

COMMERCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
(Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority)

5 January 2012

Present:-

Councillors Healey (Chairman), Boyd, Dyke, Gribble, Mills, Randall Johnson and Smith

***CSC/21. Minutes**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 December 2011 be signed as a correct record.

***CSC/22. Declarations of Interest**

Members of the Committee 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 at this time.

No interests were declared.

***CSC/23. Exclusion of the Press and Public**

RESOLVED that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended) to the Act, namely information relating to the financial and business affairs of the Authority and other companies.

CSC/24. Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority Commercial Services Business Case

(An item taken in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 during consideration of which the press and public were excluded from the meeting).

The Committee considered a report of the Director of People and Organisational Development (CSC/12/1) that set out the arrangements for the commercial trading activity of the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority within a strategic context. The Business Case provided the authorisation, direction and framework within which the Authority would be able to identify and generate beneficial income streams for the future, whilst setting out the governance arrangements for trading through Red One in addition. This included the Articles of Association for the Authority together with the Contract between Red One Limited and Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority which required formal approval in due course.

The Director of People and Organisational Development stated that the relationships between the Authority and Red One were complex. It was requested that a document setting out the interrelationships between the Authority, Commercial Services Committee, Commercial Services Board and Red One be set out for reference by Members. The Director of People and Organisational Development stated that this could be set out and presented within a workshop session for Members.

RESOLVED that the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority be recommended to approve the Commercial Business Case as set out in report CSC/12/1 and incorporating the Articles of Association for Red One and the Contract detailing the governance arrangements between the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority and Red One.

CSC/25. Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service Commercial Business Plan 2012 - 2013

(An item taken in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 during consideration of which the press and public were excluded from the meeting).

The Committee considered a report of the Director of People and Organisational Development (CSC/12/2) that detailed the activities to be undertaken within the Business Plan for 2012/13 as defined by the Business Case for commercial trading (Minute CSC/11/24 above also refers).

The Director of People and Organisational Development reported that the trading activities were moving on all the time. As a result, some minor changes were required to the Business Plan prior to final approval.

Councillor Boyd proposed (and was seconded by Councillor Mills) that the Business Plan be approved in principle subject to amendment prior to submission to the Committee for approval in due course.

This was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED that the Business Plan as set out in report CSC/12/2 be approved in principle and, subject to amendment, be recommended to the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority for full approval.

***CSC/26. Training Academy Update**

(An item taken in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 during consideration of which the press and public were excluded from the meeting).

The Committee received for information a report of the Director of People and Organisational Development (CSC/12/3) that provided an update on the progress made to November 2011 in respect of the Training Academy and Schools within this, together with details of plans for the future in terms of course development and potential customers.

***CSC/27. Update on Current Commercial Leads**

(An item taken in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 during consideration of which the press and public were excluded from the meeting).

The Committee received for information an update given by the Director of People and Organisational Development at the meeting in respect of commercial leads that were being pursued and opportunities that had been taken in terms of its trading activities.

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

The meeting started at 10.00hours and finished at 11.28 hours