



AGENDA ITEM: 6

NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

21st March 2011

CHAIR'S REPORT

Report by Councillor Sharon Frobisher, Chair of the Authority

Purpose of Report

- 1 This report provides Members with information on the meetings and events attended by the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Authority in their official capacity between 11th December 2010 and 21st March 2011.

Information

- 2 Listed below are the events and meetings attended by the Chair (C) and Vice-Chair (VC):

21 st January	North Wales Regional Partnership Board meeting (C)
28 th January	Phoenix at Mold
1 st February	Pre-Executive Panel meeting with Unions (C)
7 th February	Executive Panel meeting (C and VC)
11 th February	Meeting with Ieuan Wyn Jones AM (C)
18 th February	Phoenix at Amlwch (VC)
4 th March	Phoenix Celebration of Achievement at Mold (C), Lady Janet Jones, High Sheriff of Clwyd, was also present
8 th / 9 th March	LGA Fire Conference (C)
14 th March	Meeting with Ann Jones AM (C and VC)

- 3 On 7th February, the Deputy First Minister, Ieuan Wyn Jones AM, visited Llangefni Fire Station. Mr Jones had been unable to attend the official opening of Llangefni fire station and had asked to visit the newly-refurbished station. The Chair, Chief Fire Officer and station crew met with Mr Jones and gave him a brief tour around the modernised facilities. The station now provides a focal point for the community where they can access a wide range of services, and Mr Jones was impressed with what the station has to offer.
- 4 The Phoenix celebration of achievement at Mold on 4th March was attended by the Chair, Lord Barry Jones and the High Sheriff of Clwyd, Lady Janet Jones, who is a patron of the CrimeBeat charity. They presented certificates to participants of that week's Phoenix course which was undertaken by staff and clients of NACRO.
- 5.1 On 8th and 9th March, the Chair, accompanied by the Deputy Chief Fire Officer, attended the LGA Fire Conference at Gateshead. The conference was entitled 'The Future of Fire' and concentrated on the challenges and opportunities for the Fire and Rescue sector in the new paradigm created by the new administration in England and the era of financial cuts.
- 5.2 These conferences tend to be very English centric with the focus being on Controls, the new era of self-assessment and self-regulation, all matters which in Wales we have already addressed. The key note speech was made by the English Fire and Rescue Minister, Bob Neill.
- 5.3 The Chair and Deputy Chief Fire Officer attended a number of useful workshops on flexible staffing, RDS contracts of employment and the pros and cons of sharing senior staff.
- 6 Regular update meetings between the Chief Fire Officer, Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Chair and Vice-Chair were held on 16th December, 13th January, 1st February, 28th February and 17th March.

Recommendation

- 7 That Members note the information provided.