

Purpose: Decision

Date **13 June 2017**

Title **Appointment of Standards and Governance Committee and Other Appointments**



**HAMPSHIRE
FIRE AND
RESCUE
AUTHORITY**

Report of the Clerk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report seeks approval to the proportional allocation of members to the Authority's Standards and Governance Committee; to the appointment of members and the respective Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen to serve on that Committee. It furthermore seeks appointments to the Hampshire Firefighters' Pension Board; and to various other appointments.

BACKGROUND

2. Size and Political Composition of Committees

- 2.1 At its meeting of 7 September 2016, the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority agreed a new composition for the Authority of 10 Councillor Members, comprising 8 from Hampshire County Council and one from each of Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils, with effect from the annual meeting of the Authority in June 2017. Accordingly, the Clerk subsequently wrote to each of the Constituent Councils to request that the required number of Members be appointed at each respective annual Council meeting.
- 2.2 It was furthermore agreed in September 2016 that an application be submitted to the Secretary of State requesting an amendment to the HFRA Combination Order to add the Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner as a full member of the Authority. This application was duly submitted and it was expected to have been progressed by June 2017, however the unexpected calling of a General Election resulted in insufficient Parliamentary time for the amendments to be enacted. The application will be resumed with the Home Office as soon as practicable following the General Election.
- 2.3 Following local elections and subsequent Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton annual Council meetings in May 2017 and with regard to paragraph 2.1, the membership and political composition of the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority (HFRA) may be found at appendix 1.
- 2.4 The political proportionality provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 apply to the Authority. These require, inter alia, that where one political group has an overall majority, that group must have a majority on any Committee. The proposed proportionality table for 2017/18 appears as appendix 2. The Authority is asked to review and confirm the appointment of Members to the Standards and Governance Committee.

3. Pension Board Members

3.1 At its meeting of 20 February 2015, the Authority agreed the formation of a Pension Board, to meet the requirements of the Public Service Pension Scheme Act 2013, consisting of three employer representatives and three scheme members to be appointed by the Fire Authority for a four year term. The current membership is set out below and the Authority is asked to appoint a new employer representative to the vacancy that exists. The Terms of Reference for the Pension Board make provision for the Board to elect its own Chairman and Vice-Chairman and therefore this responsibility does not fall to the Fire Authority.

Current appointments to the Pension Board are as follows:

Employer Representatives:		Scheme Members:	
	Date appointed		Date appointed
Stew Adamson	9 June 2016	Richard North	7 Sept 2016
Cllr Price	9 June 2016	Alex Rhodes	11 June 2015
Vacancy		Malcolm Eastwood	11 June 2015

3.2 It is proposed at another item on the agenda (Constitution of HFRA) that the Authority continues to delegate scheme management of the Fire Fighters Pension Scheme to the Standards and Governance (S&G) Committee. Subject to this being agreed, it would therefore amount to a conflict of interest for a Member of the S&G Committee to also be appointed to the Pension Board and the Authority is advised to take this into account and consider whether any changes of representation may be required.

4. Other Authority Appointments

- (a) Corporate Management Team – The Group meets as a preliminary sounding board with senior officers to develop policies, plans and recommendations for subsequent presentation to the Authority. It is informal and was originally established to make progress with the Authority’s Integrated Risk Management Plan. It has also been used as a useful cross-party group to discuss and deal with matters of urgency. It is proposed that the Authority appoint the following leading Members to the CMT:
- Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Authority,
 - Chairman of Standards and Governance Committee
 - One Liberal Democrat Member
 - One Labour Member.
- (b) Principal Officer Pay Review Group – The Authority is asked to appoint three Members, and identify one of these as Chairman, to an informal working group which may be called upon when required (normally on an annual basis) to conduct a review of any proposed changes to principal officer pay and to make recommendations accordingly to the Authority.

- (c) Crime and Disorder Reduction/Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) – The Authority has appointed one, and in some cases more than one, of its members to serve on each of the CSPs currently operated by the 11 district and two unitary authorities in the Authority’s area. They are seen as an important way to achieve and improve the delivery of “joined-up” services to the local community and enable resources to be targeted using the most appropriate skills. The 11 Crime and Disorder Reduction/Community Safety Partnerships may be seen at Appendix 3. The Authority is asked to consider appointments to these.
- (d) Member Development Liaison Champion – The Authority is asked to consider the appointment of a Member to the role of Member Development Liaison Champion. Cllr Roz Chadd was appointed to the role for one year in June 2016.
- (e) Minority Group Spokespersons – A Minority Group Spokesperson’s position is set out in the Members’ Allowances Scheme. The Liberal Democrat Group is asked to confirm their appointment to this position and to inform the Clerk accordingly.
- (f) 3SFire Ltd. Shareholder Representative – The trading company 3SFire was established in 2013 by the Authority. Pursuant to Article 39 of the Articles of Association of 3SFire Ltd, the Authority is asked to appoint a Shareholder Representative.
- (g) Articles 18 and 19 of the Articles of Association require that the company shall have between three and seven directors and that all Executive Directors be appointed by a resolution of the HFRA until the subsequent Annual meeting of the Authority. For reference, the current Executive Directors are: Councillors C. Carter, R. Price and Neil Odin. Pursuant to these Articles, the Authority is asked to appoint Executive Directors of 3SFire.
- (h) Independent Person The provisions of the Localism Act 2011 require that the Authority appoint an Independent Person or Persons whose view must be sought before reaching a decision following investigation of an allegation of a breach of the Code of Conduct. The previous holder of this position was appointed for a four year term in June 2013 and therefore a new appointment is required. The Standards and Governance Committee was delegated authority to progress such processes as may be required for the recruitment of an Independent Person or Persons in order to make a recommendation for an appointment to the Full Authority. Further details may be found in the report to the Standards and Governance Committee at Appendix 4. The Authority is asked to receive and agree the recommendations of the Standards and Governance Committee.

PEOPLE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5. The proposals in this report are considered compatible with the provisions of equality and human rights legislation.

6. OPTIONS

The Authority is asked to make the appointments for the reasons outlined in the report above.

RECOMMENDATIONS

7. That, for the purposes of Part 1 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the allocation of seats on the Standards and Governance Committee of the Authority be as set out in paragraph 2.4 /Appendix 2 of the report.
8. That the Authority appoint members of the Standards and Governance, Committee and its Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen following the agreed allocation of seats at paragraph 7 (above), until the Annual meeting of the Authority in 2017.
9. That, with regards to the Pension Board, the Authority consider the position as set out in paragraph 3 of the report and make appointments in accordance with the Board's Terms of Reference:
10. That the Corporate Management Team (CMT) include the Members set out in paragraph 4a of the report.
11. That the Authority appoint three Members, and identify one of these as Chairman, to an informal working group for the review of principal officer pay, as detailed in paragraph 4b of the report.
12. That the Authority consider appointments to each of the 11 Crime and Disorder Reduction/Community Safety Partnerships currently operated by the 11 districts and two unitary authorities in Hampshire as set out in paragraph 4c of the report, until the Annual meeting of the Authority in 2017.
13. That a Member Development Liaison Champion be appointed as set out in paragraph 4d of the report, until the Annual meeting of the Authority in 2017.
14. That the Minority Group Spokespersons for the Liberal Democrat Party Group until the Annual meeting of the Authority in 2017 is confirmed, as set out in paragraph 4e of the report.
15. That a Shareholder Representative be appointed by the Authority pursuant to Article 39 of the Articles of Association of 3SFire Ltd as set out in paragraph 4f of the report, until the Annual meeting of the Authority in 2017.
16. That the Executive Directors of 3SFire be appointed by the Authority pursuant to Articles 18 and 19 of the Articles of Association of 3SFire Ltd as set out in paragraph 4g of the report, until the Annual meeting of the Authority in 2017
17. That, pursuant to the recommendations of the Standards and Governance

Committee from its meeting on 23 March 2017 (detailed at paragraph 4h/appendix 4) three Independent Persons are appointed as set out in the exempt appendix of the Committee's report (Item 13). That each Independent Person is appointed for an initial term of two years and that the allowance for each Independent Person be set at £100 per annum.

APPENDICES ATTACHED

Appendix 1: Membership and political composition of Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority, following local elections and subsequent Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton annual Council meetings in May 2017

Appendix 2: Proposed HFRA Proportionality from June 2017

Appendix 3: Crime and Disorder Reduction Community Safety Partnerships to which Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority may appoint a representative

Appendix 4: Independent Person to Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority, Report of the Clerk to the Standards and Governance Committee, 23 March 2017. Note – this includes an exempt appendix at Item 14 on the agenda.

Contact:

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Appendix 1:

Membership and political composition of Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority, following local elections and subsequent Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton annual Council meetings in May 2017:

Councillor:	Political Party/Group	Appointing Authority
Chris Carter	Conservative	Hampshire County Council
Roz Chadd	Conservative	Hampshire County Council
Liz Fairhurst	Conservative	Hampshire County Council
Jonathan Glen	Conservative	Hampshire County Council
Sharon Mintoff	Labour	Southampton City Council
Roger Price	Liberal Democrat	Hampshire County Council
David Simpson	Liberal Democrat	Hampshire County Council
Luke Stubbs	Conservative	Portsmouth City Council
Michael Thierry	Conservative	Hampshire County Council
Rhydian Vaughan	Conservative	Hampshire County Council

Appendix 2

Proposed HFRA Proportionality from June 2017:

	Conservatives	Lib dem	Labour	Seats
Members:	7	2	1	
Standards & Governance	4	1	1	6
Total	4	1	1	6
Entitlement	4.2	1.2	0.6	
Rounded	4	1	1	
Balance	0	0	0	

Appendix 3

Crime and Disorder Reduction Community Safety Partnerships to which Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority may appoint a representative:

Basingtoke, Hart and Rushmoor (Safer North Hampshire)
Eastleigh
East Hampshire
Fareham
Gosport
Havant
New Forest
Portsmouth
Southampton
Test Valley
Winchester