

AT A MEETING of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Authority
(HIWFRA) held at Fire & Police HQ, Eastleigh on Tuesday 25 July 2023

Chairman:

* Councillor Rhydian Vaughan MBE

* Councillor Zoe Huggins
* Councillor Fran Carpenter
Councillor David Drew
* Councillor Sally Goodfellow
Councillor David Harrison

* Councillor Karen Lucioni
Councillor Hugh Lumby
* Councillor George Madgwick
* Councillor Derek Mellor
* Councillor Roger Price

Also present at the meeting: Dr Julian Commons, HMICFRS Service Liaison Lead

188. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors David Drew, David Harrison, Hugh Lumby and also Donna Jones, Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner.

189. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To enable Members to disclose to the meeting any disclosable pecuniary interest they may have in any matter on the agenda for the meeting, where that interest is not already entered in the Authority's register of interests, and any other pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any such matter that Members may wish to disclose.

190. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 20 JUNE 2023

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and agreed.

191. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations for the meeting.

192. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman shared that he had attended the Local Government Association (LGA) conference on 27 June that explored the issues and the leadership role as Fire and Rescue Authority Members in driving improvements in culture. It was also confirmed that the Safety Plan consultation was live and available for the public across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight to complete until 30 July.

The Chairman also thanked the Fire Service for their hard work responding to the increase in open and wildfires following the warm, dry weather. The Service had shared simple tips that would help the public stay safe in the countryside and protect it for others to enjoy.

193. **MEMBER DEVELOPMENTS**

Members shared the following updates:

- The Chairman and the Chief Fire Officer had visited Newport, Ryde and Bembridge Fire Stations on the Isle of Wight as well as attended Sandown Fire Cadets Passing Out parade, which was the first to take place on the Island.
- Cllr Lucioni had attended the LGA Equality and Diversity Conference on the 27 June in place of Cllr Huggins as well as the Passing Out Parade in Sandown, as well as arranging a visit at Newport Fire Station in the coming weeks.
- Cllr Goodfellow had attended the Sandown Passing Out Parade
- Cllr Price had attended the LGA meeting on 27 June with Cllr Lucioni and the Chairman as well as the LGA conference in Bournemouth and provided a summary of the event.
- Cllr Huggins had met with officers in her capacity as the Children and Young People Member champion to plan ahead for the next academic year and look at ways to strengthen and grow.
- Cllr Mellor had attended the Rushmoor Passing Out Parade and had plans to attend the Princes Trust event in Basingstoke
- Cllr Madgwick informed the Authority of plans to feedback the work and remit of the HIWFRA at a future Portsmouth City Council meeting to increase knowledge and awareness to other PCC Members and officers.

194. **POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR FIRE SAFETY**

The Authority considered a report from the Chief Fire Officer (item 7 in the minute book), which detailed statutory duties under primary fire safety legislation to inform, educate, and work with responsible persons.

It was highlighted that a Bill was in progress asking for lithium iron to be regulated and for there to be more control over how and where lithium batteries were to be stored.

Members were supportive of a single policy and how it would deliver fire safety and fulfil its statutory requirements under fire safety law and wider legislation, whilst simultaneously looking forward to future service needs.

RESOLVED

a) The policy for fire safety was approved by HIWFRA Full Authority

b) The policy for fire safety was agreed to be published appropriately to ensure clarity of the Authority's position.

195. HMICFRS NATIONAL CULTURE AND VALUES REPORT

The Authority considered a report from the Chief Fire Officer (item 8 in the minute book), which detailed progress against the recommendations in the HMICFRS spotlight report on culture and values within fire services, as well as describing further activity intended in relation to the cultural health of the organisation.

Members were reassured that any negative feedback was addressed and used to ensure positive change and learned that the whistleblowing procedure provided confidence and anonymity to staff at all stages of the process. It was agreed that progress could be discussed further at APAG at a future meeting.

RESOLVED

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Authority (HIWFRA) noted the progress and breadth of work to improve the cultural health of the organisation.

196. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was agreed that the public be excluded from the meeting during the following items of business, as it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during these items there would be disclosure to them of exempt information within Paragraphs 1, 3 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, and further that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons set out in the reports.

197. COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM PROCUREMENT

The Authority considered a report from the Chief Fire Officer (item 10 in the minute book) on the command and control system procurement [SEE SUMMARY OF EXEMPT MINUTE]

198. PRINCIPAL OFFICER PAY REVIEW (MEMBERS ONLY)

The Authority considered a report from the Chief Finance Officer on the Principal Officers pay review (Item 11 in the minute book) [SEE SUMMARY OF EXEMPT MINUTE]

Chairman,