

Notice of Motion

“Following the announcement by Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Combined Fire Authority to consult on significant reductions to front-line services, we believe Oadby & Wigston Borough Council should respond, and the Council’s response should be agreed at an extraordinary meeting of the Council.”

1. That this Council notes that:-

- a)** The Central Government Grant to the CFA is projected to fall from £17.8m in 2013/14 to £9.1m by 2019/20.
- b)** The proposals being consulted on will result in:
 - i.** The removal of 11 out of 30 fire engines;
 - ii.** The loss of 88 fire-fighters;
 - iii.** The closure of Kibworth and Central fire stations.

2. That this Council notes with concern:-

- a)** That the closure of Central and Kibworth fire stations will adversely affect the 10 minute response time to get to a life-threatening emergency.
- b)** That the recent removal of the Scrutiny Committee at the CFA has limited the scope to scrutinise any decision.
- c)** The lack of detail given to Members of the CFA, the FBU and members of the public when considering these proposals.
- d)** That the proposed cuts are front-line orientated.

3. That this Council therefore calls on the CFA to:-

- a)** Withdraw the current proposals and explore other alternatives including:-
 - i.** Selling the Fire HQ and use the funds for transformation work.
 - ii.** Explore other sources of income including cooperation with the other blue-light services in Leicestershire.
 - iii.** Look at collaboration with other neighbouring fire services for efficiency savings on back office functions.
- b)** Recognise that the proposed cuts, taken together with significant housing growth in Leicestershire and population increases will lead to the CFA being unable to provide a safe service.