

KENT AND MEDWAY FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Planning and Performance Committee held at Kent Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, The Godlands, Tovil, Maidstone on Thursday 2 July 2015.

PRESENT: - Mr N J D Chard (Chairman), Mr A V H Gulvin (Vice-Chairman), Mr D L Brazier, Ms C J Cribbon, Mr M C Heale, Mr P J Homewood, Mr S J G Koowaree, Mr R J Parry, Mr N A Terry and Mr S A Tranter.

APOLOGIES:- Mr J A Davies, Dr M R Eddy and Mrs S V Hohler.

OFFICERS:- The Chief Executive, Miss A Millington; the Director, Operations, Mr S Bone-Knell; the Director, Finance and Corporate Services, Mr C Kerr; the Assistant Director, Channel Tunnel and Resilience, Mr P Flaherty; the Assistant Director, Community Safety, Mr M Adams; the Assistant Director, Policy and Performance, Mr J Finch; and the Clerk to the Authority, Mr S C Ballard.

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

1. Election of Chairman for 2015/16

(Item A1)

- (1) Mr Gulvin moved, Mr Homewood seconded, that Mr Chard be elected Chairman of the Committee
- (2) There being no other nominations, Mr N J D Chard was declared elected as Chairman of the Committee for 2015/16.

Mr Chard thereupon took the Chair.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman for 2015/16

(Item A2)

- (1) Mr Chard moved, Mr Homewood seconded, that Mr Gulvin be elected Vice-Chairman of the Committee.
- (2) There being no other nominations, Mr A V H Gulvin was declared elected as Vice-Chairman of the Committee for 2015/16.

3. Membership

(Item A3)

The Membership of the Committee for 2015/16 was noted and the Chairman welcomed the new Members to the meeting.

4. Minutes

(Item A5)

- (1) On Minute 19, the Director, Operations, reported that the draft report by the Marine Accident Investigation Branch on its investigation into the DFDS ferry fire on 1 May 2014 had now been received. The draft report had not raised any new issues but its content would be reported to the next meeting of the Committee.

- (2) RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 27 April 2015 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

5. Fire and Police Command and Control Centre Project

(Item B1 - Report by Director, Operations)

- (1) The Committee received an overview of the capabilities of the Authority's new Command and Control System, which was expected to go live later in July, and which shared a mobilising platform with Kent Police, the first such joint Fire/Police system in England. The Committee considered a proposal to invite the new Fire Minister to inaugurate the new System, and also received an update on the next phase of the Command and Control Project.
- (2) RESOLVED that:-
- (a) the draft letter to the new Fire Minister, Mr Francois, advising him of the Authority's new Command and Control System, and inviting him to visit to formally inaugurate it, as attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved;
 - (b) the remaining contents of the report be noted.

6. Summer Safety Preparations

(Item B2 - Report by Assistant Director, Response and Training)

- (1) The Committee was advised of the preparations being made to mitigate, prepare for, and ultimately respond to, the increased demand for the Authority's services as a result of the warmer summer weather.
- (2) RESOLVED that the approach to the 2015 summer safety preparations, as detailed in the report, be endorsed.

7. London Paramount Entertainment Resort Development

(Item C1)

- (1) The Committee received a presentation from Mark Richards, Senior Fire Protection Manager (West), on the Authority's involvement with the London Paramount development and two other major new developments in the same area: Eastern Quarry/Garden City and Bluewater West Village Extension.
- (2) RESOLVED that:-
- (a) the contents of the presentation be noted with thanks;
 - (b) the Committee be updated on progress with the Authority's involvement with the London Paramount development in one year's time;
 - (c) the Committee be updated on the Authority's involvement with the Eastern Quarry/Garden City and Bluewater West Village Extension as and when further information should become available.

8. Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme

(Item C2 - Report by Assistant Director, Channel Tunnel and Resilience)

- (1) The Committee received a report on recent developments within the Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme, and on the likely direction of the programme over the next five years.
- (2) RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted.

9. Performance Update - April to June 2015

(Item C3 - Report by Assistant Director, Policy and Performance)

- (1) The Committee received a report showing how the Authority had performed against all its strategic service delivery indicators during the period from 1 April to 31 May 2015, and an oral update on performance during June 2015 was given at the meeting.
- (2) The Director, Operations, updated Members on the Authority's involvement over the past week in Operation Stack.
- (3) RESOLVED that the contents of the report and the updates be noted.

10. Community Safety Pathfinder Project

(Item C4 - Report by Assistant Director, Community Safety)

- (1) The Committee received an overview of the outcome of the Community Safety Pathfinder Project and possible future developments. The Project, which was based on research commissioned from the National Social Marketing Centre, was designed to promote and deliver home safety visits to a targeted segment of the population.
- (2) RESOLVED that:-
 - (a) the contents of the report be noted;
 - (b) the Committee be updated on progress with the Project at a future meeting.

11. Kent Resilience Team

(Item C5 - Report by Assistant Director, Channel Tunnel and Resilience)

- (1) The Committee received an update on the progress and achievements of the Kent Resilience Team so far, and details of the work planned for 2015/16.
- (2) RESOLVED that:-
 - (a) the contents of the report be noted;
 - (b) the Committee be updated annually on the work of the Team and the benefits it provides.

12. The Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Regulations (England) 2015

(Item C6 - Report by Assistant Director, Community Safety)

- (1) The Committee received a report on The Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Regulations 2015, which were due to come into force on 1 October 2015, and which would make it a legal requirement for all private landlords to provide working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in their properties. The Authority would be involved in publicising the new Regulations and distributing alarms, but had no responsibility for enforcement.
- (2) RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted.

13. Fire Safety Enforcement and Premises Risk Management Update

(Item C7 - Report by Assistant Director, Community Safety)

- (1) The Committee received an update on the Authority's – proportionate – approach to enforcement; outline information about a case currently under investigation; and details of the recently-completed project to develop and introduce the Premises Risk Management (PRM) system, an integrated building information and recording system.

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(2) RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted.

14. Counter-Terrorism Update

(Item C8)

(1) The Assistant Director, Channel Tunnel and Resilience, reported on the Authority's involvement with the Government's counter-terrorism strategy, particularly the 'Prevent' element (through the Authority's work with vulnerable people) and the 'Prepare' element (through the Authority's involvement in preparations, jointly with other emergency services, for dealing with any Marauding Terrorist Firearms Attack (MTFA) incident).

(2) RESOLVED that the update be noted.

15. Exclusion of Press and Public

(Item E1)

RESOLVED that, under Section 100a of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**EXEMPT ITEMS
(Open Access to Minutes)**

16. Channel Tunnel Update

(Item E2 - Report by Assistant Director, Channel Tunnel and Resilience)

RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted.