

**TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**Item No 09**

**MEETING: 21st JANUARY 2013**

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**SUBJECT: MEMBER LINKS WITH COMMUNITY FIRE STATIONS**

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER**

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**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 At the Fire 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 16<sup>th</sup> July 2012 (Minute 14/2012 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 established by this approach 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.
- 2.5 Members may wish to note the change of Station names in appendix A. Members will recall that as a requirement of the Regional Control Centre (RCC) project, appliance call signs were changed to new national call signs. Our community fire station names were also changed to harmonise with the revised national model.

- 2.6 As a result of the RCC project being cancelled, and following detailed consultation with staff, the station names have now been changed to better reflect the communities in which they are located.

### **3 NOMINATION OF LINK MEMBERS/OFFICERS**

- 3.1 A revised table of Members Links has been compiled (appendix A), which sets out for consideration the proposed links between each fire station and service departments and Fire Authority 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/departamental 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

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## **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

<b>COMMUNITY FIRE STATION</b>	<b>STATION / DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>ELECTED MEMBER</b>
West Denton Community Fire Station  Station Alpha (Stn A)	District Officer Iveson SM Geoff Hagon <b>Contact – 0191 444 1030</b> <b>geoff.hagon@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Hazel Stephenson
Newcastle Central Community Fire Station  Station Charlie (Stn C)	District Officer Iveson SM Ian Warbrick <b>Contact – 0191 444 1118</b> <b>ian.warbrick@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Dipu Ahad
Gosforth Community Fire Station  Station Echo (Stn E)	District Officer Iveson SM Paul Tait <b>Contact – 0191 444 1088</b> <b>paul.tait@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Robert Renton
Byker Community Fire Station  Station Foxtrot (Stn F)	District Officer Iveson T/SM Stephen Taylor <b>Contact – 0191 444 1158</b> <b>Stephen.taylor@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Nick Forbes
Wallsend Community Fire Station  Station Golf (Stn G)	District Officer Escott SM Graeme Hurst <b>Contact – 0191 444 1214</b> <b>Graeme.hurst@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Tommy Mulvenna
Tynemouth Community Fire Station  Station Juliet (Stn J)	District Officer Escott SM Graham Smith <b>Contact – 0191 444 1770</b> <b>Scott.carruthers@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Shirley Mortimer Cllr Carole Gambling
South Shields Community Fire Station  Station Kilo (Stn K)	District Officer Robertson SM Ian Cuskin <b>Contact – 0191 444 1823</b> <b>neville.charlton@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Ms Joanne Bell
Hebburn Community Fire Station  Station Tango (Stn T)	District Officer Robertson T/SM Mark Witherspoon <b>Contact – 0191 444 1320</b> <b>mark.witherspoon@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Eddie McAtominey
Fulwell Community Fire Station  Station Mike (Stn M)	District Officer Hall SM Gary Yates <b>Contact – 0191 444 1306</b> <b>gary.yates@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Ms Joanne Bell Cllr Bob Price

Sunderland Central Community Fire Station  Station November (Stn N)	District Officer Hall SM Joe Cummings <b>Contact – 0191 444 1228</b> <b>ian.warne@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Mrs Margaret Forbes
Farringdon Community Fire Station  Station Quebec (Stn Q)	District Officer Hall SM Bill Forster <b>Contact – 0191 444 1188</b> <b>bill.forster@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Tom Wright
Washington Community Fire Station  Station Sierra (Stn S)	District Officer Hall SM Steve Anderson <b>Contact – 0191 444 1868</b> <b>andy.lillford@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Neville Padgett
Rainton Bridge Community Fire Station  Station Hotel (Stn H)	District Officer Hall SM Bill Forster <b>Contact – 0191 444 1808</b> <b>joe.cummings@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Neville Padgett Cllr Tom Wright
Gateshead Community Fire Station  Station Victor (Stn V)	District Officer Gerrard SM Jeff Wilkinson <b>Contact – 0191 444 1418</b> <b>jeff.wilkinson@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Peter Mole
Birtley Community Fire Station:  Station Whiskey (Stn W)	District Officer Gerrard SM Jon Gray <b>Contact – 0191 444 1896</b> <b>jon.gray@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Christopher Ord
Swalwell Community Fire Station  Station Yankee (Stn Y)	District Officer Gerrard T/SM Keith Matthews (SM Peter Mudie) <b>Contact – 0191 444 1448</b> <b>peter.mudie@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Gary Haley
Chopwell Community Fire Station  Station Zulu (Stn Z)	District Officer Gerrard T/SM Keith Matthews (SM Peter Mudie) <b>Contact – 0191 444 1448</b> <b>peter.mudie@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Gary Haley
Service Headquarters	AM Alan Robson <b>Contact – 0191 444 1619</b> <b>alan.robson@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Nick Forbes Cllr Tom Wright
Mobilising and Control	GM Sue Cameron <b>Contact – 0191 444 1041</b> <b>sue.cameron@twfire.gov.uk</b>	Cllr Nick Forbes

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED