

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

18 June 2013

Present:-

Councillors Brazil, Dyke, Edmunds, Gordon, Healey, Randall Johnson and Woodman

**\*CSC/1. Election of Chair**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Healey be elected Chair of the Committee until its first meeting following the annual meeting of the Authority in 2014.

**\*CSC/2. Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 April 2013 be signed as a correct record.

**\*CSC/3. Election Of Vice-Chair**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Dyke be elected Vice-Chair of the Committee until its first meeting following the annual meeting of the Authority in 2014.

**\*CSC/4. Commercial Services Outturn 2012-13**

The Committee received for information a report of the Treasurer to the Authority (CSC/13/7) indicating that the final surplus from commercial activities in 2012-13 was £0.189m. This was considered to be a good result considering the difficult economic market and current restrictions on public sector funding which were having a detrimental impact on all fire and rescue training budgets, resulting in the growth in income being less than anticipated.

The report also identified a number of other, non-financial, benefits that the development and delivery of commercial products and services was securing including:

- increased knowledge and experience in a number of technical areas, resulting in enhancements to firefighter safety;
- improvements in public safety stemming from delivery of commercial training courses;
- additional employment and earning opportunities for staff on primary and secondary contract terms.

**\*CSC/5. Accountabilities, Roles and Responsibilities of the Board and Directors Of RedOne Ltd.**

The Committee received for information a report of the Chief Fire Officer (CSC/13/8) to which was appended a document giving an overview of RedOne Ltd. and its governance arrangements.

The document defined the roles and responsibilities of the Board of Directors in ensuring that RedOne Ltd. fulfilled its duties and functions in accordance with its Articles of Association and relevant legislation governing commercial trading activity.

**\*CSC/6. Exclusion of the Press and Public**

**RESOLVED** that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public were 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/7. Commercial Services Strategy and Purpose**

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

The Committee received for information a presentation setting out, amongst other things:

- the legislation governing trading activities by the Authority;
- the establishment of RedOne Ltd. as the Authority's trading arm;
- the Service objective for commercial trading and the work of the Service Commercial Services team;
- trading activities being progressed or explored by the Service under the commercial development strategy.

**\*CSC/8. RedOne Ltd. - Profit and Loss Accounts**

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

The Committee received for information a presentation from the Treasurer on the current position of the profit and loss account for RedOne Ltd. for the current (2013-14) financial year. In addition to actual figures to date, the Committee received extrapolated figures to the year-end which indicated that the benefit of commercial trading to the Service should exceed the Service income target.

**\*CSC/9. Update on Commercial Matters (including current commercial leads and opportunities)**

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

The Director of People and Organisational Development reported to the Committee, for information, on the current position in relation to commercial matters including:

- business partnership arrangements being explored;
- direct business leads and opportunities being progressed; and
- new product developments.

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

The meeting started at 14:00hours and finished at 16:50hours.