1. **Apologies for Absence**

   Apologies were received from Mr David Cartwright QFSM, for whom Councillor Colin Tandy was substituting.

2. **Disclosures of Interests and Dispensations**

   **Resolved** – That

   1. The details of membership of the GLA, other functional bodies and London Boroughs, as attached as an appendix to the agenda be noted; and

   2. That the additional declaration by Councillor Colin Tandy in relation to agenda item 5, that he was a Member of the Environment Agency Southern Regional Flood Defence Committee, be noted.

3. **Minutes**

   **Resolved** – That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 12 November 2013 be approved and signed by the Chair as a true record.

4. **Summary List of Actions - FEP 2215**

   In relation to items 6/FEP 2118, the Deputy Commissioner informed the Committee that the waste and recycling facility, “Waste4Fuel”, was successfully prosecuted recently under the General Powers Act and ordered to pay the maximum fine of £1,000 plus full costs. The Environment Agency was pursuing a separate prosecution which, if successful, could carry a greater penalty.
Resolved – That the on-going, outstanding and completed actions arising from previous meetings of the Committee, as set out in the report (FEP 2215).

5. Change to Order of Business

In accordance with Standing Order 48 (b) the Chair of the Committee proposed a change to the order of business to take Agenda items 11-14 before Item 5, which was agreed.

6. Geographic Mobilising of Operational Resources - FEP 2220 (Agenda Item 11)

Report (26.2.2014) by the Third Officer.

The Third Officer introduced the report. Members welcomed the proposals contained in the report, as they would provide for a more intelligent use of resources. Members asked a number of questions which were answered by officers.

The motion was then moved by the Chair: That -

1. The contents of the report be noted;
2. At the commencement of go-live of the replacement mobilising system later in July 2014, geographic mobilising is supported by core system functionality of utilising the road routing network in accordance with the business needs of the Brigade; and
3. After introduction of the new mobilising system, the following be determined:-
   a) A strategy for introduction of the additional functionality associated with geographical mobilising (including timescales);
   b) Whether to prioritise Brigade incident types as either high or low; and
   c) Whether to develop a matrix for activation times when planning for Strategic Resource activities (subject to any software solution implemented).

The motion was seconded by Councillor Susan Hall, put and agreed.

Resolved: accordingly.

7. Fires in Sheltered Housing: a view from the Borough Commanders - FEP 2221 (Agenda Item 12)

Report (26.2.2014) by the Third Officer.

The Third Officer introduced the report and answered various questions from Members. Concern was expressed about the number of fatal fires that occurred in sheltered housings; Members queried whether this was a reflection of the increase in this type of residential accommodation. It was suggested that there had been an increase in other new types of development which offered a range of extra care. Officers indicated that there was no firm evidence in this regard but noted that there was evidence to indicate some sheltered housing
developments were badly managed. Councillor Hopkins queried whether Lambeth had outsourced its housing provision to the 62 Arms Length Management Organisations (ALMO’s) and private companies, as set out in the report, and undertook to confirm this. It was further noted that much sheltered housing was administered by Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) and that officers were in contact with all 93 of them.

Councillor Hall asked that the considerable work in this area undertaken by Richard Claydon, Borough Commander for Harrow, be noted.

The motion was then moved by the Chair: - That the efforts of borough commanders to engage proactively with local partners and assist in the process of working to reduce fires in sheltered housing by raising the issue with Chief Executives and relevant cabinet members where appropriate be endorsed.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Susan Hall, put and agreed.

**Resolved:** accordingly.

8. **Bring Together the Brigade’s Separate Youth Activities under the Successful LIFE Brand - FEP 2222/A Agenda Item 13)**

Report (26.2.2014) and supplementary report (6.3.2014)by the Third Officer.

The Third Officer introduced the report and answered questions from Members.

The motion was then moved by the Chair: That -

1. Local Intervention Fire Education (LIFE) branding covers all the Brigade’s children and youth engagement schemes;

2. A new Children and Youth Board and annual conference be established;

3. Further work is carried out to look at the feasibility of the young people who successfully complete a Brigade scheme, such as a LIFE course, taking more of a community safety role at local station level; and

4. The report (FEP 2222A) be noted.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Susan Hall, put and agreed.

**Resolved:** accordingly.


Report (26.2.2014) by the Third Officer.

The Third Officer introduced the report. In response to questions from Members it was noted that the Authority looked at specific road conditions before responding to consultations on measures to reduce road traffic accidents such as traffic calming and 20 mile per hour speed limits. The Authority did not have a predetermined policy on its response to such measures. Officers undertook to look back over responses to such consultations and
report back to Members. It was further noted that the Authority was investigating the use of transponders, which allowed for traffic lights to be changed.

After further debate the motion was then moved by the Chair: That -

1. The Brigade’s approach to promoting road safety awareness as set out in the report (FEP 2223) be endorsed; and

2. The Brigade’s road safety strategy be evaluated in 2015 with assistance from Transport for London.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Susan Hall, put and agreed.

Resolved: accordingly.

10. Public Affairs Strategy Update - FEP 2216 (Agenda Item 5)


The Public Affairs Officer introduced the report, which provided an update to the report presented to the Committee in November, and added that, since the report was published, officers had attended an event between the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors and landlords and managing agents to look at an early draft of the DCLG’s new code of practice setting standards for the management of property in the private rented sector. The Authority intended to guide the fire safety part of this Code which, if it subsequently became statutory, would prove useful.

Members asked officers to take legal advice on the possibility of ‘naming and shaming’ bodies where they hindered enquiries into investigations of potential offences under the RRO, due to a failure to co-operate fully or promptly. Officers undertook to seek that advice but emphasised that it was important to ensure no action was taken that could jeopardize future successful prosecutions.

It was noted that officers had responded to the London Legacy Development Cooperation’s consultation on its draft Local Plan and were lobbying for it to include the installation of sprinkler systems in future housing developments. Members suggested officers use Members to assist in this work; officers undertook to consider how in practice this could be achieved.

Members further asked prioritisation be given to the engagement of housing associations in an attempt to get residents more involved in taking action to ensure fire safety measures are enforced.

After further debate, the motion was moved by the Chair:

That the actions identified in the paper as follows be noted and approved -

a. Public affairs support for Community Safety in pursuing inclusion of fire safety, including sprinkler systems, in care assessments involving individuals considered to be at high risk;
b. Lobbying of the London Legacy Development Corporation around sprinkler systems in future residential developments;

c. Marketing of the new LFB microsite on fire safety in purpose built accommodation;

d. Assisting in progressing the protocol agreement between LFB and individual Boroughs on fire safety and HMOs;

e. Holding four seminars for stakeholders on HMO fire safety and related issues, one each at LFB area level, during 2014;

f. Seeking to develop advice on fire safety, readily available online, both to landlords and tenants in HMOs, in partnership with other organisations where this appears practical and useful;

g. The pursuit of any suitable legislative opportunities to enhance the Authority’s legal powers so that it is able to compel witness statements or seize relevant documents in pursuance of our RRO duties and powers; and

h. Helping the Authority to develop and progress policy development around responsibility for flooding, including mitigation and prevention as appropriate.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Hall, put and agreed.

**Resolved**: accordingly.

11. **Presenting Attendance Time Performance - Detailed Publication Proposals - FEP 2205 (Agenda Item 6).**


The Head of Information Management and Performance introduced the report. Members welcomed the report and asked questions which were answered by various officers. It was explained that the absent data in the table on page 25 was a result of it not being provided by the respective fire brigades, despite repeated requests. Members asked that these brigades be informed that Members would consider using Freedom of Information legislation if the requested information was not supplied. It was further noted that the marked improvement in turn out times between 2009 and 2010 was a result of mainly greater management scrutiny, as well as better use of technology.

After further debate the motion was made by Councillor Hayward: That

1. The report be endorsed and decision of the Governance, Performance and Audit Committee in relation to the publication of attendance time performance be noted; and

2. The intention to publish an annual report about risk in London to the meeting of this Committee in the autumn of 2014, and annually thereafter, be noted.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Hall, put and agreed.

**Resolved**: accordingly.


The motion was made by Councillor Hayward: That:-

1. The progress against London Safety Plan commitments for the period ending December 2013 (Quarter 3) be noted; and

2. The two separate reports on London Safety Plan commitments and key projects be combined into one report as from quarter four, 2013/14.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Hall, put and agreed.

Resolved: accordingly.

13. Quarterly Monitoring of Key Projects for 2013/14 Quarter 3 - (end of December 2013) - FEP 2218 (Agenda Item 8)


The Head of Strategy and Performance introduced the report and answered questions from Members regarding the two projects marked with an amber status. Officers confirmed that the pump ladder support attribute (Technical Centre project) went live on 20 January 2014. With reference to the Property Services Review project, officers undertook to establish whether the targets set for February had been met. Both projects had an overall marking status of green thus the overall target should be met. Officers pointed out that the report showed the position as at the end of quarter 3, and agreed that they would ensure that up to date information would be verbally reported at Committee on all projects with an amber marking.

The motion was made by Councillor Hayward: That:-

1. The two separate reports on London Safety Plan commitments and key projects be combined into one report as from quarter four, 2013/14; and

2. The report be noted.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Hall, put and agreed.

Resolved: accordingly.

14. Fire Safer Cigarettes - an Update - FEP 2219 (Agenda Item 9)


The Head of Strategy and Performance introduced the report and various officers answered questions from Members. It was noted that it was too early to see any discernible trends as to whether the use of fire safer cigarettes was having an impact on the numbers and the severity
of fires. It was noted that the rate of smoking generally was reducing and it was suggested that a higher proportion of those now smoking could be in a higher risk category. Members suggested officers investigate this further and consider how this information should influence the current communications messages regarding smoking to ensure those at risk are best targeted.

After further debate, the motion was made by Councillor Hayward: That officers:-

1. Undertake public affairs work that would lead to a change in the fire safer cigarette ISO 12863 standard to further reduce the ignition rate of fire safer cigarettes (as set out in paragraph 37 (a) of the report FEP 2219);

2. Continue to work to draw attention to the fire hazards posed by non-fire safer cigarettes which do not meet the fire safer cigarette standard (as set out in paragraph 37 (b) of the report FEP 2219; and

3. Consider whether to refresh the current communications messages regarding smoking (as set out in paragraph 37 (c), subject to a specific piece of work being undertaken to investigate whether a higher proportion of those now smoking could be in a higher fire risk category and if so how this should influence the communications messages.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Hall, put and agreed.

Resolved: accordingly.

15. An Overview of the Use of Data and Technology for Data Collection (Agenda Item 10)

The Head of Information Management and Performance gave an oral presentation on collecting and using the best available data. The slides from this presentation are attached as an Appendix to these minutes. Members commented that they found the presentation interesting and asked various questions which were answered by officers. It was noted that some authorities, including London Boroughs were more reluctant to share data about people than others and this could lead to incomplete data sets. Members asked officers to involve them in accessing information where relevant as often they could be more successful in gathering information. Suggestions were also made as to other sources from which information could be collected, including the electoral registration system. The Chair encouraged Members to consider the issues raised in the presentation, and to consider also whether further work or information from officers on the topics raised was required, and how any further work deemed necessary could be progressed.

16. Urgent Business

There was no urgent business.

The meeting ended at 16:00

Signed By:

Chair
Anna Flatley, Ground Floor, 169 Union Street, London, SE1 OLL; telephone: 30084; e-mail: ANNA.FLATLEY@london-fire.gov.uk
Clerk to Strategy Committee