

NORTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY REPORT

DATE:	19 th December 2005
REPORT BY:	Paul Claydon ASSISTANT CHIEF FIRE OFFICER (SERVICE DELIVERY)
PURPOSE OF REPORT:	To update Members on the financial savings and service delivery improvements related to the new shift times worked at day crewing stations.

1. **INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 At the Authority's meeting of the 15th March 2004 Members resolved that in order to match risk and resources in a more effective manner, a later start and finish time for wholetime firefighters on day crewed stations should be introduced. This had been identified as part of the Integrated Risk Management Plan process.
- 1.2 On the 6th January 2005 day crewing stations changed start and finish times from 08:00hrs until 18:00hrs to 12:00hrs until 22:00hrs.
- 1.3 Members noted a report of the 19th September 2005 which showed how the Service was attending twice as many calls during the new evening times as were being attended in the old morning period.
- 1.4 As a result of the report Members requested a further report detailing the savings generated and the service delivery improvements achieved. These matters are addressed in this report.

2. **SAVINGS GENERATED**

- 2.1 Appendix 1 conservatively estimates the financial savings generated by the change in start/finish times.
- 2.2 The reasons for a conservative estimate are:-
 - The level of crew attending stations can only be predicted, therefore
 - The amount of pay can only be predicted.
 - The time at an incident has been taken as a single hour to be confident in the minimum totals identified.
- 2.3 Even with a conservative estimate the financial saving in pay for the ten month period 5th January to 31st October is £48,027.61

3. **SERVICE DELIVERY IMPROVEMENTS**

- 3.1 There is an improved mobilising of resources at the busiest times. The average turnout time in the evening is 1 minute 38 seconds compared to 5 minutes 22 seconds in the morning. More detail is shown in the table below:-

Station	Morning Average	Evening Average
Llandudno	5 minutes 32 seconds	1 minute 36 seconds
Colwyn Bay	5 minutes 22 seconds	1 minute 56 seconds
Caernarfon	4 minutes 54 seconds	1 minute 34 seconds
Bangor	5 minutes 33 seconds	1 minute 28 seconds
Holyhead	5 minutes 30 seconds	1 minute 35 seconds
Total Incidents	307	608

- 3.2 Since implementing the change in operating times there has been 1 rescue carried out in the evening period covered while no rescues have been carried out in the morning.
- 3.3 Day crewed stations are now able to undertake joint training with retained personnel based at the same station and surrounding stations as a matter of course. This improves the competence and performance of crews.
- 3.4 There has been an overall decrease of 3.6% in the amount of Community Fire Safety visits undertaken by day crewed stations from the 5th January to 31st October from 1290 CFS visits to 1243. This is as a result of extra training commitment related to New Dimensions equipment at Bangor and Llandudno. However, both Colwyn Bay and Holyhead have made improvements on last years totals for CFS visits, installing smoke alarms and carrying out hazard assessments.
- 3.5 There has been a small reduction in the rate of sickness absence from personnel on the day crewing system.

4. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 Members note the contents of the report.