



AGENDA ITEM: 7

NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE PANEL

13 May 2013

AERIAL LADDER PLATFORM (ALP)

Report by Richard Fairhead, Temporary Assistant Chief Fire Officer

Purpose of Report

- 1 To provide Members with information related to the provision of Aerial Ladder Platforms (ALPs) when required in the Llandudno area.

Introduction

- 2 It has now been a complete financial year (2012/2013) since the reduction of ALPs from four to three. This report provides Members with an opportunity to consider the impact of the reduction specifically in relation to the relocation of the ALP based in Llandudno.

Background

- 3 At the Authority meeting on 18th October 2010 Members resolved to adopt a 30 minute attendance standard for ALPs across North Wales with the consequence that this would reduce the number of ALPs in the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service from 4 to 3.
- 4 At the Authority meeting on 19th March 2012, with the pending departure of the oldest ALP from operational service imminent, Members resolved to locate the three remaining ALPs at Bangor, Rhyl and Wrexham.

Current Situation

- 5 There have been 27 ALP mobilisations into the Llandudno area since adopting a 30 minute attendance standard.
- 6 Of these 27 the ALP mobilised as part of a Pre-Determined Attendance (PDA) on 25 occasions. The PDA system is part of the Service's operational pre-planning and is a way of designating resources to a property based on a range of factors which include the property's location, type, height, access, etc. This is irrespective of the incident type and as a result of this work the control room operator on handling a call has a PDA resource list to mobilise.
- 7 The other means of summoning an ALP is directly from the incident itself by the incident commander (IC). The IC requested an ALP on the other two occasions.
- 8 Of these 27 occasions, the ALP was returned to its base station on 23 occasions before reaching the incident as it was no longer required. The ALP attended 4 incidents and was deployed at 3.
- 9 Of the 4 attendances, 2 were carried out under blue light conditions and on both occasions the ALP was in attendance in less than 30 minutes, which is within the Authority's standard. The ALP was only deployed at one of these incidents.
- 10 The other two mobilisations were designated as non-emergency and carried out under normal road speed due to the nature of the request and therefore not subject to the Authority's standard. On both of these occasions they were to assist the local authority with the removal of debris from a height.
- 11 The ALP based at Rhyl is approaching the end of its serviceable life and is due to be replaced in 2015. The procurement process for the replacement is well underway and the winning bidder in the tendering process will be identified in the next 6 – 8 weeks.

Recommendation

- 12 Members are asked to note the information.