

**M. Pearson  
CLERK TO THE AUTHORITY**

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**To: The Chair and Members of the  
Community Safety and Corporate  
Planning Committee**

**(see below)**

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**COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CORPORATE PLANNING COMMITTEE**  
(Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority)

**Thursday 25 March 2010**

A meeting of the Community Safety and Corporate Planning Committee will be held on the above date, **commencing at 10.00 hours in Conference Room B in Somerset House, Service Headquarters** to consider the following matters.

M. Pearson  
Clerk to the Authority

**AGENDA**

**1. Apologies**

**2. Minutes** of the meeting of the Committee held on 29 January 2010 attached (Page 1).

**3. Items Requiring Urgent Attention**

Items which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be considered at the meeting as matters of urgency.

**4. Declarations of Interest**

Members are asked to consider whether they have any **personal/personal and prejudicial interests** in items as set out on the agenda for this meeting and declare any such interests at this time. *Please refer to the Note 2 at the end of this agenda for guidance on interests.*

**PART 1 – OPEN COMMITTEE**

5. **Further Update on the Implementation of the Partnership Framework and Other Evaluation Tools**

Report of the Director of Service Delivery (CSCP/10/4) attached (Page 5)

6. **Specialist Rescue - Progress**

Report of the Director of Service Support (CSCP/10/5) attached (Page 7)

**PART 2 – ITEMS WHICH MAY BE TAKEN IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Nil

**MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO SIGN THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER**

Membership:-

Councillors Fry (Chair), Eastman, Healey, Leaves, Manning and Woodman

**Substitute Members**

Members are reminded that, in accordance with Standing Order 36, the Clerk (or his representative) MUST be advised of any substitution prior to the start of the meeting.

## **NOTES**

### **1. ACCESS TO INFORMATION**

Any person wishing to inspect any minutes, reports or lists of background papers relating to any item on this agenda should contact Steve Yates on the telephone number shown at the top of this agenda.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS BY MEMBERS**

#### ***What Interests do I need to declare in a meeting?***

As a first step you need to declare any personal interests you have in a matter. You will then need to decide if you have a prejudicial interest in a matter.

#### ***What is a personal interest?***

You have a personal interest in a matter if it relates to any interests which you must register, as defined in Paragraph 8(1) of the Code.

You also have a personal interest in any matter likely to affect the well-being or financial position of:-

- (a) you, members of your family, or people with whom you have a close association;
- (b) any person/body who employs/has employed the persons referred to in (a) above, or any firm in which they are a partner or company of which they are a director;
- (c) any person/body in whom the persons referred to in (a) above have a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £25,000; or
- (d) any body of which you are a Member or in a position of general control or management and which:-
  - you have been appointed or nominated to by the Authority; or
  - exercises functions of a public nature (e.g. a constituent authority; a Police Authority); or
  - is directed to charitable purposes; or
  - one of the principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union)

**more** than it would affect **the majority** of other people in the Authority's area.

Anything that could affect the quality of your life (or that of those persons/bodies listed in (b) to (d) above) either positively or negatively, is likely to affect your/their "well being". If you (or any of those persons/bodies listed in (b) to (d) above) have the potential to gain or lose from a matter under consideration – to a **greater extent** than **the majority** of other people in the Authority's area - you should declare a personal interest.

#### ***What do I need to do if I have a personal interest in a matter?***

Where you are aware of, **or ought reasonably to be aware of**, a personal interest in a matter you must declare it when you get to the item headed "Declarations of Interest" on the agenda, or otherwise as soon as the personal interest becomes apparent to you, **UNLESS** the matter relates to or is likely to affect:-

- (a) any other body to which you were appointed or nominated by the Authority; or
- (b) any other body exercising functions of a public nature (e.g. membership of a constituent authority; other Authority such as a Police Authority);

of which you are a Member or in a position of general control or management. In such cases, provided you do not have a prejudicial interest, you need only declare your personal interest if and when you speak on the matter.

#### ***Can I stay in a meeting if I have a personal interest?***

You can still take part in the meeting and vote on the matter unless your personal interest is also a prejudicial interest.

#### ***What is a prejudicial interest?***

Your personal interest will also be a **prejudicial** interest if **all** of the following conditions are met:-

- (a) the matter is not covered by one of the following exemptions to prejudicial interests in relation to the following functions of the Authority:-
  - statutory sick pay (if you are receiving or entitled to this);
  - an allowance, payment or indemnity for members;
  - any ceremonial honour given to members;

- setting council tax or a precept; **AND**
- (b) the matter affects your financial position (or that of any of the persons/bodies as described in Paragraph 8 of the Code) or concerns a regulatory/licensing matter relating to you or any of the persons/bodies as described in Paragraph 8 of the Code); **AND**
- (c) a member of the public who knows the relevant facts would reasonably think your personal interest is so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

***What do I need to do if I have a prejudicial interest?***

If you have a prejudicial interest in a matter being discussed at a meeting, you must declare that you have a prejudicial interest (and the nature of that interest) as soon as it becomes apparent to you. You should then leave the room unless members of the public are allowed to make representations, give evidence or answer questions about the matter by statutory right or otherwise. If that is the case, you can also attend the meeting for that purpose.

You must, however, leave the room **immediately after you have finished speaking (or sooner if the meeting so decides)** and you cannot remain in the public gallery to observe the vote on the matter. Additionally, you must not seek to **improperly influence** a decision in which you have a prejudicial interest.

***What do I do if I require further guidance or clarification on declarations of interest?***

If you feel you may have an interest in a matter that will need to be declared but require further guidance on this, please contact the Clerk to the Authority – preferably before the date of the meeting at which you may need to declare the interest. Similarly, please contact the Clerk if you require guidance/advice on any other aspect of the Code of Conduct.

## **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:
    - 1<sup>st</sup> 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:
- 1<sup>st</sup> 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





# DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

<b>REPORT REFERENCE NO.</b>	<b>CSCP/10/4</b>
<b>MEETING</b>	<b>COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CORPORATE PLANNING COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>25 MARCH 2010</b>
<b>SUBJECT OF REPORT</b>	<b>FURTHER UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK &amp; OTHER EVALUATION TOOLS</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	<b>Director of Service Delivery</b>
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<i>That the further progress made on the review of the Partnership Framework be noted, along with the progress on other evaluation processes.</i>
<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	<p>The successful introduction of the Partnership Framework has been supplemented with the commissioning of a full review of the Framework and sampling of one existing partnership and one proposed partnership. IDeA has been commissioned to carry out both the review and the sampling exercise. The framework has now been reviewed and amended in light of feedback.</p> <p>In addition, further evaluation tools have now been developed that will meet a number of DSFRS needs.</p>
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	N/A
<b>EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT</b>	<p>Not applicable</p> <p>The review and sampling will inform the partnership arrangements the Service undertakes with our communities and are intended to improve community engagement, as well as helping to inform the Service on the effectiveness of its activities</p>
<b>APPENDICES</b>	None
<b>LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>	None

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The Committee has received regular reports received setting out the progress made on the partnership framework review. To date, the recommendations of the review have now been incorporated into the framework.
- 1.2 The revised framework has been made available to staff for use in advance of the formal re-launch on May 17th 2010.
- 1.3 The Committee has also been made aware of the intent to conduct IDeA-led reviews of the current Torbay Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and the Services' proposed partnership with the Probation Service in the Exeter area. These reviews are now taking place and the outcomes will be reported to the Committee in due course.

## **2. FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS & WORK**

- 2.1 The evaluation tools contained within the partnership framework are essentially designed for the evaluation of the Authority's more strategic engagement work and are potentially onerous for the evaluation of more tactical and "local" activities. Notwithstanding that, there is a clear internal and external need to ensure that the Authority is evaluating all of its Community Safety activities to ensure effective use of resources.
- 2.2 To that end, an "activity" evaluation strategy, policy and process has now been developed for implementation. This process will ensure that all activities outside the scope of the partnership framework are fully and effectively evaluated before commencement, during delivery, and on cessation of activities. This review process will facilitate the Authority in making decisions regarding use of resources by fully understanding those activities which are delivering the required outcomes and those that are not so effective. As with the Partnership framework, the activity evaluation process contains an evaluation of Equality and Diversity outcomes and assesses the delivery of the "Making the Connections" work strands. The Activity Evaluation processes will be formally launched alongside the Partnership framework re-launch on the 17 May 2010. Embedded in both processes is the requirement to produce a single-page briefing sheet. Applying the COUNT (**C**ollect **O**nce, **U**se **N**umerous **T**imes) principles, these briefing sheets will be used within the Service to meet a number of needs including:
  - Providing information to all Members/Officers on the range of activities the Service is involved in
  - To share good practice internally on what works and what doesn't
  - To provide a structured and systematic method of information and data collection for external and peer audit and review.
  - To enable, where appropriate, effective and timely press releases and journal articles to be produced
  - To provide information for the national EFECTS software (measuring the progress of Equality and Diversity agenda across all FRS in England).
  - To share good practice with other FRSs, key partners, potential clients and CFOA.

**PETER SMITH**  
**Director of Service Delivery**



# DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

<b>REPORT REFERENCE NO.</b>	<b>CSCP/10/5</b>
<b>MEETING</b>	<b>COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CORPORATE PLANNING COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>25 MARCH 2010</b>
<b>SUBJECT OF REPORT</b>	<b>SPECIALIST RESCUE - PROGRESS</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	<b>Director of Service Support</b>
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<i>That the report be noted</i>
<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	The report sets out the progress that has been made to date with the implementation of specialist rescue activity.
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	As previously reported to the Committee
<b>EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT</b>	None indicated
<b>APPENDICES</b>	None
<b>LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>	None

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The specialist rescue implementation project is now entering its third year since being initiated shortly after combination in 2007. All project milestones, to date, have been achieved within the original timescale.
- 1.2 At the commencement of the project the Service had an extremely limited specialist rescue capability, with a faltering water rescue provision based on three stations in the East of the Service, and two specialist rope teams in the far West of the service providing a disproportionate and uneven spread of capability across the Service area.
- 1.3 In addition, the Service was in the vulnerable position of having a level one water rescue capability on all frontline appliances, yet regularly mobilising appliances to level two and three incidents; potentially putting crews into hazardous situations for which they were not adequately trained.
- 1.4 The Service was also experiencing ever more frequent flooding and adverse weather events and had no specialist incident management capability in place for this type of incident. (It is interesting to note that in the three years that the project has been running water rescues have risen from 20-30 per year to around 200 per year.)

## **2. OBJECTIVES**

2.1 The project set out to achieve the following objectives:

- Train all operational personnel (approx 2,200 in total) to water rescue level two over a three year period. This would give all crews the ability to conduct rescues by entering shallow, slow moving water (eg from vehicles in flood water).
- Train a team of specialist officers in flood and adverse weather management.
- Establish four specialist rescue teams trained and equipped to level three water and rope rescue in order to provide a more specialist capability, and to provide vital support to teams engaged in level two water and rope rescue activities.
- Provide each specialist rescue team with a powered rescue boat capability. (This is not only an essential element for a true flood rescue capability, but is also necessary to provide support for teams operating at level two.)
- To provide each specialist rescue team with a suitable, dedicated vehicle that can meet the requirements of both water and rope rescue, and have the ability to transport the rescue boats.
- To train and equip the specialist rescue teams to provide a specialist large animal rescue capability.

## **3. PROGRESS AGAINST THE OBJECTIVES**

- 3.1 The first of these objectives, to train all personnel to water rescue level two, is now nearing the end of its second year and is well on target to be completed by March 2011. Approximately 1,500 people have now been trained. This training has been very well received by all those who have attended the course and the skills and competence of crews, and therefore the capability of the Service, has increased significantly.

- 3.2 A team of 15 officers have now finished an 18 month period of development to enable them to act as specialist rescue advisors for incidents involving: flooding, adverse weather, rescues from height, depth and confined spaces, and large animal rescues. This aligns with the Chief Fire Officers Association (CFOA) proposal to provide a national capability for flood response. The Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service (DSFRS) has already declared its capability and is registered on the national interim flood assets register. A further five officers are due to commence training this month, which will bring the team strength to 20.
- 3.3 Four stations were selected to be upgraded to specialist rescue team status: Camels Head, Barnstaple, Bridgwater and Special Operations; a total of 140 personnel. All four stations have now completed water and rope rescue level three training, and now have their water rescue capability 'on the run'. Camels Head is also on the run with rope rescue, and the remaining three stations are currently working through the 4-6 month rope rescue development period. It is anticipated that the remaining three stations will have rope rescue on the run by the end of the year.
- 3.4 Powered rescue boats, engines and trailers have been purchased and it is hoped that training will commence early 2011, with the capability coming on line mid-way through the year.
- 3.5 Four specialist vehicles have now been ordered and will provide a single vehicle which can accommodate both water and rope rescue, as well as being capable of transporting the powered rescue boats. The vehicles are Iveco Daily 4x4s and have a crew capacity of six. It is hoped that all four of the vehicles will be completed and ready to go on the run by the beginning of next year (2011).
- 3.6 Equipment has been purchased and training is now underway to provide a large animal rescue capability. This is an area of operations which forms a significant amount of the Service's specialist rescue work, and was due an overhaul. A subgroup of CFOA has completed this review and has issued new guidance on good practice. The guidance recommends the adoption of new equipment and procedures, and DSFRS has been quick to adopt these recommendations. The Service has purchased additional equipment and commenced a programme of training on three levels for all operational personnel. Eight people have already been trained as large animal rescue instructors and will shortly commence the training of the specialist rescue teams who will take on the role of specialist animal rescue. More basic training will also be provided to all station personnel, providing the Service with a staged and integrated response to incidents of this nature.
- 3.7 It would be true to say that, once the project is complete, DSFRS is likely to have one of the most comprehensive specialist rescue capabilities of any fire and rescue service (FRS) in the country, and will be a flagship FRS in this respect. Whilst most FRSs recognise the importance of specialist flood managers and the need to train and equip all operational personnel to water rescue level two standard most have yet to start training their staff in these areas. It is also true to say that whilst some FRSs have a powered rescue boats, few will have such a comprehensive and resilient capability.

- 3.8 Work continues with Local Resilience Forums (LRFs) emergency and resilience planning, and it has long since been written into flood plans and major incident plans that DSFRS will provide a rescue capability at this type of incident. Only when the project is complete would it be true to say that we fully have that capability. The Service continues to Chair both the regional Water Rescue Group and the regional Work at Height Group, and represents the SW region on the National Water Rescue and Work at Height groups. The Service is seen as something of a leader in this field within the region, and regularly provides advice and training to neighbouring FRSS.
- 3.9 These new capabilities will be formally launched towards the end of 2010 following the delivery of the first specialist rescue vehicle. The launch will include a demonstration of all the newly acquired skills and equipment, and it is hoped that there will be good media coverage of this event.

**TREVOR STRATFORD**  
**Director of Service Support**