

MEETING: 21 NOVEMBER 2011

SUBJECT: OLYMPICS 2012 - UPDATE

REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This report provides an update for Members regarding the actions taking place within Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service (TWFRS) in preparation for the Olympics 2012.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The Olympic and Paralympic Games 2012 begins in London on the 27th July 2012, concluding on the 9th September 2012.
- 2.2. As part of the 2012 Olympics St James Park, Newcastle upon Tyne has been selected as a venue for Football and, in addition, there will be Olympic accommodation housing the participating teams and the potential for training camps in the North East. There are no Paralympic activities planned within the Tyne and Wear area.
- 2.3. Officers from the Service are working with multi-agency partners, through the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) to support the delivery of a safe and secure Olympic and Paralympic programme, in keeping with the Games culture and spirit.
- 2.4. The governance arrangements for the games are undertaken by the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games (LOCOG), who will take control of St James Park from Newcastle United on the 11th July until 4th August 2012.
- 2.5. The Olympic torch will also pass through the region and TWFRS is working to support the safety along the designated routes within Tyne and Wear.

3. ST JAMES PARK – OLYMPIC VENUE TIMETABLE 2012

- 3.1. St James Park will host the following Football events during the Olympics 2012:
 - Thursday 26th July 2012, (Two Games)
 - Sunday 29th July 2012, (Two Games)
 - Tuesday 31st July 2012, (Two Games)
 - Wednesday 1st August 2012, Single Game
 - Friday 3rd August 2012, Single Game

- Saturday 4th August 2012, Single Game

4. PARALLEL OLYMPIC EVENTS

- 4.1. During the period of the Olympics the region will also host a number of other events including large screen televisions presenting aspects of the Games, street entertainment and cultural events.
- 4.2. Newcastle City Council is presently coordinating a calendar indicating the parallel events for the duration of the Olympics.

5. TRAINING CAMPS AND ACCOMODATION

- 5.1. Prior to the Football Games at St James Park the region will host a number of Training Camps for teams preparing for various Olympic 2012 disciplines. It is anticipated that a number of facilities will be used however at present only one is confirmed, Sunderland University will host and accommodate the team representing Grenada.

6. OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY

- 6.1. The Olympic Torch Relay begins on the 18th May 2012 and will run for 70 days.
- 6.2. The North East Region will host 3 days of the event in June 2012. On the 15th June 2012 the Torch will leave Alnwick Castle arriving in Tyne and Wear mid-day, travelling through North Tyneside and Newcastle.
- 6.3. On the 16th June 2012 the Torch will travel through the districts of Sunderland, South Tyneside and Gateshead leaving the Authority area mid-afternoon, moving back into Northumberland.

7. PREPARATION, PLANNING AND TESTING

- 7.1. As part of the preparation for the Olympic Games the Service is committed to a full and active part in the local, regional and national events. Details of the exercises undertaken and those programmed can be seen below;

Local Multi Agency programmes completed to date

- Guardian Series, CBRNE Mass Decontamination Exercises.
- Argon programme (assessment of the multi-agency tactical planning across the 18 Model Response sites)
- National USAR Exercise Genesis.
- Norland Tactical Exercises at various locations throughout the authority area.

Olympic specific programmes

In preparation for the games, 5 national programmes have been planned to test many aspects surrounding a resilient Olympics, the multi-agency programme started in September 2011 and will conclude in April 2012.

8. LOCAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL OLYMPIC PLANNING

8.1. As a partner in the multi-agency approach to the Olympics 2012 and to ensure the Service has the requisite intelligence, TWFRS personnel are represented on a number of regional and national Olympic Working Groups some of which are set out below for information:

- Local Resilience Forum (LRF)
- Newcastle City Operations Group
- Blue Light Groups (Olympic Venue and Torch relay)
- Olympic Security Counter Terrorism (OSCT) Football Multi Agency Group

8.2. Within the Authority a working group has also been formed to support the delivery of a safe and secure Olympic and Paralympic programme.

9. OLYMPIC ASSURANCE PROCESS

9.1. As part of LOCOG's assurance process TWFRS were inspected on the 14th October 2011 by representatives from the Chief Fire and Rescue Advisors Unit (CFRA). Initial feedback was very positive; we are expecting the full report in November. This is the first of a number of inspections of the Service to be programmed before the Olympics.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1. TWFRS do not envisage any additional financial implications being caused by the event

11. HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

11.1. Any Health and Safety implications will be considered throughout the preparation process.

12. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

12.1. Any Equality and Diversity implications will be considered throughout the preparation process

13. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

13.1. All potential risks to the Service caused by the Olympics have been documented in a Risk Register overseen by the Service Risk Manager Mr Mark Hedley. This is monitored and reviewed monthly by the Service Olympic Working Group.

14. RECOMMENDATIONS

14.1. The Authority is requested to note the content of this report and receive further reports as required.
