



AGENDA ITEM: 15

NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE PANEL

9th May 2011

COMBINED LONG SERVICE AWARDS AND COMMUNITY AWARD CEREMONY

Report by Dawn Docx, Deputy Chief Fire Officer

Purpose of Report

- 1 To propose the combination of the Long Service and Community Awards ceremonies in 2011.

Introduction

- 2 Due to the current economic climate and the need to make significant savings in all areas, it was considered inappropriate to hold the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service Community Awards Ball in 2011. The Chief Fire Officer would, however, still wish to see exceptional effort and notable team achievement recognised in an appropriate way, whilst being mindful of economic considerations.
- 3 In addition to the Awards Ball, those who have achieved 20 years Long Service and Good Conduct, or in the case of support staff, 20 years loyal service also deserve to have their achievement recognised at a suitable event.
- 4 One option is to combine both events to become a Long Service and Community Awards Ceremony, and for it to take place on Fire and Rescue Service premises at the Rhyl Community Fire and Rescue Station. The station can accommodate up to 180 people for such an event.

- 5 A suitable time to hold the ceremony would be in September whilst evenings are still light. Recent ceremonies have been held late in the year and have been affected by bad weather. The Community Awards Ball has traditionally been held in late February or early March.
- 6 This date will allow sufficient time to organise the event and it will be after the summer holidays so recipients are less likely to be away from the area on holiday.
- 7 It is also suggested that crystal gifts for support staff should be updated to a standard glass award.
- 8 The following table shows the proposed cost of the combined event. It is based on the assumption that all eligible recipients attend and that they all bring on average three guests. Previous figures show that, over the past 3 years, 30% of the eligible recipients chose not to attend the event.

Costing of suggested event

- 9 The overall cost of both events in 2010 was £9,800.

Venue Rhyl Community Fire Station
Time Week commencing 12th September 2011
Catering External catering company

Item	Price per unit	No required	Total cost
Food and drink	£6	179	£1074
Awards - Loyal Service and Community Awards	£40	15	£600
Administration and set up of room	-	-	£510
Photographer	£400	1	£400
Entertainment – Fire and Rescue Service Band	No cost	-	£0.00
Total			£2584

Recommendation

- 10 Members are asked to endorse the merger of these two events, as proposed above, which will be held at the Rhyl Community Fire and Rescue Station in September 2011.