

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 9 DECEMBER 2011

Statement from: Councillor P A Robinson, Deputy Leader and Executive Councillor for Community Safety, Cohesion and Diversity

New Assistant Director of Community Safety

Following the return of Ms Nancie Shackleton to Lincolnshire Police, Superintendent Phil Vickers has taken over this post. He will be working closely with Sara Barry, Head of Service for Safer Communities, who succeeded Peter Heafield at Lincolnshire Trading Standards.

2012 Olympics

The London 2012 Organising Committee (LOCOG) has announced the 1,000 cities, towns and villages on the route of the Olympic Torch Relay. Between 18 May and 27 July, the Olympic Flame will come to within 10 miles of 95% of the population of the UK. The list of communities through which the torch will pass are at:

www.london2012.com/news/.../olympic-torch-relay-to-pass-through-more-than-1-000-communities.php

The precise route through each community will be announced later this year.

Fire Control

The cancellation of the Regional Control Centres (RCC) earlier this year meant that many Fire and Rescue Services (FRS) were left with control arrangements in need of updating or replacement. DCLG has recognised this challenge and invited each FRS to submit a bid for up to £1.8M for equipment to bring their control arrangements up to a capability comparable with that which would have been available at the RCC. A key element of this capability is the resilience afforded by greater inter-operability between control rooms. Lincolnshire FRS has submitted a “consortium” bid with Humberside FRS (which covers North and North-East Lincolnshire, Hull and East Yorkshire), Norfolk FRS and Hertfordshire FRS. Norfolk and Hertfordshire already operate a mutually resilient partnership. The advantages for Lincolnshire FRS of the proposed grouping are:

- Lincolnshire FRS will retain a control room at its HQ whilst being able to reduce staff because they will no longer have to be prepared to handle an unusually high volume of calls without outside help;
- The 4 FRS already use the same IT systems, albeit at different stages of development. This will significantly reduce the cost of the scheme;
- 3 of the 4 FRS have similar responsibilities for coastal emergencies, whilst Hertfordshire can provide a secure “inland” control facility inland.

The present cross border working with erstwhile regional FRS partners will not be affected. It is expected that a decision on the FRS bids will be made by DCLG in January 2012.