

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 inter-active 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.