

At a meeting of the HAMPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY held at the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Eastleigh on 3 December, 2014

PRESENT:

Councillors:

p	Ann Briggs	p	Chris Lagdon
p	Graham Burgess	p	Robin McIntosh
a	Adam Carew	p	Sharon Mintoff
p	Chris Carter	p	Frank Pearce
p	Roz Chadd	p	Sally Spicer
p	Keith Chapman	p	Roger Price
p	Mark Cooper	p	David Simpson
p	Liz Fairhurst	p	Phil Smith
p	Jane Frankum	p	Royston Smith
p	Jonathan Glen	p	Mark Staplehurst
p	David Harrison	p	Luke Stubbs
p	Stephen Hastings	p	John Wall
p	Geoff Hockley		

99 BROADCASTING OF MEETING

The Chairman announced that the meeting was being recorded for broadcast on the Fire 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.

100 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

101 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.

102 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Authority held on 10 September 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

With regard to Minute 92, the Chief Officer confirmed that the business case would now be presented to the February meeting of the Authority.

103 **DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations to this meeting.

104 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS AND DEVELOPMENT**

Councillor Chadd asked that all Members respond to the skills questionnaire that was being prepared.

Councillor Pearce updated the Authority on a recent conference that he had attended and also gave details of the Arson Forum.

Councillor Frankum reported on an event relating to fire safety for older people, and asked that the information from the event be shared with all Members.

105 **CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chairman announced an additional item for the agenda of the meeting regarding an appointment to the Standards and Governance Committee. This would be inserted following the Activity Report.

Members were reminded of the forthcoming Celebrating Success event and encouraged to attend if possible.

Members were informed that the Authority had once again been successful in achieving the LGA Members' Charter Mark award. The extensive review took place last week and the feedback for the Authority was very positive. Once the report has been produced Cllr Roz Chadd, Chairman of the Members Development Group, will work on any recommendations within it.

The Chairman announced that Andy Bowers had recently completed his MSc in Crisis and Disaster Management with the University of Portsmouth, winning a national award for the quality of his dissertation. Congratulations were expressed to Andy on behalf of the Authority.

Members were reminded that John Bonney was retiring as Chief Officer on 31 December and would be succeeded by Dave Curry. On behalf of the Authority the Chairman congratulated Dave on taking up the post and wished him the very best for his tenure. He noted that John had led the Service through one of the most turbulent periods of fire service history and some very demanding times for Hampshire. He has been hugely dedicated to the Service, helpful and supportive to the Authority, but most of all passionate about making lives in Hampshire safer. All Members joined the Chairman in wishing both John and his family the very best for the future.

106 **ACTIVITY REPORT**

The Authority considered the report of the Chief Officer, Item 7 in the Minute Book, regarding activity in the period 1 April 2014 to 30 June 2014.

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

RESOLVED:

That the Authority note the report.

107 **APPOINTMENT TO THE STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

The Authority considered an additional item as announced by the Chairman in his communications. It was explained that Councillor Liz Fairhurst wished to stand down as a member of the Standards and Governance Committee. Therefore a replacement member from the Conservative Group was required to maintain the Committee's membership and proportionality as agreed at the June 2014 meeting of the Authority.

It was proposed by Cllr Royston Smith and seconded by Cllr Keith Chapman that:

Councillor Graham Burgess fill the Conservative position on the Standards and Governance Committee vacated by Councillor Liz Fairhurst until the annual meeting of the Authority in 2015. The appointment to take immediate effect.

There being no dissent, the proposal was agreed and Councillor Burgess duly appointed.

108 **FINANCE UPDATE**

The Authority considered the report of the Chief Financial Officer, item 8 in the Minute Book, regarding the financial position of the Fire and Rescue Service.

The financial position of the Authority was set out, with regards to the report that had been received by the Finance and General Purposes Committee on 6 November 2014.

The recommendations to the Authority (Finance and General Purposes Committee, Minute 78) were proposed and it was

RESOLVED:

- That the Authority notes the latest financial position for 2014/15 as set out in Appendix A.
- That the Authority notes the changes to the profiled spending on the capital programme as set out in Appendix C.

- That the Authority notes the mid year Treasury Management position and agrees to increase the prudential indicator limit for the exposure of investments variable interest rates to £45 million, as set out in Appendix D.

109 **EMERGENCY SERVICES MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAMME (ESMCP)**

The Authority considered the report of the Chief Officer, Item 9 in the Minute Book, regarding the Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme.

The purpose of ESMCP was explained and it was noted that this was a Government led project to allow inter-operability between Services. It would be a replacement to the current “Airwave” system and would amount to a significant project, which would require suitable infrastructure for implementation. The costs were as yet unknown and it was confirmed that HFRS would work with partners to find efficiencies where possible.

Members expressed concern that the outcome of the project may be an increased cost to HFRS. There were also concerns that the Government’s track record in delivering large scale IT projects was not good.

It was explained that Member involvement would be through reports to the Finance and General Purposes Committee. Furthermore, the Project Board would consult a nominated Member as required. On the basis of his previous experience in Royal Navy communications, Councillor Graham Burgess was nominated and agreed to be the Authority representative.

RESOLVED:

That the Authority:

Note the ESMCP programme and the progress to date.

Note the potential for future costs to the Authority.

Note the anticipated HFRS structure and Governance arrangements relating to implementation, including the nomination of Councillor Burgess as the Authority representative to be consulted as required by the Project Board.

110 **MINUTES OF PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 14 OCTOBER 2014**

The Authority received and noted the Minutes of the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 14 October 2014.

111 **MINUTES OF STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – 25 SEPTEMBER AND 31 OCTOBER 2014**

The Authority received and noted the Minutes of the Standards and Governance Committee meetings held on 25 September and 31 October 2014.

The recommendations to the Authority in Minute 67 were considered and it was

RESOLVED:

That the Authority agree the proposed changes to the Scheme of Delegation to Officers and the Financial Regulations as set out in Appendices A and B to the report.

112 MINUTES OF HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 4 SEPTEMBER AND 5 NOVEMBER 2014

The Authority received and noted the Minutes of the Human Resources Committee meetings held on 4 September and 5 November 2014.

The recommendations to the Authority in Minute 61 were considered and it was

RESOLVED:

That the Senior Pay Policy Statement be approved.

113 MINUTES OF FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE – 6 NOVEMBER 2014

The Authority received and noted the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 6 November 2014.

It was noted that the recommendation to the Authority at Minute 78 had been agreed earlier on the agenda.

114 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

The public were excluded from the meeting during the following item of business, as it was 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 during that item there would have been disclosure to them of exempt information within Paragraph 3 of Part I 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 outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons set out in the appendix.

115 EXEMPT MINUTES OF HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 4 SEPTEMBER 2014

The Authority received and noted the exempt Minutes of the Human Resources Committee held on 4 September 2014.

116 **EXEMPT MINUTES OF FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
– 6 NOVEMBER 2014**

The Authority received and noted the exempt Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 6 November 2014.

The recommendations to the Authority in Minute 84 were considered and it was

RESOLVED:

That the vehicle replacement programme for the years 2015/16 to 2016/17, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report, be included in the capital programme for adoption by the Authority at its meeting on 19 February 2015.