



Proposed Inter Local Authority Special Committee on Fire & Ambulance Services and Emergency Management

In May 2016, a Special Committee on Fire & Ambulance Services and Emergency Management was established by the City Council (Report No. 123/2016). The work of this Committee ceased on the expiry of the previous City Council.

As Councillors are aware Dublin Fire Brigade, while managed by Dublin City Council, has responsibility for the delivery of services in the four local authority areas of Dublin. The service is also funded by the four Dublin local authorities. In 2021, the other 3 Dublin local authorities will provide 52.4% of the total funding for the service with the balance coming from the City Council.

In January 2020, a proposed Inter Local Authority Special Committee on Fire & Ambulance Services and Emergency Management was proposed (Report No 350/2019), comprised of Elected Members from the four Dublin local authorities. The suggested membership breakdown, based on the respective funding contributions, was as follows:

10	Councillors from Dublin City Council
4	Councillors from South Dublin County Council
4	Councillors from Fingal County Council
<u>3</u>	Councillors from Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council
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The remit of the Committee was as follows

- Assisting the four Dublin local authorities in the formulation, development and review of policy on Emergency Services and Emergency Management.
- Taking a strategic overview of the relevant policy areas in the wider context of the Dublin region.
- The preparation of a Fire and Emergency Operations Plan under Section 26 of the Fire Services Act, 1981.
- The achievement of greater integration and co-ordination between the Dublin Fire Brigade and the National Ambulance Service.
- Oversight of progress on the implementation of measures to address the recommendations from the Health and Quality (HIQA) reports in December 2014 and March 2017.
- Considering the progress of various proposed reform programmes.

The Special Committee was to meet 4 times per annum. In between meetings, a Special Meeting could be called by the Chairperson with the agreement of Members. As is the case with the Strategic Policy Committee structure and remit, this Committee would not be involved in operational or industrial relations issues.

Dublin City Council voted to amend the proposed make-up of the Committee, including altering the membership of Councillors from

10	Councillors from Dublin City Council
4	Councillors from South Dublin County Council
4	Councillors from Fingal County Council
<u>3</u>	Councillors from Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council
21	
to	
10	Councillors from Dublin City Council
3	Councillors from South Dublin County Council
3	Councillors from Fingal County Council
<u>2</u>	Councillors from Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council
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As this membership breakdown was not acceptable to the other Dublin local authorities the Special Committee has not been established.

The City Council also decided that the Special Committee should include 3 external members with relevant expertise one of whom will be an ICTU representative/nominee and that the criteria/selection process to choose the remaining external members would be agreed by the Councillors on the Special Committee, ahead of its initial meeting.

In order to expedite the establishment of the Special Committee, I am proposing that the Council revisit the matter and agree to proceed on the basis of the originally proposed membership breakdown with the external members, as proposed by the City Council. In addition, I am proposing that the Chair of the Committee would be selected by the City Council representatives and the Vice Chair by the other Council representatives. A quorum for the Special Committee will be 6, with a requirement that at least 3 members from Dublin City Council and 3 members from the other local authorities present.

If the resolution below is adopted, invitations will be sent to our neighbouring local authorities to seek their agreement to the proposed arrangements for the Special Committee.

Resolution:

‘That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 344/2021 and hereby approves the contents therein’.

Owen P.Keegan
Chief Executive

17 November 2021