

**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)

**Wednesday 6 February 2013**

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**

***PLEASE REFER TO THE NOTES AT THE END OF THE AGENDA LISTING SHEETS***

1. **Apologies**
2. **Minutes** of the meeting held on 7 December 2012 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.

**PART 1 – OPEN COMMITTEE**

4. **Fire 999 DVD - Plymouth People First**  
Report of the Director of Service Support (CSCP/13/1) attached (page 4)
5. **Specialist Rescue Provision Update**  
Report of the Director of Service Support (CSCP/13/2) attached (page 6)

**6. Promotion of Domestic Sprinklers**

The Service has always supported the use of both domestic and commercial sprinklers given their life and property protection potential. Although it is unlikely that legislation to require sprinklers in residential properties will be enacted, the Service Community Safety section has over the past six months been exploring opportunities to increase the presence of systems, particularly in the homes of the most vulnerable.

An presentation will be made at the meeting to update the Committee on progress to date.

**7. Job Centre Plus - Building on Success**

The Service will shortly complete the pilot project of delivering the Phoenix Job Centre Plus course. The next step will be bid for additional funding to deliver this highly successful programme over a sustained period. This presentation will detail the potential opportunity and implications for the Service over the next 15 months.

**8. Marketing Update**

Over the Christmas period the Service was successful in promoting an innovative approach to engaging with one of its target groups. Service community safety activity in February will align with the national Fire Kills campaign which will see the national launch of the smoke alarm test stick. This presentation will provide members with details of these campaigns.

**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 Leaves(Chair), Mrs. Bakewell MBE, Brooksbank, Eastman, Foggin, Fry and Healey

<b>NOTES</b>	
<b>1.</b>	<p><b><u>Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (Authority Members only)</u></b></p> <p>If you have any disclosable pecuniary interests (as defined by Regulations) in any item(s) to be considered at this meeting then, unless you have previously obtained a dispensation from the Authority's Monitoring Officer, you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) disclose any such interest at the time of commencement of consideration of the item in which you have the interest or, if later, as soon as it becomes apparent to you that you have such an interest;</li> <li>(b) leave the meeting room during consideration of the item in which you have such an interest, taking no part in any discussion or decision thereon; and</li> <li>(c) not seek to influence improperly any decision on the matter in which you have such an interest.</li> </ul> <p>If the interest is sensitive (as agreed with the Monitoring Officer), you need not disclose the nature of the interest but merely that you have a disclosable pecuniary interest of a sensitive nature. You must still follow (b) and (c) above.</p>
<b>2.</b>	<p><b><u>Part 2 Reports</u></b></p> <p>Members are reminded that any Part 2 reports as circulated with the agenda for this meeting contain exempt information and should therefore be treated accordingly. They should not be disclosed or passed on to any other person(s). Members are also reminded of the need to dispose of such reports carefully and are therefore invited to return them to the Committee Secretary at the conclusion of the meeting for disposal.</p>
<b>3.</b>	<p><b><u>Substitute Members (Committee Meetings only)</u></b></p> <p>Members are reminded that, in accordance with Standing Order 35, the Clerk (or his representative) must be advised of any substitution prior to the start of the meeting. Members are also reminded that substitutions are not permitted for full Authority meetings.</p>
<b>4.</b>	<p><b><u>Access to Information</u></b></p> <p>Any person wishing to inspect any minutes, reports or lists of background papers relating to any item on this agenda should contact the person listed in the "Please ask for" section at the top of this agenda.</p>

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

(Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority)

7 December 2012

### Present:-

Councillors Leaves (Chair), Mrs. Bakewell MBE and Foggin.

### Apologies:-

Councillors Brooksbank, Fry and Healey

### **\*CSCPC/16. Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2012 be signed as a correct record.

### **\*CSCPC/17. Charitable Status - Update**

The Committee received for information an update report on the intention of the Service to establish a charitable arm to access otherwise unavailable funding streams to support community safety initiatives. The proposal had been approved both in principle and fully by the Committee and full Authority respectively at their last meetings (Minutes CSCPC/14 and DSFRA/32(d)(i) refer).

The Service would shortly be submitting an application to establish a 'Charitable Incorporated Organisation' and in January would be advertising for the post of fund raising officer. It was hoped to be able to launch the new Charitable Incorporated Organisation in March 2013. The Committee was also informed that the Service had already received an approach from a large employer in the region interested in promoting the new Charity as its annual charity in 2014.

### **\*CSCPC/18. Success of the "Honest Truth" Campaign**

The Committee received for information an update on the success of this innovative campaign at securing four awards at a recent national awards ceremony. The Chartered Institute of Public Relations had awarded the campaign a Gold Award in each of the following categories:

- Best "Not for Profit" Campaign;
- Best Campaign Costing £10,000 and under;
- Best External Publication; and
- Best Use of Measurement and Evaluation

The Honest Truth partnership, between the Service and other public and private sector organisations, provided teaching resources and promotional material for use by driving instructors in conveying the key risks of the road to young drivers. The campaign, which featured distinctive "animal head" themed branding and used social media such as Facebook and "QR" codes to reach its target audience, had already been adopted by some 350 instructors across Devon and Cornwall, with the AA expressing interest in the possibility of promoting it nationally.

**\*CSCPC/19. Fatal Fire Review - Update**

The Committee received for information an update on progress with this initiative initially reported to the Authority at its last meeting on 5 November 2012 (Minute DSFRA/37 refers). The review process is instigated in instances where the Service considers that other agencies might under other circumstances influence the outcome of a fire.

Two reviews had been undertaken since its introduction with very positive results in that the care agencies concerned would, going forwards:

- train their staff in undertaking a preliminary fire risk assessment. Any significant issues discovered from this would be referred through to the Service for a home safety visit; and
- have staff test smoke alarms on a weekly basis and record these results. As with the preliminary fire risk assessment, any issues relating to the effectiveness/adequacy of the smoke detectors would be referred to the Service as necessary.

The above results from the first two reviews were highly promising and the South West Peninsular Coroners had commended the approach and invited the Service to present on the initiative at its forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

**\*CSCPC/20. "Firemark" - National Campaign**

The Committee received for information a presentation on the development by the Service of a national programme to engage with landlords in the private sector to promote fire safety. The initiative, which had arisen in the aftermath of the Ellacombe Church Road Fire, Torbay, and following the failure of the private Members Bill promoted by Adrian Saunders to receive assent, featured an assessment and interactive presentation highlighting fire risks around the home and measures available to address these.

**\*CSCPC/21. Fire Safety Product**

The Committee received for information a demonstration of a simple but innovative tool developed by the Service to help people undertake the routine weekly task of testing smoke alarms. The product would be manufactured locally and the manufacturers were confident of the national and international potential and had agreed to provide the Service with either 5% or 10% of sales profits, depending on the number of units sold. The product would be launched nationally in February.

**\*CSCPC/22. Tier 3 Response Vehicles**

The Committee received for information a presentation on the types and locations of Tier 3 (specialist) appliances used in support of the main fleet as part of the Tiered Response approach to match appropriate resources to identified risk. The Tiered Response concept involved:

- Tier 1 – initial response by a light rescue pump;
- Tier 2 – enhanced support as necessary by a “medium” rescue pump (traditional fire appliance);
- Tier 3 – strategic support (special appliances); and
- Tier 4 – Resilience support (e.g. Urban Search and Rescue specialist deployment).

Tier 3 appliances included:

- Incident Command Vehicles;
- Aerial appliances;
- Rescue tenders (with cutting tools, airbags etc);
- Bulk water/foam carriers;
- Light 4x4 Pumps;
- Hose layers;
- Incident Support Units;
- Specialist Rescue Vehicles; and
- Specialist Wildfire vehicles.

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

The meeting started at 10.00hours and finished at 11.10hours.



# DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

<b>REPORT REFERENCE NO.</b>	<b>CSCP/13/1</b>
<b>MEETING</b>	<b>COMMUNITY SAFETY &amp; CORPORATE PLANNING COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>6 FEBRUARY 2013</b>
<b>SUBJECT OF REPORT</b>	<b>FIRE 999 DVD – PLYMOUTH PEOPLE FIRST</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	<b>DIRECTOR OF SERVICE SUPPORT</b>
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<i>To note the report and receive the presentation</i>
<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	Plymouth People First, a self-advocacy organisation for adults with a learning disability, has produced a fire safety DVD called FIRE 999.
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	None
<b>EQUALITY RISK &amp; BENEFITS ANALYSIS (ERBA)</b>	Not required at this stage
<b>APPENDICES</b>	None
<b>LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>	None

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 In 2011 Plymouth People First (a self-advocacy organisation for adults with a learning disability) applied successfully for Lottery funding to produce a fire safety DVD. The need for such a DVD arose as Plymouth Support Group had been giving fire safety input to the advocacy groups (about 120 adults with a learning disability) and it became apparent that safety information was required to reduce risk.
- 1.2 Adults with a learning disability were involved in planning the film and subsequently starred in it alongside Service personnel from Plymouth. The film is in accessible chapters and called FIRE 999 as some people think 999 only calls the police.
- 1.3 The 30 minutes film covers night time routines, what to do if your house is on fire, how to book a home fire safety check and has an interactive spot the fire hazard chapter. The chapters are broken up with vox pops from members of Plymouth People First answering specific questions about fire safety.
- 1.4 The Service paid for the film launch which premiered in June during Learning Disability Week. Although made for adults with a learning disability, its accessible nature makes it appropriate for many different community and protected characteristic groups. 500 copies have been dispersed in Plymouth.
- 1.5 Plymouth People First has plans for wider use of FIRE 999 including making an eLearning package that can be sold to other fire services around the UK. This could be produced in different versions e.g. British Sign Language, Makaton, Polish, Chinese etc. Monies generated from the sale of the package could then be reinvested and used to train adults with a learning disability to deliver training alongside Service advocates, providing meaningful employment whilst promoting fire safety and prevention to numerous vulnerable people.

**ASSISTANT CHIEF FIRE OFFICER TREVOR STRATFORD**  
**Director of Service Support**



# DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY



<b>REPORT REFERENCE NO.</b>	<b>CSCP/13/2</b>
<b>MEETING</b>	<b>COMMUNITY SAFETY &amp; CORPORATE PLANNING COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>6 FEBRUARY 2013</b>
<b>SUBJECT OF REPORT</b>	<b>SPECIALIST RESCUE PROVISION UPDATE</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	<b>Director of Service Support</b>
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b><i>That the report be noted.</i></b>
<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	<p>The Devon &amp; Somerset Fire &amp; Rescue Service (the Service) has, since combination, established a Specialist Rescue capability enabling it to deploy specialist trained teams with dedicated equipment to incidents involving rescues from height, rescues from water and large animal rescues.</p> <p>The locations and compositions of the teams are designed to ensure that during normal operational response conditions a Specialist Rescue Team can be in attendance at an incident within 40 minutes of the time of call for 90% of the Service area. Specialist Rescue Teams are supported at all incidents by a Specialist Rescue Advisor (SRA) and the Service will have a SRA available at all times. The use of Specialist Rescue Teams reduces the risks to operational crews, casualties and the public.</p> <p>Further developments of the Specialist Rescue capability is planned and underway to meet the ever increasing demands being faced both locally and for national resilience, specifically with regard to water rescue flood response.</p>
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	Not applicable.
<b>EQUALITY RISKS AND BENEFITS ANALYSIS (ERBA)</b>	Not applicable.
<b>APPENDICES</b>	None.
<b>LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>	None.

## 1. **BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 Prior to combination there was only limited specialist rescue capability in the former Devon and Somerset fire and rescue services. Specifically, Devon had two Line Rescue Teams (rescues from height) and limited Water Rescue capability whilst Somerset had three stations equipped for water rescue and no capability for rescue from heights in excess of 30 metres.
- 1.2 Following combination it was identified that specialist rescue capabilities needed to be harmonised, equipment standardised and levels of capabilities enhanced across the Service to meet the requirements for working at height, water rescue levels of response/training and provide a co-ordinated response to large animal rescue incidents.
- 1.3 A target response time 40 minutes was applied from time of call to arrival at an incident for a specialist rescue team. This target response time was used to establish the best location for the teams, as specified in Section 2 below. In light of the training implications for acquiring and maintaining the skills required for specialist rescue, all specialist rescue teams comprise whole-time staff. Training has been on-going over the last three years in all specialist rescue disciplines and the last of the capabilities powered rescue boat became available July 2012.

## 2. **SPECIALIST RESCUE STATIONS CAPABILITIES**

- 2.1 The current location and provision of Service specialist rescue capability is as set out below:

### **Station 01 Barnstaple**

*Level 3 Safe working at Heights and Confined Space (SHACS) line rescue  
Large Animal Rescue  
Type C Swift Water Rescue  
Type B Powered Rescue Boat*

### **Station 48 Camels Head, Plymouth**

*Level 3 Safe working at Heights and Confined Space (SHACS) line rescue  
Large Animal Rescue  
Type C Swift Water Rescue  
Type B Powered Rescue Boat*

### **Station 60 Special Operations, Service Headquarters Exeter**

*Level 3 Safe working at Heights and Confined Space (SHACS) line rescue  
Large Animal Rescue  
Type C Swift Water Rescue*

### **Station 62 Bridgwater**

*Level 3 Safe working at Heights and Confined Space (SHACS) line rescue  
Large Animal Rescue  
Type C Swift Water Rescue  
Type B Powered Rescue Boat*

- 2.2 The Service also has a network of 23 Specialist Rescue Advisors (SRA's) – flexible duty response officers specially trained to support the Specialist Rescue Teams in their operational activities. These officers are also trained as wide area search managers and flood incident managers.

### **3. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY**

#### ***Animal Rescue***

- 3.1 Specialist Rescue teams are regularly mobilised to large animal rescue incidents to work with the nearest supporting appliance to achieve a rescue. The definition of a large animal is an animal of the size of a large dog (Labrador) or larger and an animal trapped is defined as an animal which is unable to get itself to a place of safety unaided. Activity has ranged from cattle or horses trapped in ditches, watercourse or mud, horses or cattle trapped in stables or stock pens to animals (wild or domestic) trapped at height or underground.

#### ***Line Rescue/Rescue from Height***

- 3.2 Specialist Rescue Teams are equipped and trained to undertake all aspects of rescue from height meeting all industry safety standards for working in the area. Level 3 Safe working at Heights and Confined Spaces (SHACS) is part of an integrated Service-wide approach to working at height. Initially, one of the Service's 22 Level 2 teams would attend to access, stabilise and secure some casualties. Level 3 teams provide support at the incident and can access all casualties and rescue either by a lower or raise of the casualty. Teams have been mobilised to rescue injured or stricken climbers and walkers who have found themselves stuck without means of self-rescue in places such as Hay Tor on Dartmoor and Cheddar Gorge on the Mendips. Teams have also utilised their working at height skills to rescue animals that have become stuck on cliffs and quarries.

#### ***Water Rescue***

- 3.3 Specialist Rescue Teams are mobilised to all reports of persons trapped in water to work alongside crews from the nearest station who can undertake only limited rescue work if appropriate or safe. During normal operational requirements this is generally due to an accident or event resulting in a person at danger from water. Water rescue activity has increased dramatically during the past year due to some wide scale flooding events (July 2012 South Devon and Somerset, September 2012 North Devon and West Somerset, November 2012 service wide, December 2012 service wide). During each of the flooding events Specialist Rescue Teams were available and moved to strategic locations to provide a response to the worst affected areas during spate conditions. During 2012 1,392 resources were mobilised to flooding/water related incidents and the Service Fire Control exercised caller questioning and an assessment of public personal risk undertaken (especially during spate conditions) to ensure mobilisation was to life risk incidents only. During 2012 the Service rescued 294 people from flooding/water related incidents.

### **4. PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

- 4.1 The Service has developed a number of partnerships and close working arrangements around specialist rescue enabling it to work closely with experts and other rescue organisations to enhance the its Specialist Rescue provision. Examples of this include:

#### ***Animal Rescue***

- 4.2 All animal rescues involving horses attract the attendance of a British Equine Veterinary Association (BEVA) vet at no cost to the service. The BEVA vet ensures the animals welfare and if required sedates the horse thereby assisting crew safety. Associated costs are recovered either from the owners or are absorbed through a charitable trust.

### ***Rescues from Height***

- 4.3 Specialist Rescue teams work very closely with the Police, HM Coastguard and SWAST HART Teams and other bodies such as the voluntary Dartmoor Search and Rescue organisation. Joint training and exercising with these bodies enable Service crews to have a full understanding of inter-agency working, thus enabling crews to work together to achieve the tasks required.

### ***Water Rescue***

- 4.4 The Service has worked closely with water rescue teams from other fire and rescue services such as Merseyside and Greater Manchester during recent flood events within the service area. In addition, Specialist Rescue Teams have worked alongside RNLI Flood Response Teams during the December flood event rescuing a number of persons that were trapped in floodwater. Further training exercises are planned with RNLI crews to promote a better understanding of skills and capabilities in dealing with wide scale flood events.

## **5. NATIONAL ASSETS**

- 5.1 All of the Service's water rescue resources are declared on the DEFRA Flood Response National Assets Register. This Register was developed following the serious wide scale flooding event in Gloucester in 2007 and holds details of all assets, trained and equipped to a set national standard, available for national deployment in response to a flood event. All assets declared on the register should be available for up to a 4 day deployment. The Service has called on the National Asset register twice in response to the flood events of November and December 2012. The Service has 3 Type B powered rescue boat teams and 4 type C swift water rescue teams declared. There are 44 type B powered boat teams declared on the register.

## **6. FUTURE FURTHER SPECIALIST RESCUE RESOURCES**

### ***Animal Rescue***

- 6.1 The Service has invested in a mechanical tele-handler for the Specialist Rescue Team located at station 60 Special Operations to assist when undertaking animal rescues. Tele-handlers have proved invaluable when rescuing horses and cattle as they can provide an extended lift capability in raising the animal. Crews are currently limited to trying to secure the use of a tele-handler or tractor from a local farmer or contractor. Whilst the service has not encountered any costs for the use of such equipment, crews are placed at a heightened risk in using equipment for which there is no record of safe use or servicing and being driven by members of the public not aware of our operating procedures. The use of a Service-provided vehicle will greatly reduce the risks to our crews and ensure the availability of a suitable lifting vehicle to aid in the rescue.

### ***Water Rescue***

- 6.2 The service is in the process of introducing an additional water rescue capability at station 33 Exmouth. The new capability will be a powered rescue boat team as well as a swift water rescue team. This will greatly enhance the Service's water rescue and flood response assets, with a reduced response time to a high flood risk area of East Devon. The project to establish the team is underway. Crews are being trained and equipment procured with the associated costs being met from within existing resources. It is planned that the new team will go live operationally in October 2013 at which point the additional assets will be declared on the National Asset Register.

**ASSISTANT CHIEF FIRE OFFICER TREVOR STRATFORD**  
**Director of Service Support**