

TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

Item No

MEETING: 20JULY 2009

SUBJECT: MEMBER LINKS WITH COMMUNITY FIRE STATIONS

REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report sets out, for the consideration of the Authority, a revised list of affiliative links between Members and the Community Fire Stations and departments in Tyne and Wear.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 As Members will recall, at the Authority meeting held on 17 September 2007, a community fire station link scheme was approved, the aim of which was to enhance the liaison and communication between Members of the Fire Authority, and staff on Community Fire Stations and in departments (Minute No. 58/2007 refers).
- 2.2 As stated at the September 2007 meeting, there are benefits to be realised from Authority Members having direct contact with employees through visiting Community Fire Stations and departments on a regular basis to meet local staff, discuss current issues and to be apprised on progress with regard to the delivery of the Community Fire Stations' Annual Plans.
- 2.3 In addition, the direct link this approach establishes also enhances the communication process by providing for the exchange of local information relevant to the appropriate ward areas and promoting networking between Members, Officers and Local Ward Councillors.
- 2.4 Furthermore, developing the links between Members and specific functional departmental heads in Headquarters and the Technical Services Centre will help to ensure that Members are comprehensively informed of specific work in progress as well as improving communication with staff.

3 NOMINATION OF LINK MEMBERS/OFFICERS

- 3.1 Taking the above information into account a revised list has been compiled (see appendix A) which sets out for consideration the proposed links between fire stations and service departments and Members
- 3.2 If the list meets with Members approval then the officers responsible for each specific location will establish contact and arrange a programme of visits to the link stations/departments.
- 3.3 A typical agenda for such visits would include discussion between the officers concerned and the link Member on current issues affecting the locality,

scrutinising of the station / departmental plans and their associated targets and issues of concern to staff.

- 3.4 Members may wish to also discuss these matters with colleague Ward Councillors and, when relevant, invite them to attend meetings with Community Fire Station staff as appropriate.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

5 EQUALITY AND FAIRNESS IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no equality and fairness implications in respect of this report.

6 HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no health and safety implications in respect of this report.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The Authority is recommended to:

- a) Consider the report and the proposed link arrangements set out in Appendix A, and;
- b) endorse, subject to any changes they may wish to make, the links between Members and stations/departments

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The under mentioned Background Papers refer to the subject matter of the above report:

- FA Report 'Members Affiliation with Community Fire Stations' 17 September 2007

APPENDIX A

COMMUNITY FIRE STATION	STATION DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT	ELECTED MEMBER
West Denton Community Fire Station (Newcastle West 24)	District Officer Gardner SM Geoff Hagon	Cllr Ron Clark
Colby Court Community Fire Station (Newcastle South 23)	District Officer Gardner SM Dave Escott	Cllr Nick Forbes
Gosforth Community Fire Station (Newcastle North 21)	District Officer Gardner SM Paul Tait	Cllr Tom Woodwark
Fossway Community Fire Station (Newcastle East 22)	District Officer Gardner SM Ged Sheperd	Cllr Robert Renton
Wallsend Community Fire Station (North Tyneside South 33)	District Officer Tague SM Keith Carruthers	Cllr David Charlton
Rainton Bridge Community Fire Station (Sunderland South 53)	District Officer Allison SM Jeff Wilkinson	Cllr Ellen Ball
Tynemouth Community Fire Station (North Tyneside East 32)	District Office Tague SM Anthony Markwell	Cllr Ken Jordan Cllr Shirley Mortimer
South Shields Community Fire Station (South Tyneside East 42)	District Officer Nielsen SM Nev Charlton	Cllr Ms Joanne Bell
Fulwell Community Fire Station (Sunderland North 51)	District Officer Allison SM William Foster	Cllr Ms Joanne Bell Cllr Mrs Margaret Forbes
Sunderland Central Community Fire Station (Sunderland East 52)	District Officer Allison SM Colin Bowman	Cllr Mrs Margaret Forbes
Northmoor Community Fire Station (Sunderland Central 50)	District Officer Allison SM Peter Iveson	Cllr Tom Wright

PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING

Washington Community Fire Station (Sunderland West 54)	District Officer Allison SM Joe Cummings	Cllr Bernard Scaplehorn
Hebburn Community Fire Station (South Tyneside West 44)	District Officer Nielsen SM – Ian Warne	Cllr Michael Clare
Gateshead Community Fire Station (Gateshead East 12)	District Officer Stokoe SM Mick Edwards	Cllr David Bolland
Birtley Community Fire Station (Gateshead South 13)	District Officer Stokoe SM Steven Anderson	Cllr Mrs Doreen Boyes
Swalwell Community Fire Station (Gateshead North 11)	District Officer Stokoe SM Peter Mudie	Cllr Gary Haley
Chopwell Community Fire Station (Gateshead West 14)	District Officer Stokoe SM Peter Mudie	Cllr Gary Haley
Service Headquarters	AM Peter Trevithick	Cllr Tom Wright Cllr Nick Forbes
Technical Services Centre	Mr Michael Toland	Cllr Tom Wright
Mobilising and Control	GM (B) Barbara Hammond	Cllr Nick Forbes