

Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Safer & Stronger Communities

Monday, 13 February 2012 at 12.00 pm or on the rising of the Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee, whichever is the later, County Hall, New Road, Oxford

Items for Decision

The items for decision under individual Cabinet Members' delegated powers are listed overleaf, with indicative timings, and the related reports are attached. Decisions taken will become effective at the end of the working day on Tuesday 21 February 2012 unless called in by that date for review by the appropriate Scrutiny Committee.

Copies of the reports are circulated (by e-mail) to all members of the County Council.

These proceedings are open to the public



Peter G. Clark
County Solicitor

February 2012

Contact Officer: **Julie Dean**
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Note: Date of next meeting: 12 March 2012

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named on the front page, but please give as much notice as possible before the meeting.

Items for Decision

1. **Declarations of Interest**
2. **Questions from County Councillors**

Any county councillor may, by giving notice to the Proper Officer by 9 am two working days before the meeting, ask a question on any matter in respect of the Cabinet Member's delegated powers.

The number of questions which may be asked by any councillor at any one meeting is limited to two (or one question with notice and a supplementary question at the meeting) and the time for questions will be limited to 30 minutes in total. As with questions at Council, any questions which remain unanswered at the end of this item will receive a written response.

Questions submitted prior to the agenda being despatched are shown below and will be the subject of a response from the appropriate Cabinet Member or such other councillor or officer as is determined by the Cabinet Member, and shall not be the subject of further debate at this meeting. Questions received after the despatch of the agenda, but before the deadline, will be shown on the Schedule of Addenda circulated at the meeting, together with any written response which is available at that time.

3. **Petitions and Public Address**
4. **Future Arrangements for Call Receipt, Mobilising & Incident Management for Oxfordshire County Council Fire & Rescue Service**

Forward Plan Ref: 2012/003

Contact: Colin Thomas, Deputy Chief Fire Officer Tel: (01865) 855206

Report by Chief Fire Officer (**CMDSSC4**).

Following the termination of the Department for Communities and Local Government national FiReControl project, Cabinet approved Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service joint working with Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes and Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Authorities to create a Strategic Outline (business) Case for the provision of their collective Fire Control functions. This examined the feasibility of the creation of a joint "999" call receipt, mobilising and incident management function for Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service and its partners.

In September 2012 both Oxfordshire County Council Cabinet and Royal Berkshire Fire Authority supported the proposal and gave the go ahead to proceed with the programme. Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority chose to pursue another option outside of the Thames Valley Sub-Region.

In the case of either Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes or Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Authorities failing to approve the further progression of the Joint Thames Valley Approach, Cabinet required the Chief Fire Officer to instigate

appropriate actions to progress an alternative contingency plan, subject to the approval of the Cabinet Member for Safer & Stronger Communities.

In addition the Cabinet resolution required the Chief Fire Officer to report back to the Cabinet Member for Safer and Stronger Communities on a regular basis concerning:

- (a) progress with the joint DCLG bid for the resilience grant funding
- (b) progress with Thames Valley partnership working arrangements
- (c) progress on the creation of a suitable governance structure

This report identifies the contingency arrangements and gives details of further progress of items a-c above.

The Cabinet Member for Safer and Stronger Communities is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) approve continued working with RBFRA on a joint programme to create the Outline Business Case for a single Joint Control which will be subject to final approval by the Cabinet in July 2012;***
 - (b) note the submission of the DCLG joint Bid;***
 - (c) approve the creation and membership of the Programme Sponsorship Group;***
 - (d) require the Chief Fire Officer to maintain an alternative contingency plan should DCLG funding not be secured or other unknown issues cause the cessation of the joint approach; and***
 - (e) require the Chief Fire Officer to continue to report back to the Cabinet Member for Safer and Stronger Communities on a regular basis concerning:***
 - (i) progress with the joint DCLG bid for the resilience grant funding***
 - (ii) creation of the Outline Business Case***
 - (iii) progress on the creation of a suitable governance structure.***
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