

At a meeting of the HAMPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY held at the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Eastleigh on 3 December, 2013

**PRESENT:**

Councillors:

p	Graham Burgess	p	Robin McIntosh
a	Adam Carew	p	Sharon Mintoff
p	Chris Carter	p	Frank Pearce
p	Roz Chadd	p	Andrew Pope
p	Keith Chapman	p	Roger Price
p	Mark Cooper	p	David Simpson
p	Liz Fairhurst	p	Phil Smith
p	Jason Fazackarley	p	Royston Smith
p	Jane Frankum	p	Mark Staplehurst
p	Jonathan Glen	p	Luke Stubbs
p	David Harrison	p	John Wall
p	Geoff Hockley	a	John West
p	Chris Lagdon		

**34 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Adam Carew and John West.

**35 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 pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any such matter that they might have wished to disclose.

**36 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Authority held on 26 September 2013 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. It was noted that consideration of an amendment to the Authority's Standing Orders regarding notices of motion would take place at the next meeting of the Standards and Governance Committee.

**37 DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations to this meeting.

**38 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS AND DEVELOPMENT**

Councillor Price reported that he would shortly be attending a joint Services emergency planning meeting.

Councillor Pope asked the Chairman about the level of dialogue that he had had with the local FBU and with the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) with regards to the on going industrial dispute. The Chairman confirmed that he had not had any dialogue with the FBU and only informal conversations with DCLG. The Chairman felt that it was important to resolve the dispute at a national level.

Councillor Harrison reported that he had recently attended a Prince's Trust presentation and had found the event inspiring. He encouraged all Members to attend a similar event if they had an opportunity to do so.

### 39 **CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chairman reported that the recent World Rescue Organisation extrication and trauma competition resulted in success for Hampshire when the trauma team, Kerry Charlton and Gary Cross, were awarded second place in the world trauma challenge. Unfortunately the extrication team didn't reach the top 3 but acquitted themselves very well.

Members were reminded that they were invited to attend the annual Celebrating Success event at Service HQ on Wednesday 11 December. The Chairman encouraged all Members to attend an excellent evening to showcase the wide range of work that Service personnel and their partners are engaged in.

An update was provided on the recent proposals to change the governance of Fire Authorities, in line with changes in the Police service. The Chairman confirmed his commitment to preserve the independence of the Fire Authority. His view was that integration between Fire and Police was already high and that given the high performance of HFRS, there was no justification to alter governance arrangements.

### 40 **PRINCE'S TRUST**

The Authority received a presentation on the Prince's Trust in which the scope and nature of the Trust's programmes, as well as the relationship between the Trust and the Fire and Rescue Service was explained. It was noted that delivery already covered a number of areas around Hampshire and it was hoped that this could be expanded further. Joint work with the Health and Wellbeing programme was detailed and it was explained how adaptations had been made to respond to the raised participation age and the needs of the Department for Education. In particular the value of the work of the Trust to the community and to a range of partner organisations was emphasised.

The Fire Authority welcomed the work of the Prince's Trust and was supportive of the delivery role played by the Fire and Rescue Service. Particular recognition was given to the officers leading the programme for its high success rate.

41 **ACTIVITY REPORT**

The Authority considered the report of the Chief Officer, item 8 in the Minute Book, regarding activity in the period 1 July 2013 to 30 September 2013.

Specific Member queries relating to individual incidents and to the report in general were responded to and it was

RESOLVED:

That the Authority note the report.

42 **IMPROVING THE WAY WE RESPOND TO AND SUPPORT INCIDENTS – CHANGES TO THE EMERGENCY VEHICLE FLEET**

The Authority considered the report of the Chief Officer, item 9 in the Minute Book, in respect of the emergency vehicle fleet and their role in response and support at incidents.

Actions that had been taken to improve the vehicle fleet were detailed and it was noted that these were systematic changes, taking advantage of funding where it became available. The fleet was under constant review to ensure that it met demand.

RESOLVED:

That the Authority note the changes already made to the emergency vehicle fleet, and the further planned changes.

That the Authority note the financial savings these vehicle improvements have already achieved, and the potential for further savings in rationalising and improving the emergency vehicle fleet, especially if combined with the forthcoming risk review.

43 **PRIMARY AUTHORITY SCHEME**

The Authority considered the report of the Chief Officer, item 10 in the Minute Book, in respect of the participation of HFRS in the Primary Authority Scheme (PAS).

The background to PAS, including the piloting role played by HFRS in its development, was outlined. It was confirmed that from April 2014 this would become a national requirement.

Members questioned a number of details relating to the implementation and functionality of the Scheme, especially regarding instances of cross boundary working and the relationship with other Fire and Rescue services. Cost recovery was also discussed and it was confirmed that costs could be recovered and furthermore noted that building relationships with large companies may lead to further opportunities in the future.

RESOLVED:

That Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority endorse the active participation of Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service in delivering the Primary Authority Scheme.

#### 44 **MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY**

The Authority considered the report of the Treasurer, item 11 in the Minute Book, in respect of the budget development process and medium term prospects for finance.

RESOLVED:

That the Authority notes the changes to the financial forecasts.

#### 45 **JOINT WORKING IN HAMPSHIRE**

The Authority considered the report of the Chief Officer, item 12 in the Minute Book, providing an update on the programme of work.

The background to joint working in Hampshire, the current position and the next steps for implementation, including the role of the IBC, were detailed. Members were also informed about timescales, the outcomes of staff consultation and the potential harmonisation of contracts.

RESOLVED:

That the Authority note the excellent progress to date of the Joint Working in Hampshire programme.

That the Authority note the updates to the Joint Working in Hampshire business case and approves the increased resource requirements from the Investment and Sustainability reserve.

#### 46 **ISSUE RAISED BY A MEMBER OF THE AUTHORITY UNDER STANDING ORDER 12**

The Authority considered the report of the Clerk, item 13 in the Minute Book, regarding an issue raised by a member of the Authority under Standing Order 12. The Authority considered what, if any, action would be taken on the matter. The motion on the living wage detailed in the report was proposed by Cllr Pope and seconded by Cllr Mintoff. Cllr Pope explained the background to the motion, and sought the endorsement of the Authority.

In discussion it was stated that all staff are already paid a minimum of the living wage. Cllr R. Smith proposed and Cllr Chapman seconded an amendment to the motion to read:

“We recognise the good practice of the Authority in ensuring all our staff are paid above the living wage and therefore no further action is required.”

The advice of the Clerk was sought and he confirmed that the proposed amendment did not negate the original Motion. A vote was held and by a majority of 14 to 6, the proposed amendment was accepted.

Cllr Price proposed and Cllr Harrison seconded a further amendment , that the matter be referred to the HR Committee for consideration. A vote was held and by a majority of 14 to 6 the proposal was rejected.

A vote was held on the new substantive Motion and by a majority of 14 to 1 (with 5 abstentions), this was accepted by the Authority.

RESOLVED:

That the good practice of the Authority, in ensuring that all its staff are paid above the living wage, is recognised, and therefore no further action is required.

**47 MINUTES OF STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE –  
23 SEPTEMBER 2013**

The Authority received the Minutes of the Standards and Governance Committee meeting held on 23 September 2013.

**48 MINUTES OF PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –  
22 OCTOBER 2013**

The Authority received the Minutes of the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee held on 22 October 2013.

**49 MINUTES OF FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE –  
29 OCTOBER 2013**

The Authority received the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 29 October 2013.

The recommendations to the Authority in Minutes 23 (c, d and e) and 34 were agreed.