2010/11**

The Director of Finance and Corporate Planning presented Members with the Third Quarter Review 2010/11. The report provided Members with a summary of the Service's Quarter 3 position highlighting departmental achievements and performance against budgets and activities identified in the departmental plans as at end of December 2010.

Members discussed the information presented in the report and the individual departmental reviews. It was felt that the achievements of the Service were positive.

#### **RESOLVED: That**

- [1] the current financial and Service performance against the 2010-11 plans be noted.

### **4 HOME SAFETY ASSESSMENT TARGETING STRATEGY**

The Director of Finance and Corporate Planning presented Members with a report on the Home Safety Assessment Targeting Strategy. Members were reminded that the Integrated Risk Management Plan for 2011-12 set out the Service's intention to target Home Safety Assessments to vulnerable residents in Cheshire and in doing so reduce the number delivered, in year, from 60,000 to 20,000.

Members were informed that the Service was widely acknowledged for setting the pace for Fire and Rescue Services in the delivery of the community safety agenda. The key component to the Services approach was the high volume, intelligence led method.

The Head of Community Safety gave Members a presentation on the Services' approach and the achievements to date. It was noted that the delivery of Home Safety Assessments had been academically proven to lead to reductions in fires and injuries in the home.

Members were also given a presentation on a new campaign called Home Safety Direct which looked to target those people within the low risk category educating them through an on-line home safety assessment. Finally Members were informed, and received a further presentation, on the approach and methodology being undertaken to target high risk and vulnerable groups for the Home Safety Assessment initiative.

#### **RESOLVED: That**

- [1] the intelligence led approach to targeting Home Safety Assessments be noted.

## 5. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Monitoring Officer presented Members with a report on the Committees terms of reference. The purpose of the report was to allow Members to consider the existing terms of reference and determine whether any changes were required and to decide whether a further debate was needed. The Monitoring Officer suggested some uncontroversial, technical changes to bring the terms of reference up to date.

Members suggested that in future consideration should be given to changing the meeting cycle to allow the Performance and Overview Committee to scrutinise issues due to be considered by Policy Committee before it met. The Monitoring Officer suggested that this could form part of a debate about the role of the Committee.

Members agreed that a group of Members, with representation from each political party, from the Committee along with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Authority should have further discussions on the Committee's terms of reference and role reporting back to a future meeting with any proposed changes.

### **RECOMMENDED: That**

- [1] the reference to Comprehensive Area Assessment be removed from paragraph 5.12 of the Terms of Reference, and
- [2] the existing paragraph 5.17 of the Terms of Reference be replaced by the following:

Comment upon the Authority's proposed response to external assessment and provide support, where necessary, following such assessment.

### **RESOLVED: That**

- [3] there be an informal discussion about the role of the Committee (involving the Chair of the Committee, Councillors Oliver and Sherlock and the Chair and Vice Chair of the Fire Authority), with a view to a report being presented to a future meeting.

## 6. ALTERNATIVE SHIFT SYSTEMS PROJECT

The Chief Fire Officer presented Members with a report on the Alternative Shift System Project. He reminded Members that a number of different shift systems had been considered as part of the Alternative Shift System Project. The Chief Fire Officer went on to explain that following the recent Member Away Days the day crewed plus duty system had emerged as an accepted and preferred option and as such had been included as a key plank of the Authority's Four Year Strategy 2011 – 2015 (Planning for a Safer Cheshire).'

The Chief Fire Officer advised Members that there were two purposes to the report. Firstly, in view of the development of the day crewed plus shift system, to agree to pause the alternative shift system project for the time being and secondly, to highlight any issues that should be addressed and covered when the feedback from the public consultation on IRMP8 was considered by the Authority at its meeting on 16th March (In particular relating to the proposal for implementing the Day Crewing Plus shift system at Macclesfield Community Fire Station).

The Deputy Chief Fire Officer provided Members with a summary of the day crewed plus model presentation given at the Members Away Day held in January. Members were then presented with the rationale as to why Macclesfield had been chosen as the first station to be considered for the day crewed plus shift system..

The FBU were then invited to make comment on the proposals for Macclesfield and they provided Members with an overview of their resistance to the proposal. They stated that the Macclesfield personnel were 100% opposed to the proposal.

It was noted that the FBU, as a key stakeholder, would need to make a formal written response complete with any alternative proposals by the consultation deadline so that it could be considered by all Members at the Authority meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> March.

Members asked officers to produce a detailed consultation report about the Macclesfield proposal for consideration at the Authority meeting on 16th March. They also felt that it would be extremely helpful to give the same presentations to all of the Members at the same meeting.

**RESOLVED: That**

- [1] the Alternative Shift System Project is no longer pursued at this time;
- [2] the presentations given to the Committee be repeated to all of the Members at the Authority's meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> March when the feedback from the consultation on IRMP8 would be considered prior to a decision on the proposals for 2011 – 2012; and
- [3] a more detailed report be prepared for the Authority on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2011 about the proposal for Day Crewing Plus at Macclesfield, covering pertinent issues raised by Members and consultees.