

**TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**Item No**

**MEETING: 21 JULY 2008**

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**SUBJECT: FIRE AND RESCUE CONFERENCE - 2008**

**JOINT REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER, CHIEF EMERGENCY PLANNING OFFICER, CLERK TO THE AUTHORITY, THE FINANCE OFFICER AND PERSONNEL ADVISOR**

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**1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Fire and Rescue 2008 conference is scheduled to take place at the New Arena and Convention Centre, Liverpool, from 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

**2 BACKGROUND TO THE FIRE AND RESCUE CONFERENCE**

- 2.1 The conference is an annual event, which provides the opportunity for everyone within the Fire and Rescue Sector to meet and receive current information relating to National Fire Service issues. To this end, Fire and Rescue 2008 will be highlighting a number of key issues, including operational doctrine, flooding and the environment, health and safety, comprehensive area assessments, fire insurance and equality and diversity. The main plenary sessions will be supported by a programme of topical and practical workshops covering new technology, skills and competency framework, industrial relations, national standards and post fire business continuity.
- 2.2 In addition to the above, there will also be an opportunity to view the Emergency Action Zone, where the very best fire fighting and rescue equipment and techniques will be shown in a series of demonstrations and the conference will run alongside the tenth World Firefighter Games, also being held in Liverpool. It is envisaged that the Minister for Fire will also be addressing the conference.

**3 ATTENDANCE BY THE AUTHORITY**

- 3.1 In order that provisional arrangements can be made, it is proposed that the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman represent the Authority at the Fire and Rescue Conference.

**4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The cost of this conference is £450 per member not including VAT which can be met from current budget headings.

**5 QUALITY 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 approve the attendance at the conference of the Chairman and Vice-chairman

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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

- Fire & Rescue 2008 advance notification document