

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority

26 September 2013

Issue raised by a Member of the Fire Authority under Standing Order 12

Report of the Clerk

Contact: Kevin Greenhough 01962 847483

1 Summary

- 1.1 In accordance with Standing Order 12, Councillor Andrew Pope has requested that an item, in the form of a Motion be placed on the agenda for consideration by the Fire Authority. This report sets out the request from Councillor Pope and the possible action that may be taken by the Authority.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 That, the Authority reviews and agrees action to be taken in response to the Motion placed before it by Councillor Pope, in accordance with Standing Order 12.

3 Motion for the Fire Authority

- 3.1 In accordance with Standing Order 12, Councillor Andrew Pope proposed the following Motion for the Fire Authority, for inclusion on the agenda of the September 2013 meeting of the Authority:

“A number of construction companies have been challenged about supporting the existence of and subscribing to construction industry ‘blacklists’, which detail covertly gathered information on construction trade unionism, militant tendencies, poor timekeeping, trouble making, etc. Blacklisting is an unacceptable practice and cannot be condoned.

It is understood that the construction industry blacklist was collated by the Consulting Association (a private consultancy) and was then provided at a cost to construction companies as they sought to recruit/avoid new workers.

Given the known impact on residents of Hampshire reflected in the Deputation made to Southampton City Council in March 2013, and the evidence from the research by the Unite, GMB, and UCATT unions, this Fire Authority deplores the use of blacklisting in construction and anywhere else.

This Fire Authority resolves to support the campaign against blacklisting, and will seek written assurances from its partners and suppliers that they do not use blacklisting. This will include changes to the Fire Authority

procurement processes to ensure that this disgraceful practice is not used in Hampshire, writing to the Department of Communities and Local Government and the ongoing Scottish Affairs Select Committee Inquiry into blacklisting, and urging the full force of the law and if necessary, the strengthening of the law, to eliminate blacklisting.“

4 Response by the Fire Authority

4.1 Standing Order 12 (see in full below) sets out the possible courses of action that the Authority may take in response to the Motion put before it by Councillor Pope.

4.2 STANDING ORDER 12

Agenda Items

A member may, by giving 10 working days notice, require an item to be placed on the agenda either for an Authority or committee meeting. For the avoidance of doubt, the Authority or committee at which the agenda item is considered will determine what, if any, action it is proposed to be taken with the agenda item. If either the Authority or the committee determine that further action is required on the agenda item, the Authority or the committee will request officers to submit a full report on the agenda item to the next appropriate meeting of the Authority or committee.

5 Equality Impact Assessment

5.1 It is recommended that any impact on equalities be considered with regards to any further action that the Authority chooses to take on this matter.

6 Section 100D – Local Government Act 1972 – background papers

6.1 The following documents disclose the facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and has been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report.

N.B. The list excludes:

Published works.

Documents that disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.

NONE