

## **CIVIL CONTINGENCIES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting of the CIVIL CONTINGENCIES COMMITTEE held in Meetings Rooms 1 and 2, Fire and Rescue Authority Headquarters, Nissan Way, Barmston Mere, Sunderland on MONDAY, 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2006 at 10.30 a.m.

### **Present:**

Councillor Ms. Bell in the Chair

Councillors Boyes, Cooney, Gibson, Jones, Jordan and Renton.

### **Appointment of Chairman**

1. RESOLVED that Councillor Ms. Bell be appointed as Chairman for the ensuing period to the next annual meeting.

### **Appointment of Vice-Chairman**

2. RESOLVED that Councillor Jones be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing period to the next annual meeting.

### **Apologies for Absence**

No apologies for absence were received.

## **Minutes**

3. RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Emergency Planning Committee held on 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2006 (circulated) be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

## **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **TWEPU Business Plan 2006/07**

The Chief Emergency Planning Officer submitted a report (circulated) informing Members of the publication of the Tyne and Wear Emergency Planning Unit's (TWEPU's) revised Business Plan for 2006/07 which was an integral part of the TWEPU's service commitment to the Councils.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Attention having been drawn to the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) Community Risk Register (CRR), and the UK National Capabilities Survey 2006 incorporated into the plan, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the report be noted.

## **Business Continuity Management – Advice and Assistance to Business and Voluntary Organisations**

The Chief Emergency Planning Officer submitted a report (circulated) making Members aware of recent developments within Tyne and Wear regarding delivery of the Civil Contingencies Act (CCA) 2004 business continuity 'promotion' duty (BCMP).

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Members were advised that the duty to provide advice and assistance in relation to Business Continuity Management fell on Local Authorities however in Tyne and Wear the duty was discharged by TWEPU to ensure consistency of approach, advice and assistance within Tyne and Wear. The Committee were advised that the 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2006 deadline was successfully achieved thanks to a lot of hard work from those involved.

The Chairman requested that recognition be given to staff for all their efforts to ensure the deadline was met especially as there was a lot of difficult work to get through.

Councillor Gibson pointed out that the report referred to the TWEPU website but nowhere in the report was the web address provided. He advised that Members would find it useful in the future if the address was provided. The Chief Emergency Planning Officer advised that the web address was [www.twepu.gov.uk](http://www.twepu.gov.uk) and would be included in any future reports where necessary.

Attention having been brought to the report, it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the report be noted.

### **Major Incident – Grey Street North Shields**

The Chief Emergency Planning Officer submitted a report (circulated) making Members aware of the response by North Tyneside Council and the TWEPU to that incident.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Jordan advised the Committee that letters had been sent out to the residents of Tynemouth Ward offering further assistance following the incident. He stated that the fact that no requests had been received was testament to how well everyone involved had handled the incident.

Having considered the report, it was:-

6. RESOLVED that the report be noted.

### **COMAH Exercises – Shell UK and ROHM & HAAS**

The Chief Emergency Planning Officer submitted a report (circulated) outlining the recent COMAH exercises carried out on 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2006.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Committee were advised that both tabletop exercises had gone well and the outcomes of the pending debriefs would be incorporated into the COMAH Emergency Plans.

The Committee received an outline of the table top exercises, and the Chairman advised that her attendance, in an observing capacity, had provided a good overview of the behind the scenes work and had shown how well all the partnerships involved worked together.

Attention having been given to the report, it was:-

7. RESOLVED that the report be noted.

## **Buncefield – Lessons Learned**

The Chief Emergency Planning Officer submitted a report (circulated) providing information in relation to the lessons learned following the explosion and fire at the Buncefield Oil Depot in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire in December, 2005.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Upon discussion, it was:-

8. RESOLVED that the report be noted.

## **North East Regional CBRN Issues – Recovery and Restoration Sub-Group**

The Chief Emergency Planning Officer submitted a report (circulated) updating Members on recent regional CBRN developments.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Members were advised that the Emergency Planning Unit would continue to act on behalf of the Local Authorities within Tyne and Wear in identifying roles, responsibilities and actions as determined by the duties detailed in the Recovery and Restoration phases of a CBRN incident and Local Authorities would be kept informed of any progress using the agreed procedures.

Attention having been given to the report, it was:-

9. RESOLVED that the report be noted.

## **Report of the 7<sup>th</sup> July Review Committee**

The Chief Emergency Planning Officer submitted a report (copy circulated) advising Members of the findings of the report of the 7<sup>th</sup> July Review Committee.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Members having been advised of the importance of Resilience Communications following the significant problems at the time, it was:-

10. RESOLVED that the report be noted.

## **Emergency Planning Society Conference 2006**

The Chief Emergency Planning Officer submitted a report (circulated) advising Members on the outcomes of the Emergency Planning Society Conference 2006.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Conference was yet again extremely useful and informative. Members were advised that the Conference gave an excellent opportunity to network with other agencies and organisations and the information gained would be used to inform the development of plans and procedures in Tyne and Wear.

Upon discussion, it was:-

11. RESOLVED that the report be noted.

(Signed) J. BELL,  
Chairman.