

At a **meeting** of the **Combined Fire Authority for County Durham and Darlington** held in Morton Room, Fire and Rescue Headquarters, Belmont Business Park, Durham, DH1 1TW, on **Thursday 19 December 2019** at 10.00 am.

**Present:**

**Durham County Councillors:**

Councillors B Avery, A Batey, D Bell, J Bell, R Bell, C Carr, M Davinson (substitute for C Potts), D Freeman, A Laing, R Manchester, L Marshall, , G Richardson, J Robinson, D Stoker, F Tinsley, and J Turnbull.

**Darlington Borough Councillors:**

Councillors G Lee.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Hicks, C Potts, J Shuttleworth, B Jones, H Crumbie and A Scott.

**Independent Person:**

A Simpson

**A1 Chief Fire Officer Commendations**

Chief Fire Officer Commendations were awarded to CM Trevor Sanderson, CM Gary Sands, FF Marcus Waldock, FF Ryan Bell, FF Olly Hopper and FF Graeme Norman for their professional, swift and decisive action at a house fire, resulting in the rescue and medical treatment of a casualty, ultimately saving her life.

A minute's silence was held in memory of Ron Hogg, PCVC and the collaboration work between the two organisations was noted.

The Chair noted his, and the Vice Chairs, thanks to all those involved with the HMICFRS inspection work.

The Chair thanked the Northern Echo for their excellent reporting following debate at last CFA meeting around Grenfell Towers.

**A2 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr J Robinson declared his interest in item 11 in relation to Sedgefield Station. It was agreed that the Vice Chair would chair this part of item 11.

### **A3 Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 November 2019**

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 November 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair (for copy see file of minutes).

### **A4 Current Correspondence**

The Authority received an update from the Assistant Chief Fire Officer Service Support in relation to current correspondence received from government and other bodies relevant to the Authority and the status of each (for copy see file of minutes).

### **A5 Notes of the Performance Committee**

The Authority considered a report of the Chair of the Performance Committee which provided an update on the discussions at the meeting held on 25 November 2019 (for copy see file of minutes).

Members were advised of a typographical error appearing at paragraph 3 of the report which should have read for the period of 1 April – 31 October 2019.

### **A6 Performance Report Quarter Two 2019/20**

The Authority considered a report of the Area Manager Emergency Response which presented a summary of organisational performance at the end of the second quarter of the 2019/20 financial year (for copy see file of minutes).

Members stressed the importance of reporting any inappropriate parking in their wards to themselves.

#### **Resolved:**

That the contents of the report be noted.

### **A7 Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services Update (HMICFRS)**

The Authority considered a report of the Area Manager Training, Assets and Assurance which gave an update on the current position and next steps of HMICFRS inspection of the Service (for copy see file of minutes).

#### **Resolved:**

That the contents of the report be noted.

## **A8 Bonfire Period Update**

The Area Manager Community Risk Management delivered a presentation to members in relation to the latest bonfire period (for copy see file of minutes).

Cllr Davinson queried hot spot areas and R Turnbull noted the work that is undertaken by crews and the Community Risk Management team in conjunction with Durham County Council in clearing rubbish in a timely manner as well as the educational work provided.

## **A8 Any Other Business**

The Chair noted the retirement of Assistant Chief Fire Officer Dominic Brown and noted thanks from the CFA, and labour group. A message was read out from Cllr Shuttleworth, on behalf of the minority group, thanking Dominic for his all of his work with the Service.

## **A 9 Exclusion of the public**

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the said Act.

## **B 10 Estates Update**

The Authority considered a report of the Head of Corporate Resources which updated members on the latest position in relation to the Estates Improvement Programme and of plans to address risks associated with outstanding estates management (for copy see file of minutes).

### **Resolved:**

- i) That the contents of the report were noted
- ii) The capital provision was approved

## **B11 Retirement of Assistant Chief Fire Officer**

The Authority considered a report informing them of the retirement of Assistant Chief Fire Officer.

### **Resolved:**

- i) That the contents of the report are noted
- ii) A separate report outlining options around the Service Leadership Team structure would be presented to members at CFA meeting on 25 February 2020 was noted

**B12 Any Other Business**

There was no other business

**CLOSE OF MEETING**