

JOINT RESILIENCE COMMITTEE

(Welsh Assembly, Cardiff)

Members Present:

23rd November, 2007

Chairman: **Councillor Mrs.M.H.Jones**
(City and County of Swansea)

**Neath Port Talbot
County Borough
Council:**

**Councillors H.M.Bebell, J.R.Bryant,
Mrs.S.M.Penry, P.A.Rees (Vice Chairman) and
B.Roblin**

**City and County
of Swansea:**

Councillors A.Robinson and G.Sullivan

Officers in Attendance:

**Neath Port Talbot
County Borough
Council:**

G.Jones and Miss.C.Grocutt

**City and County
of Swansea:**

J.Stephens and P.Thomas

Apologies for Absence:

Councillors A.R.Richards and G.Thomas

Officers: K.R.Sawyers, P.Smith and Ms. M.Morris

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Joint Resilience Committee held on the 21st September 2007, were received and noted.

2. **PRESENTATION BY DR. WYN PRICE – WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT**

The Joint Committee visited the Welsh Assembly Government, Cardiff, to view their emergency planning facilities. Dr. Wyn Price gave Members a presentation on the Pan-Wales Response Plan which outlined both the response and planning structures that are in place, should there be a major emergency affecting several or all areas of Wales. The Plan provided a framework for the management of a major emergency and would compliment the existing joint agency procedures that were already agreed in each area.

Members were pleased to note that they would be given information of the Wales Resilience Website in the next Members' Seminar.

The Chair thanked Dr. Wyn Price for his informative presentation.

3. **REPORT OF THE JOINT RESILIENCE UNIT**

Members received an update on the progress made by the Joint Resilience Unit, for both constituent Authorities, as detailed in the circulated report.

Members were pleased to note the letter received complimenting the Team on the excellent work carried out regarding the Project Argus Event held in Swansea. The Chairman also wished to express her thanks to the Team. A report and final action plan from the Event would be submitted at the next meeting.

However, it was disappointing to note that the Project Argus Event, for Neath and Port Talbot Town Centres, had to be postponed due to lack of interest. It was suggested that the Leader of Neath Port Talbot Council could write to local businesses at a suitable future date to urge them to attend this Event in order to inform them of how to react in dangerous situations especially since, for example, the major fire that had occurred at the Gwyn Hall, Neath.

A live exercise to test the Multi Agency Flood Emergency Response Plan for Canal Side, Aberdulais was being arranged by the Environment Agency to take place in Spring 2008 and appropriate Members would be invited to attend.

A Seminar for all Members of both Authorities would also take place in March 2008 and Members were requested to submit any suggestions on what items they would like to discuss or see at this event.

4. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Funding Issue

Following the recent provisional Welsh Local Government settlement for 2008/09, it was noted that it is necessary to internally ring fence the funding allocated to the Joint Resilience Unit, if at all possible, in order to protect the Service. The Chief Executives of both Authorities were aware of this requirement and due to its importance this had also been recognised by WAG.

Live Exercise 'Heavy Metal'

It was noted that Members were to receive, at the next meeting, a DVD presentation of the live exercise 'Heavy Metal' which was held at INCO, Clydach.

5. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Noted that the next meeting of the Joint Committee will be held on Friday, 18th January 2008, at 9.30am, Committee Room 2, County Hall, Swansea.

CHAIRMAN