

At a meeting of the HAMPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY held at Hampshire County Council, Winchester on 9 June, 2016

PRESENT:

Councillors:

p	John Bennison	p	Frank Jonas
p	Ann Briggs	p	Chris Lagdon
p	Graham Burgess	p	Fiona Mather
p	Chris Carter	p	Robin McIntosh
p	Roz Chadd	p	Sharon Mintoff
p	Hannah Coombs	p	Frank Pearce
p	Mark Cooper	p	Roger Price
p	Liz Fairhurst	p	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		

201 BROADCASTING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Clerk 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.

202 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies were received from Authority Members. Apologies were received from Chief Fire Officer Dave Curry who was attending a meeting regarding Fire Service functions at the Home Office.

203 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor Chris Carter was nominated and elected as Chairman of the Fire Authority for 2016-17.

< Councillor Carter in the Chair >

204 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Councillor Liz Fairhurst was nominated and elected as Vice-Chairman of the Fire Authority for 2016-17.

205 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.

206 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Authority held on 24 February 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

207 **FIREFIGHTER EXCHANGE VISIT WITH OREGON, USA**

Deputy Chief Fire Officer Tim Craig from Oregon, USA was introduced to the Fire Authority. He and his colleagues were visiting Hampshire as the return leg of an exchange with Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service officers. This was part of an ongoing relationship between the two Services aimed at sharing knowledge and helping each other improve.

Mr Craig thanked the Authority for their welcome and highlighted the way in which both services had similar goals in very different circumstances and the mutual benefits of sharing information. He presented the Authority with a handmade quilt representing the two communities of Hampshire and Oregon.

The Chairman expressed appreciation to Tim on behalf of the Authority and presented him with a symbol of Hampshire's maritime heritage.

208 **POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

The newly elected Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Hampshire was welcomed to the meeting and invited by the Chairman to address the Authority.

The PCC addressed the Authority, confirming that he saw his initial remit as one of listening and learning and recognised the importance of operational independence. He noted the timely debate on Fire Authority governance, confirming that it was right to cooperate on efficiencies and that the overarching priority should be of making people safer. The outstanding performance of the Fire Service and the national recognition for this was acknowledged.

The Chairman thanked the PCC for his comments and confirmed that he was looking forward to working together with him.

209 **CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chairman confirmed arrangements for the annual 3SFire meeting following the Authority meeting.

On behalf of the Authority, the Chairman congratulated Councillor Frankum on becoming Mayor of Basingstoke and Dean Borough Council. He also congratulated Stew Adamson and Tom Simms on their respective appointments as Area Managers.

The Chairman updated the Authority on the leaked “Thomas” report, confirming that it’s full publication would be awaited to understand any themes that may require attention within Hampshire.

210 DEPUTATIONS

No deputations requests were received for the meeting.

211 MEMBERS’ QUESTIONS AND DEVELOPMENT

New Members of the Fire Authority, Councillors Coombs, Glen, Jonas, Mather and Winnington were recognised and welcomed.

Councillors Carter and Fuller reported on their attendance at a recent multi-agency training exercise at West Quay in Southampton, paying tribute to all involved.

212 ACTIVITY REPORT

The Authority considered the report of the Chief Officer, Item 10 in the Minute Book, regarding activity in the period 1 January 2016 to 31 March 2016.

Member queries relating to individual incidents and to the report in general were responded to. Councillor Fuller recorded specific thanks to the Service for their rapid and pro-active response to the recent fire at a firework factory in his Council division.

RESOLVED:

The Authority noted the report.

213 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES, CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMANSHIPS, DEPUTIES AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

The Authority received the report of the Clerk regarding appointments to a number of positions, item 11 in the Minute Book.

With regards to the Firefighters’ Pension Board, it was explained that in the year since the original establishment of the Board it had become apparent that in the majority of other Authorities, officers had been appointed to the employer representative positions. It was furthermore highlighted that Councillor Price had recently been nominated to the national board. It was therefore proposed that the Authority take these factors into account when making appointments. It was highlighted that a Member may not be appointed to both the Pension Board and to the Committee with responsibility for the pension fund, currently F&GP.

It was RESOLVED:

1. 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,

Standards and Governance, Human Resources, and Performance Review and Scrutiny Committees of the Authority be as set out below.

	Conservatives	Lib dem	Labour	UKIP	Ind	Total
Members:	14	5	3	2	1	25
F&GP	6	2	1	0	1	10
HR	5	2	1	1		9
Perf Review	5	2	1	1		9
Standards & Gov	5	2	1	1		9
Total	21	8	4	3	1	37
Entitlement	20.72	7.4	4.44	2.96	1.48	
Rounded	21	7	4	3	1	
Balance	0	1	0	0	0	

2. That the Authority appoint members of the Finance and General Purposes, Standards and Governance, Human Resources, and Performance Review and Scrutiny Committees and their respective Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen as set out below, until the Annual meeting of the Authority in 2017.

Finance and General Purposes Committee

J. Bennison
 G. Burgess (Vice-Chairman)
 C. Carter
 D. Fuller (Southampton)
 G. Hockley
 F. Mather
 S. Mintoff
 R. Price
 D. Simpson
 L. Stubbs (Chairman) (Portsmouth)

Standards and Governance Committee

G. Burgess
 C. Carter
 D. Fuller (Southampton)
 D. Harrison
 G. Hockley (Vice-Chairman)
 R. McIntosh (Chairman)
 S. Mintoff (Southampton)
 M. Staplehurst
 M. Winnington

Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee

A. Briggs
 M. Cooper
 J. Frankum
 J. Glen (Chairman)
 F. Jonas (Portsmouth)
 C. Lagdon
 F. Pearce (Vice-Chairman)
 D. Simpson
 J. Wall

Human Resources Committee

A. Briggs
 R. Chadd
 H. Coombs
 M. Cooper
 L. Fairhurst (Chairman)
 J. Glen
 C. Lagdon
 J. Wall (Vice-Chairman)
 M. Winnington

3. (Proposed: Councillor Carter, Seconded: Councillor Burgess)

That: responsibility for Scheme Management for the Fire Fighters Pension Scheme is transferred from Finance and General Purposes Committee to Standards and Governance Committee with immediate effect and to delegate authority to the Clerk of the Authority to make all the necessary changes to the relevant Terms of Reference and Scheme of Delegation if required

That: Councillor Price, Stewart Adamson and Steve Foye be appointed employer representatives to the Firefighters' Pension Board

4. That the Corporate Management Team (CMT) include the Members set out below:
- Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Authority,
 - Chairman of Finance and General Purposes Committee,
 - Chairman of Human Resources Committee
 - Chairman of Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee,
 - Chairman of Standards and Governance Committee
 - Two Liberal Democrat Members
 - One Labour Member.
 - One UK Independence Party Member
5. That the Authority appoint members to each of the 11 Crime and Disorder Reduction/Community Safety Partnerships currently operated by the 11 districts and two unitary authorities in Hampshire as set out below, until the Annual meeting of the Authority in 2017.

Basingtoke, Hart and Rushmoor (Safer North Hampshire) – J. Wall
Eastleigh – G. Burgess
East Hampshire – R. Chadd
Fareham - R. Price
Gosport - C. Carter
Havant - F. Pearce
New Forest – D. Harrison
Portsmouth – L. Stubbs
Southampton – D. Fuller
Test Valley – M. Cooper
Winchester – F. Mather

6. That Councillor Chadd be appointed Member Development Liaison Champion until the Annual meeting of the Authority in 2017.

That Councillor Harrison be appointed Environmental Champion until the Annual meeting of the Authority in 2017.

7. That a Lead Member is appointed for each of the individual Peer Review Outcomes, as set out in paragraph 5.4 of the report. The appointment of

Lead Members to be considered and agreed at a future meeting of the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee.

8. That Minority Group Spokespersons until the Annual meeting of the Authority in 2017 are confirmed as:
 - Liberal Democrat, Councillor Price
 - Labour, Councillor Mintoff
 - UK Independence Party, Councillor Staplehurst
9. That Councillor Fairhurst be appointed Shareholder Representative by the Authority pursuant to Article 39 of the Articles of Association of 3SFire Ltd as set out in paragraph 5.6 of the report, until the Annual meeting of the Authority in 2017.
10. That the Councillor Price, Councillor Carter and Neil Odin be appointed Executive Directors of 3SFire by the Authority pursuant to Articles 18 and 19 of the Articles of Association of 3SFire Ltd as set out in paragraph 5.7 of the report, until the Annual meeting of the Authority in 2017.

214 **HAMPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

The Authority received the report of the cross Party, Member led Working Group who had reviewed the governance arrangements and framework of the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority, item 12 in the Minute Book.

In considering the proposals, a letter from the Fire Minister to the Chairman of the Authority was highlighted, in which HFRA was encouraged to become a beacon Authority. The potential for political imbalance arising from the inclusion of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) as a member of the Authority was raised. It was pointed out that the political balance of the Authority derived from appointments made to it by the three constituent authorities, therefore the PCC would amount to a fourth appointing authority and also be politically representative.

With regards to closer working with South Central Ambulance Service, it was confirmed that operational arrangements were already in place and that the dialogue proposed related to strategic input.

It was questioned whether the Authority was too large in its current form, noting that each Member already represented around 71,000 people and a reduction to 18 Councillors would see this increase to around 100,000 people. It was suggested that a reduction to 10 Councillors would be insufficient for the Authority to fulfil its functions. Members noted that the Working Group had marginally favoured the model of 18 Councillors. It was therefore proposed and agreed that the retention of the status quo be included as an option in the consultation with stakeholders, although the risk of not changing was also emphasised. The value of the consultation was agreed and the importance of hearing the views of stakeholders acknowledged. It was confirmed that stakeholders incorporated the three appointing authorities, the PCC and the Fire and Rescue Service.

It was RESOLVED that the Fire and Rescue Authority:

1. Accept a strategy to offer the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) a seat on the Authority with effect from the beginning of the 2017/18 municipal year. A further report to be brought back to the Authority in September 2016.
2. With immediate effect, invite the PCC to future Full Authority meetings, in a non-voting capacity but with the ability to comment on items of business. Delegated authority be given to the Clerk of the Authority in consultation with CMT to amend Standing Orders as required to facilitate comment from the PCC; to be reported to the Authority in September 2016.
3. Ask the Chief Fire Officer to open dialogue with South Central Ambulance Service to identify options for reciprocal input to each other's strategic decision making and for a progress report to be brought back to the Authority in September 2016.
4. Approve the content of the Governance Improvement plan detailed in Appendix 1 paragraph 11 of the report.
5. Agree to consult stakeholders on the two proposed governance models identified by the Working Group, plus the retention of the status quo, prior to a final decision to proceed with a new governance model to be taken by the Authority at its September meeting.
6. Delegate authority to the Clerk of the Authority to put in place the necessary arrangements in agreement with the Chairman of the Authority to consult with relevant stakeholders on the two proposed governance models, plus the retention of the status quo.

215 MINUTES OF FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE – 23 MARCH 2016 AND 10 MAY 2016

The Authority received and noted the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes held on 23 March 2016 and 10 May 2016.

216 MINUTES OF STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – 7 APRIL 2016

The Authority received and noted the Minutes of the Standards and Governance Committee held on 7 April 2016.

The recommendations to the Authority at Minute 136 were agreed.

217 MINUTES OF HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 13 APRIL 2016

The Authority received and noted the Minutes of the Human Resources Committee held on 13 April 2016.

218 **MINUTES OF PERFORMANCE REVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 19
APRIL 2016**

The Authority received and noted the Minutes of the Performance Review & Scrutiny Committee held on 19 April 2016.

The recommendation to the Authority at Minute 91 was agreed.