

Minutes of a **meeting** of the **Combined Fire Authority for County Durham and Darlington** held at **Fire and Rescue HQ, Durham** on **18 July 2023** at **10.00 am**.

Present:

Durham County Councillors:

Councillors J Atkinson, A Batey, R Bell, J Blakey, J Cairns, N Jones, R Manchester, C Marshall, C Martin, E Peeke, J Quinn, S Quinn, G Richardson, K Rooney, K Shaw (Substitute for I McLean), J Shuttleworth, S Zair

Darlington Borough Councillors:

Councillors A Anderson, G Lee, D Ray and M Snedker.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C Hampson, B Kellet and I McLean.

Independent Persons:

Independent Persons to be appointed.

A1 Chief Fire Officer Commendation

Fire Control Operator Sue Smart was awarded a Chief Fire Officers Commendation in recognition of the concern, compassion and perseverance demonstrated which resulted in the successful rescue of two young girls from a precarious situation.

The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting.

The Chair congratulated the Service on being ranked 26th best apprenticeship employer in the country, and one of only two Fire and Rescue Services out of the 100.

A2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

A3 Minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2023 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 Director of Emergency Response 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 Appointment of Committee Membership

The Authority received a report of the Clerk which sought approval of the Committee membership for 2023/24 (for copy see file of minutes).

The report was moved and seconded.

Resolved:

- a) The Committee membership for 2023/24 as outlined in appendix A was **approved**.
- b) The Clerk in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Authority and the appropriate group leader be authorised to make any changes to the Committees that may arise during 2023/24 was **agreed**.

A6 Member Champions

The Authority considered a report of the Director of Corporate Resources which provided details of Officer contacts for each Member Champion role (for copy see file of minutes).

The Deputy Chief Executive clarified that nominations for the two vacant positions had been received since publication of the papers. Cllr S Quinn would take the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion role and Cllr J Shuttleworth would take the HMICFRS role.

The report was moved and seconded.

Resolved:

The list of Member Champions outlined in appendix A was **approved**.

A7 Notes of the Performance Committee 30 June 2023

The Authority received a report of the Chair of the Performance Committee which provided an update on the discussions and recommendations of the Committee held on 30 June 2023 (for copy see file of minutes).

The Director of Community Risk Management clarified that, following debate at the committee meeting, the implementation date for the change in response to Automatic Fire Alarms had been amended to Monday 2 October 2023.

Members **noted** the contents of the report.

A8 Community Safety and Arson Reduction

The Authority considered a report of the Community Safety and Arson Reduction Member Champion which provided an update on community safety and arson reduction activity during 2022/23 (for copy see file of minutes).

Members **noted** the contents of the report.

A9 Estates Update

The Authority Received a report of the Director of Corporate Resources which provided an update on the latest position in relation to the Estates Improvement Programme and other matters relating to Service wide Estates (for copy see file of minutes).

Members **noted** the contents of the report.

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.

Part B

B12 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