

**TAYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE BOARD**

Minute of Special Meeting of the Tayside Fire and Rescue Board held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Monday 30 March 2009 at 11.00am.

Present: Angus Council  
Councillors J Whyte, D Fairweather, R Myles, H Oswald and S West.

Dundee City Council  
Bailie R Wallace; Councillors L Bidwell (substituting for Bailie G Regan), J Barrie, H Dick and K Keenan (substituting for Bailie H Wright), R McCready and C Roberts.

Perth and Kinross Council  
Councillors K Lyall, A MacLellan, P Mulheron, D Scott, L Simpson and A Stewart.

Also in attendance: S Hunter, A Hay, D Boyle and J Iannetta (all Tayside Fire and Rescue); G Taylor, Clerk; and L Brown, Committee Officer.

Apologies: Bailies G Regan and H Wright (Dundee City Council).

Councillor K Lyall, Presiding

**1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

**2. REPORT ON THE CONSULTATION PROCESS FOR TOWARDS A SAFER TAYSIDE**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Fire Officer (FB/09/08) advising of: (1) the result of the Towards a Safer Tayside 2009/10 consultation document; and (2) the responses received to the consultation document from the Fire Brigades' Union (Tayside) and the Fire Officers' Association.

The Convener extended his thanks to all those who had participated in the consultation process, the most thorough ever undertaken by Tayside Fire and Rescue. Thanks were also extended to the Chief Fire Officer and his team for their efforts in the preparation of the proposals presented to the Board for consideration. He advised that the proposals would enhance the future provision of community safety and emergency response services to the communities of Tayside and would not constitute a cut to the existing fire and rescue service. Vice Convener Whyte echoed the Convener's comments.

COUNCILLOR C ROBERTS LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

The Chief Fire Officer and Deputy Chief Fire Officer answered a number of questions from Members on the consultation document, in particular in

relation to the proposals involving, Balmossie and Forfar Fire Stations, and Home Fire Safety Visits.

Motion (Councillor K Lyall and Councillor J Whyte)

- (a) the Board note the terms of Report FB/09/08 and all the responses to the Towards a Safer Tayside consultation document;
- (b) the Board accept all of the proposals contained within the consultation document, including those involving Balmossie, Forfar and Perth Fire Stations; and that in relation to the proposals relating to Perth Fire Station, acknowledge the positive, constructive dialogue which has taken place between the management of Tayside Fire and Rescue and the Fire Brigades' Union during the consultation period in relation to an alternative method of crewing the fire engines proposed to be located at Perth and propose that this dialogue continues to enable an even more effective use of the resources based at Perth Fire Station; and
- (c) the Board instructs the Chief Fire Officer to submit a Towards a Safer Tayside action plan to the next meeting of the Board on 11 May 2009.

**Amendment (Councillors H Oswald and S West) –**

- (a) the Board accepts the recommendations within the Towards a Safer Tayside consultation document, with the exception of the section headed 'Organisational Resources' on page 7 of the document;**
- (b) the Board rejects the reduction of whole-time cover at Balmossie Fire Station and the changes proposed for Forfar Fire Station; and**
- (c) the Board instructs the Chief Fire Officer and his staff to continue their dialogue with the Fire Brigades' Union with regard to the proposals for Perth Fire Station and to report the outcome to the Board at a later date.**

In terms of Standing Order 36, a Roll Call Vote was taken.

12 members voted for the Amendment as follows:

Bailie R Wallace; Councillors H Oswald, S West, J Barrie, L Bidwell, H Dick, K Keenan, R McCready, A MacLellan, P Mulheron, L Simpson and A Stewart.

5 members voted for the Motion as follows:

Councillors D Fairweather, R Myles, J Whyte, K Lyall and D Scott.

**Resolved:**

In accordance with the Amendment.