

LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY

Meeting to be held on Monday 18 December 2017

NOTES OF STRATEGY GROUP HELD ON MONDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 2017

Contact for further information:

Diane Brooks, Principal Member Services Officer - Tel No (01772) 866720

Executive Summary

Report on proceedings of Lancashire Combined Fire Authority Strategy Group held at the North West Fire Control, Warrington Monday, 6 November 2017.

Recommendation

That the Authority note the proceedings as set out in this report.

PRESENT:

Councillors:

F De Molfetta (Chairman)

L Beavers

I Brown

S Clarke

D Coleman

J Eaton

N Hennessy

S Holgate

D Howarth

F Jackson

A Kay

M Khan

Z Khan

T Martin

D O'Toole

M Parkinson (Vice-Chair)

J Shedwick

D Smith

M Tomlinson

T Williams

In attendance:

Hilary Banks – Independent Person

Information

1/17 TOUR OF NORTH WEST FIRE CONTROL

The Chief Fire Officer welcomed all Members to the meeting at North West Fire Control (NWFC) and for the benefit of new Members gave an overview of Fire Control which included the transition arrangements and financial benefits for Lancashire.

The Chief Fire Officer then introduced Mrs S Wilson, Head of North West Fire Control who provided Members with an overview of the volume of calls received annually and in particular the number of calls received on bonfire night and how NWFC approached different spate incidents which were periods of increase activity such as flooding, wildfires and on bonfire night.

Members then had the opportunity to tour the Regional Control Centre which included the viewing gallery and the control room.

2/17 EMERGENCY COVER REVIEW - CONSULTATION RESPONSES

The Deputy Chief Fire Officer gave a presentation to Members that set out the background to the Emergency Cover Review and the outcomes of the consultation exercise during the twelve-week period that commenced 19 July 2017 and ended 11 October 2017.

A full report would be presented to the next Planning Committee on 27 November 2017 who would consider the adequacy of the consultation process and if satisfied make final recommendations to the full CFA scheduled for 18 December 2017.

3/17 AT STINGER

The Deputy Chief Officer presented details of a review of the Water Tower which included the operational benefits, case studies and the capabilities of the Water Tower.

4/17 HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF CONSTABULARY AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES (HMICFRS)

HMIC had been renamed Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Service (HMICFRS). The Chief Fire Officer provided an overview to Members on how the new Fire Rescue Service regime was to be developed.

This included that HMICFRS had stated that their approach would be developed with the Fire & Rescue Service. It would be designed to promote improvement and to identify all aspects of the excellent work undertaken by Fire & Rescue Services:

- Operational service delivery (prevention, protection, resilience, response)
- Efficiency (value for money, matching resources to meet demand, collaboration)
- Organisational effectiveness: your people (leadership, training, diversity, values & culture)

The first inspection was expected to take place between April to July 2018 with the final tranche of inspections by the end of May 2019.

5/17 COLLABORATION - LANCASHIRE CONSTABULARY

The Deputy Chief Fire Officer gave a presentation on Lancashire Fire and Rescue (LFRS) and Lancashire Constabulary (LanCon) current collaboration arrangements.

Lancashire had a history of emergency services working together in response to incidents, in planning for events and in working locally within communities to reduce harm and risk.

In addition, there were a number of existing memorandums of understanding agreements:

- Forcing entry for concern for safety;
- Use of LFRS resources for missing persons searches;
- Use of LFRS air support unit at Police led incidents;
- LFRS assistance at incidents involving rescue at protest sites.

Working in partnership brings better outcomes, increased resilience and identifies efficiencies.

6/17 DAY CREWING PLUS ALLOWANCES

The Director of People and Development explained the issue in respect of the Day Crewing Plus allowance, as Members might be asked a view on visits. On introduction the allowance was increased in recognition of it not being pensionable. Since then there had been many discussions with the Fire Brigades Union (FBU), whether this position should be changed. Currently the service had, at the FBU request, offered to do so within the same cost envelope. However as the proposal affected individuals differently, this resulted in strongly held but conflicting views. We were awaiting a response from the FBU.

7/17 POSITIVE ACTION - RECRUITMENT

The Director of People updated Members on the positive action taken from the recruitment exercise which included statistics, a buddy scheme and 'Have a Go Day' events.

Business Risk

None

Environmental Impact

None

Equality and Diversity Implications

None

HR Implications

None

Financial Implications

None

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
List of Background Papers

Paper N/A	Date	Contact
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate:		

LFRS HQ
Fulwood

M NOLAN
Clerk to CFA