

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CORPORATE PLANNING COMMITTEE

(Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority)

29 January 2010

Present:-

Councillors Fry, Leaves, Manning and Woodman

Apologies:-

Councillors Eastman, Foggin and Healey

***CSCPC/5. Minutes**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 19 October 2009 be signed as a correct record.

***CSCPC/6. Declarations of Interest**

Members were asked to consider whether they had any personal/personal and prejudicial interests in items as set out on the agenda for this meeting and to declare any such interests in accordance with the Authority's Code of Conduct.

No interests were declared.

***CSCPC/7. Technical Fire Safety Checks by Community Safety Response Staff**

The Committee considered a report of the ACFO (Service Delivery) (CSCP/10/1) that set out proposals for fire safety checks to be reintroduced for Community Safety response crews using a simplified version of the current fire safety audit process. An initial pilot had been carried out in West Command (Plymouth and Torbay) and this report proposed that this practice should be extended now across the Service for implementation in April 2010.

It was noted that it had been determined that there were clear advantages to this proposal, including increased job satisfaction for staff combined with developmental issues such as enabling the accrual of the associated knowledge and skill levels of station grounds and building construction. This in turn would increase community safety, enabling targeted activity based on risk.

RESOLVED that the Service wide implementation of the current pilot scheme of requiring operational crews across the Service to undertake Fire Safety Checks as part of their daily work routines be endorsed.

***CSCPC/8. Update on the Implementation of the Partnership Framework**

The Committee received for information a report of the ACFO (Service Delivery) (CSCP/10/2) that gave an update in respect of the progress made with implementation of the partnership framework. The Committee noted that the introduction of the Framework had been supplemented with the commissioning of a full review and sampling of one of the existing partners and one proposed partner undertaken by the I&DeA.

A presentation was given at the meeting in addition setting out the preliminary findings of the Review. This identified the following points for consideration:

- strategic leadership and vision – what did the Service wish to achieve through working in partnership?;
- Capacity – this needed to be quantified;
- Outcome and achievement – this needed to be evaluated;
- Values and culture – how do we display the behaviours of effective partnership working?

The Review found that the Partnership Framework was fit for purpose but could be refined by making some revisions as outlined above. It was noted that I&DeA felt that the Framework would achieve the outcomes desired by the Service with the revisions suggested. Following the implementation of these changes, it was proposed that the Framework would be re-launched in May 2010.

***CSCPC/9. Target Setting for the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority Corporate Plan 2010/11 to 2012/13**

The Committee considered a joint report of the Assistant Chief Fire Officers (Service Delivery and Service Support) (CSCPC/10/3) which set out the recommendations for targets under Goal 1 of the Corporate Plan “to proactively reduce risk, to save life, protect property and the environment from fire and other emergencies” and Goal 3, “to provide an efficient, effective and economic service”. The report set out a number of outcomes that the Service wished to achieve in order to become a high performing organisation in the future. These included:

- a flexible prevention service being delivered that reduced local community risk;
- a flexible protection service that reduced local community risk;
- a response be provided to emergency incidents that met local response standards and ensured firefighter and community safety;
- community risk be reduced through partnership working;
- resources being matched to risk.

The Deputy Chief Fire Officer advised the Committee that it was felt that the targets within the Corporate Plan should be more stretching in order to achieve the above outcomes and for the Service to be assessed as “excellent” in the future. This could be achieved by the instigation of stepped targets that would ultimately raise performance to the top 10% of all fire and rescue services nationally by the end of March 2014.

The Clerk drew attention to an issue associated with measuring performance against the national position (e.g. to be in the top 50% by 2010/11). This involved a long time lag before data required to assess performance would be available, and therefore, such targets should be translated into the specific performance assessed as being required by Devon & Somerset to put the Authority in the desired national position (based on current national performance data). The targets proposed within report CSCPC/10/3 reflected this position.

Following a discussion in respect of each of the proposed targets, Councillor Manning moved (and Councillor Fry seconded):

“that the targets for inclusion within the draft Corporate Plan for 2010/11 to 2012/13 should be re-set, wherever possible and as recommended within report CSCP/10/3, to meet the challenge of being within the top 10% of fire and rescue services (FRSs) nationally by 2013/14 (on a stepped basis)”.

This was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED that the targets for inclusion within the draft Corporate Plan for 2010/11 to 2012/13 should be re-set, wherever possible and as recommended within report CSCP/10/3, to meet the challenge of being within the top 10% of fire and rescue services (FRSs) nationally by 2013/14 (on a stepped basis) and as follows in 2010/11:

- (a) That the following targets for Goal 1 be included in the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority Corporate Plan 2010/11 to 2012/13:
 - (i) Deaths in Accidental Dwelling Fires – that the current target be extended to March 2014 “to reduce deaths in accidental dwelling fires by 20% averaged over the eleven years to 31 March 2014 compared to the five years to March 2003”;
 - (ii) Casualties in accidental dwelling fires per 100,000 population – to reset the target to aim for performance to be in the top 50% of fire and rescue services (FRSs) nationally by 2010/11;
 - (iii) Accidental Dwelling Fires per 10,000 dwellings – to reset the target to aim for performance to be in the top 50% of FRSs nationally by 2010/11 (a reduction of approximately 100 fires);
 - (iv) Fires in non-domestic premises per 1000 non-domestic premises – to reset the target to aim for performance to be in the top 25% of FRSs nationally by 2010/11;
 - (v) Deliberate Primary Fires (excluding vehicles) per 10,000 population – to reset the target to aim for performance to be in the top 25% of FRSs nationally by 2010/11;
 - (vi) Primary fires per 10,000 population - to reset the target to aim for performance to be in the top 50% of FRSs nationally by 2010/11;
 - (vii) Emergency Response Standards- House Fires – this should be based on current performance for 2009/10 in order to provide a rationale for future changes in order to improve performance:
 - 1st attendance in 10 minutes (maintain performance at 2009/10 outturn);
 - Achieved (inside 10 minute area) (maintain performance at 2009/10 outturn);
 - Achieved (outside 10 minute area) – to be removed in 2010/11;
 - Overall standard – to be removed in 2010/11.
 - A new measure be developed to determine how much of the Service area is within the 10 minute response area.

- (viii) Emergency Response Standards – Road Traffic Collisions and Entrapments - this should be based on current performance for 2009/10 in order to provide a rationale for future changes in order to improve performance:
- 1st attendance in 15 minutes (maintain performance for 2010/11 at the average level achieved in 2009/10);
 - Achieved (single lane) (maintain performance for 2010/11 at the average level achieved in 2009/10);
 - Achieved (multi lane) (maintain performance for 2010/11 at the average level achieved in 2009/10)..
- (b) That the following targets for Goal 3 be included in the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority Corporate Plan 2010/11 to 2012/13:
- (i) False alarms caused by automatic fire detection equipment – to reset the target to aim for performance to be in the top 25% of FRSs nationally by 2010/11;
 - (ii) Malicious false alarms per 1,000 population – to maintain performance to be in the top 25% of FRSs nationally by 2010/11;
- (c) That, with the inclusion of the targets set out above, the Draft Corporate Plan for 2010/11 to 2012/13 be submitted to the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority on 19 February 2009 for final approval.

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

The meeting started at 10.00hours and finished at 11.43hours