

JOINT RESILIENCE COMMITTEE

(Civic Centre, Port Talbot)

Members Present:

30th November, 2012

**Neath Port Talbot
County Borough
Council:**

Councillors J.R.Bryant, Mrs.D.Jones, R.G.Jones and
P.A.Rees

**City and County
of Swansea:**

Councillors D.G.Sullivan and D.W.Cole

Officers in Attendance:

**Neath Port Talbot
County Borough
Council:**

G.Jones, S.Burgess and Ms. C.Grocutt

**City and County of
Swansea:**

J.Stephens

Apologies for Absence:

Councillors:

Mrs.S.M.Penry (Neath Port Talbot County Borough
Council), Mrs.M.H.Jones and Mrs.G.Tanner (City &
County of Swansea)

Officers:

S.Phillips and J.Straw

1. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN FOR 2012/13

RESOLVED: that Councillor J.Burtonshaw (City and County of
Swansea) be appointed Vice Chairman of the Joint
Resilience Committee for the ensuing municipal year
2012/13.

2. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 6TH JULY, 2012**

The Minutes of the Joint Resilience Committee held on the 6th July 2012, were received and noted.

Matters Arising

3. **TATA STEEL**

Members were advised that meetings involving all relevant parties are continuing in relation to the storage at Tata Steel of residual waste from the Fforestfach fire. It was noted that Mr J Stephens will keep Members updated about progress made.

Joint Report of the Lead Heads of Service for Resilience for Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council and the City and County of Swansea

4. **MEMBER SEMINAR – 14TH NOVEMBER 2012**

Mr. Shaun Burgess updated Members on the recent All Member Seminar held at the Liberty Stadium, Swansea on 14th November 2012. The aim of the Seminar was to advise Members of the importance of resilience protocols during an emergency, as detailed in the circulated report. From the majority of feedback received, it had been a successful event although the turnout was disappointing. Members felt it was a very interesting and informative Seminar. It was noted that visits to the Resilience website had increased by up by 50% since the Seminar and some Members have requested one to one discussions with the Joint Resilience Team regarding their localities.

Suggestions about how to encourage Members to attend Seminars were discussed, as it is important that all Members fully understand their role should an emergency occur within their Ward. Some of the suggestions included the possibility of having road shows before Council meetings featuring the disasters that have already occurred, the use of Newsletters and involving Members in some of the COMAH exercises. Other suggestions included using the Seminar as part of the induction for new Councillors, sending out information to Members regarding the risks in their Wards, e.g. COMAH sites, gas pipes, flooding, etc. to request whether the information is correct.

The Chairman thanked Shaun Burgess and all of his team members involved in the seminar for making it such a successful event.

5. **EXERCISE NEW FLAME**

Members were briefed on the recent Exercise New Flame, which was held on 5th October 2012, with Flogas UK, who are based in Llandarcy, Neath.

The Exercise used a new style of interaction with 62 people involved, as outlined in the circulated report. The syndicate work was well facilitated and allowed the groups to discuss key issues that might arise during an incident at a top-tier COMAH site. The feedback from the Exercise was very positive. A request was made for Councillors to also be involved in future exercises.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

6. **RESILIENCE AND EMERGENCY PLANNING – COLLABORATION UPDATE**

Members received an update on the implications of the Simpson report, which outlined proposals of the 22 Authorities across Wales to collaborate and share services wherever feasible. A South Wales Local Authority Resilience Board comprising lead Heads of Service or Directors for Resilience. It was noted that Neath Port Talbot and the City and County of Swansea were already a partnership and work together as a team.

It was also noted that this Committee is the only Committee of its kind in Wales and others are saying it should be replicated across Wales.

Mr J Stephens outlined the PREVENT agenda as it affects the constituent authorities and wider afield. Members requested further information in the New Year about PREVENT. It was also suggested that multi agency partners be invited to future Committee meetings.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

7. **PRESENTATION ON THE NEW SECURE WEBSITE FOR NEATH PORT TALBOT AND CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA**

Mr. Shaun Burgess gave Members a presentation on the new secure Resilience website which had been developed. It is available at present only to authorised staff within Neath Port Talbot and Swansea local authorities.

The secure site contains information about all Ward areas i.e. risks and natural characteristics such as COMAH sites, gas pipes, flooding sites, etc.

together with information about rest centres - key holders, facilities available and guidance notes should there be an emergency in any particular area.

It was noted that partner agencies will soon be capable of having access to the plans and other information on this secure website.

The Chairman thanked Shaun Burgess for the presentation and congratulated everyone involved on the excellent work undertaken in developing the secure resilience website.

8. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

It was noted that future Committee meetings would be held as set out below:-

18th January 2013 - (Swansea)
22nd March 2013 - (Port Talbot)
3rd May 2013 - (Swansea).

CHAIRMAN