TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

Item No. 8

MEETING: FIRE AUTHORITY 27 JULY 2022

SUBJECT: MEMBER LINKS WITH COMMUNITY FIRE STATIONS &

DEPARTMENTS

JOINT REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER/CHIEF EXECUTIVE (THE CLERK TO THE AUTHORITY), THE FINANCE DIRECTOR AND THE PERSONNEL ADVISOR TO THE AUTHORITY

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report sets out for the consideration of Members, a revised list of links between Members and the Community Fire Stations and departments within Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service. It also proposes to assign Members a key point of contact within the Executive Leadership Team of the Service to build relationships and aid communication.

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 18th July 2017. (Minute No. 17/2017 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 hear first-hand from staff how they are working to deliver against the services priorities and goals.
- 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, Area Managers and specific Heads of Department 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 Members will be allocated a key point of contact within the Executive Leadership Team. This will give Members efficient access to any relevant information they may wish.
- 3.2 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.
- 3.3 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.
- 3.4 A typical agenda for such visits would include discussion between officers and the link Member on current issues affecting the locality, discussions relating to the station/departmental plans and their associated targets and issues of concern to staff.
- 3.5 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

Executive Leadership Team Member	Contact Details	Fire Authority Members Cllr Phil Tye Kim McGuinness (PCC)	
Chris Lowther CFO Chief Fire Officer	Chris.lowther@twfire.gov.uk		
Peter Heath DCFO Deputy Chief Fire Officer	Peter.heath@twfire.gov.uk	Cllr Carole Burdis	
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Paul Russell Area Manager Data, Digital and Safety	0191 444 1540 07970124494 Paul.russell@twfire.gov.uk	Cllr Carl Johnson Cllr Janet Hunter	
David Leach Area Manager Service Delivery	0191 4441278 07976 6157808 david.leach@twfire.gov.uk	Cllr Ged Bell Cllr Karen Kilgour Cllr Tom Woodwark	
John Rawling HR Director	07747 473883 john.rawling@twfire.gov.uk	Cllr Wilf Flynn Cllr John Usher Cllr Joan Keegan	
Richie Rickaby Area Manager Community Safety	0191 444 1581 07817 147322 <u>richie.rickaby@twfire.gov.uk</u>	Cllr Gary Haley Cllr Kevin Dodds Cllr Christopher Ord	

Community Fire Station	Station Manager / Head Of Service Delivery	Fire Authority Member
West Denton Community	Station Manager Ian Stewart	Cllr Ged Bell
Fire Station	0191 4441030 / 07825 197692	Cili Ged Deli
The Station	lan.stewart@twfire.gov.uk	
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Glation Alpha (Gli A)	Head of Service Delivery North	
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Station Foxiot (Stiff)	<u>Jay.Snepherd@twiire.gov.uk</u>	
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H	Head of Service Delivery East	
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Station Zulu (Stn Z)			
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Service Headquarters	AM Paul Russell	Cllr Phil Tye
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