

## **COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CORPORATE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

(Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority)

4 September 2008

### Present:-

Councillors Dyke, Foggin, Fry (Chair), Leaves and Tully

### Apologies:-

Councillors S. Hughes and M. Phillips

### **\*CSCPC/9. Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 2008 be agreed and signed by the Chair.

### **CSCPC/10. “The Future Risk of Flooding - Reflections on the Pitt Review”**

(An item taken in accordance with Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972).

The Chair determined that this matter should be determined at this meeting to facilitate a formal decision on attendance to be taken for the purposes of the reservation of places associated with attendance as the conference bookings needed to be made prior to the next meeting of the Authority.

The Clerk reported receipt of information from the Local Government Association (LGA) in respect of a national conference to be held in central London on Tuesday 18 November 2008 on “The Future Risk of Flooding – Reflections on the Pitt Review”. The conference would review the findings of the review undertaken by Sir Michael Pitt into the flooding which took place in the summer of 2007 and would include information about national and local plans for the future. He sought interest from Members wishing to accompany the Assistant Chief Fire Officer (Operations) at the meeting.

That it be **RECOMMENDED** to the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority that Councillor Tully accompanies the Assistant Chief Fire Officer (Operations) at the conference “The Future Risk of Flooding – Reflections on the Pitt Review” on 18 November 2008, attendance to be approved for the purposes of claims for travel and subsistence.

### **\*CSCPC/11. Declarations of Interest**

Members were invited to consider whether they had any **personal/personal and prejudicial interests** in items as set out on the agenda for the meeting and to declare any such interests at this time.

No interests were declared.

**\*CSCPC/12. Community Safety Department Plan**

The Committee received for information the Community Safety Department Plan together with a presentation given by the Assistant Chief Fire Officer (Community Safety).

The presentation covered the following areas:

- The Plan reflected the activities in the Authority's Corporate Plan for 2008/09 to 2010/11;
- The Plan was split into two main areas, namely Protection and Prevention activities;
- Many of the activities set out in the Plan were under development still, in particular the enforcement of the Fire Safety Order, youth strategies and the approach to be taken in reducing road traffic collisions;
- The work was being undertaken to support the goals set out in the Corporate Plan and the Department would be measured on its performance in achieving the activities set out in it;
- The activities in the Plan included the Arson Reduction Programme, the development of a community safety strategy, community mapping and expanding the youth inclusion programmes;
- Many of the activities were being undertaken in conjunction with partners such as the police, local authorities and health service and also through the auspices of Local Area Agreements (LAAs).

Reference was made to a "Driver Live Workshop" which was an excellent example of the partnership work being undertaken and Members were invited to participate in a session that was to be held on 16 October 2008. The Assistant Chief Fire Officer (Community Safety) undertook to provide the Committee with further information in due course. It was noted, in addition, that a report in respect of the issues surrounding LAAs would be submitted in due course.

**\*CSCPC/13. Community Safety - Targetting of Resources**

The Committee considered a report of the Assistant Chief Fire Officer (Community Safety) (CSCPC/08/3) that set out a request for support to redirect existing resources into community safety activities within the service, including partnerships and an increase in the focus on hard to reach groups.

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer (Community Safety) advised the Committee that there were two issues for consideration, namely that the Department and Group Plans contained activities relating to retained staff and it was envisaged that the service could utilise existing capability within the retained pay budget (resulting from fewer emergency calls) to support community safety activities. In addition, there was software available (for which additional funding would be required) to support work on community mapping which would assist the service in being able to target hard to reach groups.

## **RESOLVED**

- (a) To support further targeted community safety prevention work in retained areas, utilising capacity within the budget for retained pay;
- (b) To endorse, in principle, the future procurement of a technical solution for community mapping to improve targeting activities;
- (c) That, subject to (a) and (b) above, the report be noted.

### **\*CSCPC/14. Retained Duty System (RDS) Employers'**

The Committee received for information an update given by the Assistant Chief Fire Officer (Community Safety) in respect of the arrangements being made to set up open evenings for the employers of retained staff (RDS) in a bid to thank them for their support.

It was noted that employers of retained staff would be invited, in the future, to attend the Good Conduct and Long Service Medal presentations evenings when one of their staff was to receive an award. In addition, Area Commanders had also been tasked with considering the establishment of local events for RDS employers to celebrate the contribution made by their staff. The suggestions made were being considered and the Committee would receive a further update in due course.

The Committee requested that Members be advised when an employee from their local area was receiving a Good Conduct or Long Service medal and that they be invited to attend the ceremony.

### **\*CSCPC/15. Co-Responder**

The Committee received for information an update given by the Assistant Chief Fire Officer (Operations) on the position in respect of the progress being made with the Co-responder scheme. He stated that discussions were continuing with the West Country Ambulance Service in respect of Co-responder although, as these discussions had not been concluded, it was not possible to brief the Committee on the outcome at this stage. He indicated that a full report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

**\* DENOTES DELEGATED MATTER WITH POWER TO ACT**

The meeting started at 14.00hours and finished at 15.00hours.