

At a meeting of the HAMPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY held at the Fire and Police Headquarters, Eastleigh, on 8 December, 2016

PRESENT:

Councillors:

p	John Bennison	a	Frank Jonas
p	Ann Briggs	p	Fiona Mather
p	Graham Burgess	p	Robin McIntosh
p	Chris Carter	p	Andy Moore
p	Roz Chadd	p	Sharon Mintoff
p	Hannah Coombs	a	Frank Pearce
p	Mark Cooper	p	Roger Price
p	Liz Fairhurst	a	David Simpson
p	Jane Frankum	p	Mark Staplehurst
p	David Fuller	p	Luke Stubbs
p	Jonathan Glen	p	John Wall
p	David Harrison	p	Matthew Winnington
p	Geoff Hockley		

235 BROADCASTING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman announced that the meeting was being recorded for broadcast on the Authority's website and would be available for repeated viewing. The press and members of the public were also permitted to film and broadcast this meeting. Those remaining at the meeting were consenting to being filmed and recorded, and to the possible use of those images and recording for broadcasting purposes.

236 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Jonas, Pearce and Simpson. It was noted that all three were unwell and the Authority extended best wishes to them.

Apologies were also received from Michael Lane, Police and Crime Commissioner.

237 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were mindful of their duty to disclose at the meeting any disclosable pecuniary interest they had in any matter on the agenda for the meeting, where that interest was not already entered in the Authority's register of interests, and their ability to disclose any other personal interests in any such matter that they might have wished to disclose.

238 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Authority held on 7 September 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

239 DEPUTATIONS

No deputations requests were received for the meeting.

240 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS AND DEVELOPMENT

Councillors Fuller and Price had attended a national fire conference which had focussed on value for money, the inspection regime, blue light collaboration and non blue light partnership as well as Fire Authority reform.

Councillor Price confirmed that he was now a member of the National Firefighters' Pension Board.

Councillor Bennison reported on a leadership course for Fire Authority Members he had attended, which had covered topics including Fire Authority reform and collaboration.

Councillor Carter had attended a conference of Combined Fire Authorities at which collaboration, reform, RDS recruitment and the Policing and Crime Bill had been discussed. He had presented details of the HFRA governance review and its outcomes to the conference.

A number of Councillors had attended the presentation of new vehicles and were impressed by what they had seen.

The recent "Celebrating Success" event was highlighted and the Authority expressed its thanks to all those who made Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service successful. Thanks was also offered to the Police for the use of the venue for the event.

241 CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

Following the deployment of Assistant Chief Officer (ACO) Steve Apter to London Fire Brigade, the Chairman announced that Shantha Dickinson had been appointed ACO with responsibility for community safety and furthermore that Stew Adamson had been appointed ACO with the role of Director for blue light collaboration; both on a temporary six month basis.

The Chairman updated the Authority on progress of the implementation of actions relating to the efficiency and effective review, in particular that the outcomes of the September Authority meeting had been acknowledged by the Secretary of State and that an application for an amendment to the Combination Order had been submitted in liaison with officers from the Home Office.

Details of the recognition of a Hampshire Fire officer who had completed 50 years of service at the Excellence in Fire award ceremony were shared by the Chairman.

The launch of the Police and Crime Commissioner's policing plan was highlighted. It was noted that there was only brief reference to collaboration with the Fire Authority in the plan and Members looked forward to developing collaboration with the PCC when he became a full member of the Authority.

242 **ACTIVITY REPORT**

The Authority considered the report of the Chief Officer, Item 7 in the Minute Book, regarding activity in the period 1 July 2016 to 30 September 2016.

Member queries relating to individual incidents and to the report in general were responded to.

RESOLVED:

The Authority noted the report.

243 **FINANCE UPDATE**

The Authority received and considered the report of the Chief Financial Officer providing an update of the current financial position for the 2016/17 Revenue Budget, an update on the 2017/18 budget setting process and to provide the Treasury Mid Year report, item 8 in the Minute Book.

The Chief Financial Officer introduced the report, highlighting the key issues and recommendations to the Authority, including details around the need to authorise £250,000 of potential spend on blue light collaboration.

Members questioned whether there was a performance risk to be derived from the vacancies amongst retained firefighters and it was confirmed that although there were challenges in certain areas, the availability of appliances was of more significance and a number of vacancies were held with regard to the incoming agreed establishment levels.

The provision of call handling to the Isle of Wight was discussed and it was questioned whether this would place undue strain on Hampshire's capacity. The Chief Fire Officer confirmed that as Chief Officer for both areas, he would ensure that this would only go live based on confidence in the system and the mitigation of risk to both Fire and Rescue Services.

It was proposed that spending decisions relating to blue light collaboration be presented to the Finance and General Purpose Committee for approval. It was explained that the proposal had been to allow a level of flexible as it was not yet entirely clear what the money may be required for, but it would potentially include a demand mapping exercise and support for demand management. Members heard that under the existing Scheme of Delegation, the Chief Officer was able to spend up to £100,000 on a single item, which would likely be sufficient and therefore this decision was sought for additional transparency. It proposed and agreed that recommendation 2.5 be removed and a further update be presented to the Finance and General Purposes Committee if required.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the Budget Monitoring position for 2016/17 is noted and the underspend be transferred to the Transformation Reserve.

- ii. To approve the proposal that any available surplus within the 2017/18 Budget be transferred to Capital Funding.
- iii. That the mid-year review of treasury management activities outlined in Appendix B be noted
- iv. To approve the inclusion of Call Handling within the Delivering Differently in Partnership project and give delegated Authority to the Chief Officer in consultation with the Clerk and Monitoring Officer to finalise all arrangements in respect of the transfer.

244 **MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME**

The Authority received the report of the Clerk regarding the Members' Allowances Scheme, item 9 in the Minute Book.

It was questioned whether amendments should be made to the Scheme to reflect the reduction in size of the Authority from June 2017 and it was noted that this point had been considered by the Human Resources Committee and it had been felt appropriate to allow the new governance arrangements to be established and for the Scheme to be subsequently reviewed. The allowance payable to the Independent Person was questioned and clarified.

RESOLVED:

- i. That, having had regard to the recommendations of the relevant IRPs and to the Human Resources Committee, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority agrees to implement a Members' Allowances Scheme from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018, on the same terms as the 2016/17 Scheme. That this be applied to the newly constituted Authority, as set out at paragraph 4.7 of the report.
- ii. That the Authority agree that a full review of the Members' Allowances Scheme take place by March 2018.

245 **MINUTES OF STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – 15 SEPTEMBER 2016**

The Authority received and noted the Minutes of the Standards and Governance Committee held on 15 September 2016.

246 **MINUTES OF HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 12 OCTOBER 2016 AND 22 NOVEMBER 2016**

The Authority received and noted the Minutes of the Human Resources Committee held on 12 October 2016 and 22 November 2016.

The recommendations to the Authority at Minute 156 were agreed.

[with regard to the recommendations to the Authority at Minute 156, Councillor Price declared a non-pecuniary interest by virtue of being a Member of the Firefighters' Pension Board and withdrew from the decision]

247 **MINUTES OF PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 25 OCTOBER 2016**

The Authority received and noted the Minutes of the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee held on 25 October 2016.

248 MINUTES OF FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE – 1 NOVEMBER 2016

The Authority received and noted the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 1 November 2016.

249 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved:

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting as it is 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, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information within Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, being Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) which should not be disclosed for the reasons set out in the report.

250 EXEMPT MINUTES OF FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE – 1 NOVEMBER 2016

The Authority received and noted the exempt Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 1 November 2016.

The recommendations to the Authority at Minute 176 were agreed.