

AT A MEETING of the HAMPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY held at the Borough Council Offices, Eastleigh on 15 June, 2011

PRESENT:

Councillors: I. Beagley; A.S. Carew; C. Carter; K. Chapman; Sam Darragh; L. Fairhurst; J. Frankum; D. Fuller; Jacqui Hancock; D. Harrison; F. Jonas; R.J. Kimber; R. McIntosh; K. Morrell; J. Moulton; T. Knight; E. Neal; F. Pearce; R.H. Price; D. Simpson; R. Smith; M. Tucker; J. West.

167 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A. Evans and A. Weeks.

168 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

The Authority considered the appointment of Chairman for 2011/12.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor R. Smith be appointed Chairman until the Annual Meeting of the Authority in 2012.

169 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMEN

The Authority considered the appointment of Vice-Chairmen for 2011/12. Some Members questioned the appropriateness of appointing two Vice-Chairmen and it was agreed that the matter should be included on the agenda for a meeting of the Authority later in the year.

RESOLVED:

The Councillors I. Beagley and A. Evans be appointed Vice-Chairmen until the Annual Meeting of the Authority in 2012.

170 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were mindful that, where they believed they had personal or personal prejudicial interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting, they should, normally at the time of the debate, declare their interest and, having regard to the circumstances described in Paragraphs 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the Fire Authority's Code of Conduct, consider whether to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 12 of the Code.

171 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Authority held on 9 February, 2011 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the wording of Minute 163 'Members' Scheme of Allowances : Travel Mileage Rates being amended for accuracy. The resolution on this Minute to now read "That with effect from 1 April, 2011, the Members' motor vehicle allowance be aligned with the HMRC

approved rate”.

172 **DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations to this meeting.

173 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS AND DEVELOPMENT**

There were no Members' questions.

Councillor T. Knight reported on his recent visits to the Fareham and Gosport Retained Fire Stations and wished to record his thanks to those involved in making his visits both interesting and informative.

Councillor Sam Darragh gave an update on the work of the Members' Development Group which included the availability of new Member web-pages, a handbook, e-learning etc.

The Chief Officer reported that following the successful visit by Members to the Authority on 14 June, 2011 to the Fire Service College in Moreton-on-Marsh, a further visit to the Fire College was planned for six months time.

174 **CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chairman welcomed Councillors Jacqui Hancock and Keith Morrell as new Members to their first meeting of the Authority. Also, it was noted that Councillor A. Evans had been unwell and the Chairman undertook, on behalf of the Authority, to convey their best wishes.

The Chairman was delighted to advise Members that the official opening of the new Winchester Fire Station took place on 27 April, 2011. It had been a resounding success with a good attendance from Authority Members and other partners of the Authority. The Station building had been awarded “excellent” under the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM). Only a very few buildings achieved this environmental assessment and it contributed to the Authority's corporate objective of reducing the carbon impact of the Service and its activities.

The Chairman reported that Area Manager Bob Wythe had announced that he would be retiring on 21 July, 2011. His sterling work during his 33 years of service would be sorely missed. The Chairman and Members wished him all the very best for the future.

Finally, the Chairman presented Assistant Chief Officer Kevin Butler with a retirement gift on behalf of the Authority in recognition of his dedicated service and wished him well for the future. The Groups' Spokespersons and other Members paid their individual tributes to the member of staff who thanked the Authority for their gift and kind words.

175 **ACTIVITY REPORT**

The Authority considered the report of Chief Officer (Item 9 in the Minute Book)

highlighting prevention, protection and response activities in each of the group areas covering the period 24 December, 2010 to 29 April, 2011.

Members raised various points and comments on the report. As a result, further information was sought about current initiatives in relation to unwanted fire alarm signals and home fire safety visits. The Chief Officer agreed to report on these matters to the next meeting of the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee on 16 September, 2011.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

176 PRESENTATION ON THE UK INTERNATIONAL SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAMS DEPLOYMENTS TO NEW ZEALAND AND JAPAN

Peter Crook, Group Manager, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Service's involvement in the work of the United Kingdom International Search and Rescue Team (UKISART). The presentation included details of Hampshire's deployment to Christchurch in New Zealand after an earthquake on 22 February, 2011; and the role the Hampshire team played in co-ordinating the deployment of UKISART to Japan in response to the tsunami and earthquake on 11 March, 2011. A copy of the presentation appears as Appendix 10 in the Minute Book.

The Authority thanked Mr. Crook for his interesting and informative presentation and wished to place on record their sincere thanks, to those involved for their humanitarian efforts in helping to deal with the devastating results of national disasters occurring around the world. Also, Members expressed their immense pride and gratitude at Hampshire's part in this work.

177 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES, CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMANSHIPS AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

The Authority considered the report of the Clerk (Item 11 in the Minute Book) on the appointment of Committees, Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen and other appointments. The Clerk reported that it had become apparent that certain formal actions would be required in response to the South East Fire and Rescue Control Limited (LACC) being wound-up earlier in the year. It was felt more appropriate for Councillor R.J. Price, as the Chairman of the LACC and the Authority's representative to deal with this himself rather than for the required actions to be delegated to the Chief Officer and Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman, as recommended in the report.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That, for the purposes of part 1 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the allocation of seats on the Finance and General Purposes, Governance, Human Resources, Performance Review and Scrutiny and Standards Committees of the Authority be as set out in paragraph 3.4 of the report.

- (b) That the Authority re-appoint Members of the Finance and General Purposes, Governance, Human Resources, Performance Review and Scrutiny and Standards Committees and their respective Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen as follows:-

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES

I. Beagley (Chairman)	F. Pearce
A.S. Carew	R. Price
C. Carter	D. Simpson
F. Jonas (Portsmouth) (Vice-Chairman)	R. Smith (Southampton)
J. Moulton (Southampton)	A. Weeks

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Sam Darragh	K. Morrell (Southampton)
L. Fairhurst (Vice-Chairman)	R. McIntosh (Chairman)
D. Fuller (Portsmouth)	R. Smith (Southampton)
D. Harrison	Mrs. M. Tucker
T. Knight	

HUMAN RESOURCES

A.S. Carew	R. Kimber
K. Chapman	E. Neal
Sam Darragh	Mrs. M. Tucker (Vice-Chairman)
A. Evans (Chairman)	J.K. West
L. Fairhurst	
D. Fuller	
Jacqui Hancock (Portsmouth)	
K. Morrell (Southampton)	

PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND SCRUTINY

I. Beagley	E. Neal
K. Chapman (Chairman)	D. Simpson
Sam Darragh	A. Weeks
A. Evans	
J. Frankum	
T. Knight (Vice-Chairman)	

STANDARDS

C. Carter
 J. Frankum
 Jacqui Hancock (Portsmouth)
 D. Harrison
 F. Jonas (Portsmouth)
 R. Kimber

INDEPENDENT MEMBERS

Mr. M. James (Chairman)
 R. Farrall
 M. Quick

- (c) That the Authority appoint members to each of the 13 Crime and Disorder Reduction/Community Safety Partnerships currently operated by the 11

districts and 2 unitary authorities in the Authority's area as follows:

Basingstoke	K. Chapman
East Hants	J. West
Eastleigh	D. Harrison
Fareham	R. Price
Gosport	A. Carter
Hart	D. Simpson
Havant	F. Pearce
New Forest	A. Weeks
Portsmouth	Jacqui Hancock and D. Fuller
Rushmoor	R. Kimber
Southampton	R. Smith
Test Valley	Vacancy
Winchester	Vacancy

- (d) That the Corporate Management Team continues as before and include Members as follows:

R. Smith (Chairman of Authority)
 I. Beagley (Vice-Chairman of Authority and Chairman of Finance and General Purposes Committee)
 A. Evans (Vice-Chairman of Authority and Chairman of Human Resources Committee)
 K. Chapman (Chairman of Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee)
 F. Jonas (Chairman of Asset Management Working Group on Ad-hoc basis as required)
 R. Price (Liberal Democrat Member)
 D. Simpson (Liberal Democrat Member)
 J. Frankum (Labour Member Spokesperson)

- (e) That Councillor R.H. Price be reappointed as the Authority's representative on South East Fire and Rescue Control Centre Limited (LACC)

178 RESPONSE TO DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FIRE CONTROL CONSULTATION AND FIRE CONTROL REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Authority considered the report of the Chief Officer (Item 12 in the Minute Book) about the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service response to the Department for Communities and Local Government's consultation on priority for the future provision of Control Services in England.

RESOLVED:

That the Authority acknowledge the report and the consultation process.

179 RESPONSE BY DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO "FIRE FUTURES"

The Authority considered the report of the Chief Officer (Item 13 in the Minute

Book) giving an overview of Department for Communities and Local Government's recent response to the "Fire Futures" exercise undertaken during the latter part of 2010.

RESOLVED:

That the Authority notes the Government's intended approach to future fire policy and uses this in considering their own deliberations around future Authority policy.

180 SENIOR PAY POLICY STATEMENT

The Authority considered the report of the Chief Officer (Item 14 in the Minute Book) about provisions within the Localism Bill, which if enacted in its current form, will require Fire and Rescue Authorities to publish a senior pay policy statement.

RESOLVED:

That (subject to the statutory requirements of the Bill when enacted) the responsibility to oversee the production of the annual senior pay policy statement be delegated to the Human Resources Committee, which will then recommend it to the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority for adoption.

181 STAFF REVIEW UPDATE

The Authority considered the report of the Chief Officer (Item 15 in the Minute Book) about the ongoing work of the Staff Review.

RESOLVED:

That the Authority supports the progress review on the Staff Review and receives further updates through the Human Resources Committee and the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

182 LOCALISM BILL – COMMUNITY RIGHT TO CHALLENGE AND COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BUY

The Authority received and noted the report of the Clerk (Item 16 in the Minute Book) on the implications of the provisions in the Localism Bill regarding the Community Right to Challenge and Community Right to Buy.

183 MINUTES OF PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 25 FEBRUARY, 2011

The Authority received the Minutes of the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 25 February, 2011 (Item 17 in the Minute Book).

184 MINUTES OF GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – 24 MARCH, 2011

The Authority received the Minutes of the Governance Committee meeting held

on 24 March, 2011 (Item 18 in the Minute Book).

185 MINUTES OF HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 28 APRIL, 2011

The Authority received the Minutes of the Human Resources Committee meeting held on 28 April, 2011 (Item 19 in the Minute Book). It was noted that Minutes 83 and 85 regarding Principal Officers Pay and the proposed Voluntary Redundancy Scheme had been reported as individual items to this meeting of the Authority (Minutes 180 and 187 refers).

186 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the following item of business, 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 press and public were present during this item there would be disclosure to them of exempt information within Paragraph 3 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 outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information for the reasons set out in the report.

187 PROPOSED VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY SCHEME

The Authority considered the exempt report of the Chief Officer (Item 21 in the Minute Book) about a proposed Voluntary Redundancy Scheme (VRS) for Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the principles of a Voluntary Redundancy Scheme, as outlined in Section 3 of the exempt report, be approved.
- (b) That authority to utilise the “A14 Rule” discretions is delegated jointly to the Chief Officer, Directors and the Service’s Treasurer who will consider all requests on their merits giving due regard to the Service’s best interests, the employee’s best interests and the affordability of the request.