

At a **meeting** of the **Combined Fire Authority for County Durham and Darlington** held at **Fire and Rescue HQ, Durham** on **30 March 2022** at **10.00 am**.

Present:

Durham County Councillors:

Councillors J Atkinson, A Batey, R Bell, J Blakey, J Cairns, T Duffy, C Hampson, L Kennedy, R Manchester, C Marshall, L Mavin, M McGaun, I McLean, J Quinn, G Richardson, K Rooney, K Shaw (Substitute for A Batey) J Shuttleworth, and S Zair

Darlington Borough Councillors:

B Jones, G Lee and A Scott

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Batey, J Cairns, H Crumby, N Jones, B Kellett

Independent Persons:

N Johnson

A1 Chief Fire Officers Commendation

AM Steve Wharton introduced the Chief Fire Officer's Commendations.

FF Kieran Hughes, FF Joshua Roberts and FF Jamie Clarkson demonstrated professionalism, Innovation and effectiveness whilst treating a member of public whilst off duty, providing vital lifesaving medical treatment to the lady without hesitation. The lady suffered severe life changing injuries but there is no doubt that the actions of Kieran, Joshua and Jamie prevented a fatality.

The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting.

A minute silence was held before the meeting in memory of those people who have lost their lives in the conflict in Ukraine. The Chair noted activities currently being undertaken by the service to support the people of Ukraine.

The Chair noted a number of notices including attendance at the LGA Fire Conference which was a very positive event and provided the opportunity to discuss CDDFRS' funding challenges with Fire Minister, Lord Greenhalgh.

On behalf of the CFA, the Chair congratulated the service on winning Fire Service of the Year at the IESE Awards on the 9th March 2022.

A2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

A3 Minutes of previous meeting

Cllr Marshall requested that the minutes from the previous meeting be amended to include his concerns regarding the consultation process regarding riding with 4 within the Degradation Policy.

The approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2022 was deferred.

A4 Current Correspondence

The Authority received no correspondence within this reporting period.

A5 Localism Act – Pay Policy Statement 2022/23

The Treasurer presented a report seeking approval of the pay policy statement for 2022/23.

The report was **noted** and **agreed**.

A6 Local Government Association (LGA) Subscription

The Chief Fire Officer presented a report providing details of the LGA subscription for 2022/23 and to seek a decision for continued membership.

The report was **noted** and **agreed**.

A7 Community Risk Management Plan

The Authority received an update regarding the results of the Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) consultation which began on the 15 November 2021 and ended on 7 February 2022.

Cllr Marshall noted running the consultation through the AAPs was beneficial. Cllr Marshall raised concerns regarding the Degradation Policy and how strategies are implemented. The Chief Fire Officer agreed to talk Members through the Degradation Plan and processes at the Strategic Planning Day scheduled for the 23rd May 2022.

Resolved:

- a) Content of the report noted
- b) CRMP for 2022-2023 approved
- c) Survey results to form part of the decision-making process when assessing service resources going forward
- d) Presentation on the Degradation Plan to be proved at the Strategic Planning Session on the 23rd May 2022

A8 Notes of the Human Resources Committee

The Authority received a report from the Chair of the Human Resources Committee which provided an update on the discussions and recommendations of the Human Resources Committee held 22 February 2022 (for copy see file of minutes).

The report was noted.

A9 Notes of the Performance Committee

The Authority received a report from the Deputy Chief Fire Officer which provided members with an update on the discussions and recommendations of the Performance Committee held on 10 March 2022 (for copy see file of minutes). .

Resolved:

- a) Cllr Blakey was appointed Chair of the Performance Committee.
- b) Content of the report noted

A10 Any other Business

Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

A11 Exclusion to 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.

Part B

B12 Service Leadership Team Restructure Outcomes

All Uniformed Officers apart from the Chief Fire Officer left the meeting.

The Chief Fire Officer introduced the report which provided an update on the outcome of the Service Leadership Team restructure.

The Chief Fire Officer thanked individuals affected by the restructure for their professionalism throughout the process.

Cllr McLean queried if the changes would have any implications on the costs of the pensions for the two members of staff who were leaving the organisation. The Chief Fire Officer confirmed there was no additional costs, both individuals were entitled to a full pension under the 1992 Firefighters Pension Scheme due to their age and length of service.

Resolved:

- a) The contents of the report were noted and agreed
- b) A letter of thanks, on behalf of the Authority to be sent to AM Keith Wanley and AM Steve Wharton for their contribution to the service.

B13 Any Other Business

Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration.

CLOSE OF MEETING