

Agenda Item 6

GREATER MANCHESTER FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE

17 JANUARY 2013

Subject: ANNUAL HEALTH AND SAFETY PERFORMANCE REPORT

Report of the County Fire Officer & Chief Executive

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PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the content of the Annual Health and Safety Performance Report, progress made in improving our overall health and safety performance, and to outline where further work will enable continued improvement. Members are also advised regarding future changes to reporting of Health and Safety performance. A copy of the performance report is attached as Appendix A.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report sets out the improvements that we have made in health and safety performance during the last financial year and overall trends for the last six years. It shows significant reductions in the number of accidents involving all staff groups and at operational incidents. It also recognises that there is a risk of accident and injury rates associated with our training activities, failing to keep pace with improvements in other areas, as our training facilities and delivery become more realistic.
2. It identifies a number of areas where performance during the last year has not improved in line with longer term trends and makes recommendations that are aimed at improving performance in these areas. These recommendations will form the basis of an improvement plan which will be delivered during the latter part of 2012/13.

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

3. Historically the Health and Safety Support Section have produced an annual report outlining how the Service has performed with regard to the number of accidents and injuries, their causation and consequences for the Service in terms of lost working time.
4. The report identifies that in practically every area our health and safety performance has improved. However there are a small number of

areas where performance last year did not compare favourably with the long term trend.

5. As the report contains management information that facilitates decision making regarding the future focus of activity, and direction to improve performance, this will be the last time that performance will be reported in this way. Future health and safety performance will be reported through the quarterly Performance Reports to Members and the Legal Activity report to the Prevention and Protection Committee.
6. Please note that this report was presented to the Prevention and Protection Committee on 8 November 2012.

PERFORMANCE

7. The attached report sets out our health and safety performance for 2011/12 and shows a continuing improvement in many areas over the last five years, including:
 - 45% reduction in accidents
 - 44% reduction in the number of days lost due to accidents
 - 48% reduction in events that are reportable under RIDDOR
 - 24% reduction in accidents involving non uniformed support staff
 - 58% reduction in accidents at incidents
 - 7% reduction in accidents during training
8. The recommendations from the report are listed below and reflect both the need to improve in these areas and to continue to drive performance improvement.
 - Design and deliver a health and safety campaign focusing on the following key areas to further reduce the number and impact of accidents and injuries:
 - stepping on/off appliances
 - fall/slip/trip
 - handling (not lifting)
 - struck by/against
 - Carry out further analysis of accidents and injuries occurring at 'other' locations to identify any trends regarding the type of work activity being undertaken, whether or not any specific work groups are involved and to identify whether or not there is a disproportionate number of accidents and injuries involving non-operational staff.

- Introduce new reporting systems that provide line managers with immediate information relating to accidents and injuries in their area of responsibility, enabling local management and accountability for health and safety matters.
- Through the new reporting systems above, introduce reports that overtly include the determination and identification of individual or collective responsibility for accidents and injuries.
- Closely monitor levels of accidents and injuries arising from training activities to ensure that appropriate control measures are being identified, and implemented, that maintain realism whilst reducing the potential for accidents and injuries.
- Design, deliver and monitor a campaign to further improve near miss reporting.

RECOMMENDATIONS

9. Members are recommended to:
 1. Note the contents of this report and the attached performance report.
 2. Support the implementation of the recommendations within the performance report.

STEVE McGUIRK
COUNTY FIRE OFFICER
& CHIEF EXECUTIVE

There are no background papers to this report within the meaning of Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

S. McGuirk
(Proper Officer)
4.1.13

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