

MEETING: 19 SEPTEMBER 2011

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 Members, a revised list of affiliative links between Members and the Community Fire Stations and departments within Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service.

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), this scheme was also updated by Members on 19th July 2010 (Minute 17/2010 refers).
- 2.2 There are many 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 appraised on progress with regard to the delivery of the Strategic Community Safety Plan.
- 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 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 officers 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 also wish to 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 specific 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
Swalwell Community Fire Station (Gateshead North 11)	District Officer Mudie SM Steve Malley	Cllr Gary Haley
Low Fell Community Fire Station (Gateshead East 12)	District Officer Mudie SM Jeff Wilkinson	Cllr Peter Mole
Birtley Community Fire Station (Gateshead South 13)	District Officer Mudie SM Jon Gray	Cllr Christopher Ord
Chopwell Community Fire Station (Gateshead West 14)	District Officer Mudie SM Steve Malley	Cllr Gary Haley
Gosforth Community Fire Station (Newcastle North 21)	District Officer Markwell SM Martin McConnel	Cllr Robert Renton
Byker Community Fire Station (Newcastle East 22)	District Officer Markwell SM Stephen Taylor	Cllr Nick Forbes
Rye Hill Community Fire Station (Newcastle South 23)	District Officer Markwell SM Ian Warbrick	Cllr Dipu Ahad
West Denton Community Fire Station (Newcastle West 24)	District Officer Markwell SM Geoff Hagon	Cllr Hazel Stephenson
Tynemouth Community Fire Station (North Tyneside East 32)	District Office Tait SM Graham Smith	Cllr Shirly Mortimer Cllr Carole Gambling
Wallsend Community Fire Station (North Tyneside South 33)	District Officer Tait SM Graeme Hurst	Cllr Tommy Mulvenna
South Shields Community Fire Station (South Tyneside East 42)	District Officer Robertson SM Nev Charlton	Cllr Ms Joanne Bell
Hebburn Community Fire	District Officer Robertson	Cllr Bob Watters

PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING

Station (South Tyneside West 44)	SM – Ian Cuskin	
Farringdon Community Fire Station (Sunderland Central 50)	District Officer Carruthers SM Peter Iveson	Cllr Neville Padgett
Fulwell Community Fire Station (Sunderland North 51)	District Officer Carruthers SM William Foster	Cllr Ms Joanne Bell
Millfield Community Fire Station (Sunderland East 52)	District Officer Carruthers SM Gary Yates	Cllr Mrs Margaret Forbes
Rainton Bridge Community Fire Station (Sunderland South 53)	District Officer Carruthers SM Joe Cummings	Cllr Neville Padgett
Washington Community Fire Station (Sunderland West 54)	District Officer Carruthers SM Andy Lilford	Cllr Dorothy Trueman
Service Headquarters	AM Alan Robson	Cllr Bob Heron Cllr Nick Forbes
Mobilising and Control	GM Sue Cameron	Cllr Nick Forbes